

Gratitude

I would like to express appreciation for an article that appeared in the *Journal* last year, "Learning Disabled Trainees: Finding and Helping the Hidden Handicapped" by Elizabeth Lean (September 1983). I found the article informative and helpful. Also, I recently had the opportunity to use it as the closing of a presentation I gave at an Indiana conference for the learning disabled and those who work with them. Those folks are glad to know that professional trainers are being sensitized to the needs of the learning disabled. A number of participants, including many of the learning-disabled adults themselves, told me how encouraging it is that you spent the time and effort to research and print the information.

I have been impressed with both the content and format improvements in the *Journal* in the past year. You have been doing a great job.

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President
Mike Kenney and Associates
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Praise for May

What a fantastic job of making the May issue highly professional and loaded with great articles!

Bill Strasen
General Dynamics
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Editor's Note: To express your views in our monthly "Issues" department, please address all correspondence to: "ISSUES," Training and Development Journal, 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Suite 305, Washington, DC 20024.

To Process or Not to Process

In response to your editorial in the April issue bemoaning the advent of word processing and the dot matrix printer, I must remind your readers that the same tune was heard (albeit the words were different) when writers began using that new-fangled thing called the "typewriter." The typewriter didn't disappear because editors found the type inconsistent and frequently out of line, and the ink sometimes smeared. Neither will the word processor and the dot matrix printer disappear, although they will be changed and improved.

Articles that use a dictionary's worth of words to say nothing are not new. But in the old days editors had to wade through pages of hand-written text to find that the author had nothing to say; now the lack of substance jumps out at the reader. Word processing does not improve the quality of thought, but it makes the editor's job of determining the value of a piece much easier.

Duncan J. Kelly
Technical Journalist
Lake Charles, La.

I thought you would enjoy an article I recently wrote on the word processor. I titled it "Interactive Computer Writing Enhancement: Using Hi-Tech for Clarity of Communication." One of the more memorable paragraphs reads:

Eiaha rha nalahrw uirhrueahnmemun
tv ipfro warhomob eire aeiotbhrsiz uro
shtlmca eia monehpuemtorw carm-
boah jmei Kth eia sphstnan tv eimn
omnupnntmo.

John Bunch
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Sexism?

"The One Minute Manager is an Androgynous Manager" by Blanchard and Sargent (May 1984) is an insult to male and female managers who are self-aware and concerned with good management. Prior to Blanchard's one-minute nostrum (which I have read in self-defense) and Sargent's *Androgynous Manager* (which I have not read), it was possible to talk about balancing tasks and people without making chauvinistic assumptions about male preference for tasks and female preference for people.

I'm very disappointed that you chose to give credence to stereotypical generalizations and asinine advice: "Women should talk and cry at the same time. Men should show how their lives are men's lives."

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Media source

In my April 1984 *Journal* article, "Accentuate the Positive, Eliminate the Negative," I recommended *AV Instruction: Technology, Media, and Methods* by Brown, Lewis and Harclerod as a one-volume audio-visual handbook. Another excellent book has since come to my attention, *Instructional Media and the New Technologies of Instruction* (John Wiley & Sons, 1982) by Heinrich, Molenda and Russell. Both books have thorough content, but *Instructional Media* may be better geared to trainers, with special features such as objectives, topic outlines, practical check lists and presentation tips. Also, it is laid out better for quick referencing. However, it uses no color in certain chapters the way *AV Instruction* does. Both books are excellent reference tools.

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