

Summer Edition Newsletter



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CUDA Summer Edition 2024: Language & Communication

CUDA's summer newsletters are topic specific containing past posts from the website. For more on this topic, or any other, use the search button on left hand menu of [the website](#).

Language and terminology is more important that many people realise. Words can hurt and demean, or they can convey dignity and respect. For people with low literacy skills, the written word is disempowering whether on paper or on a screen. Here are some past posts on language and terminology and using plain language to communicate.

Language Guide for Journalists and Others

Acceptable language regarding people with disability has changed, and standards continue to adapt as understanding and perceptions evolve. Many terms once widely used are now considered to imply inferiority and serve to marginalise people. The National Center on Disability and Journalism has updated their Style Guide which provides alternatives to terms still seen too often in the media. The guide also gives ...

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Doing plain language is a process

Accessibility and universal design have arrived in written language. People who can read and write well sometimes forget that not everyone else has that capability. But writing a document or webpage in plain language takes a lot of thought. Doing plain language is a process. This point is well made in a blog article. Kelsie Acton writes about her plain ...

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Inclusive Communication Strategies

There are many reasons why some people have difficulty communicating. It can arise from a brain injury, a stroke, or a condition such as motor neurone disease. Inability to communicate easily means that often people avoid social situations due to feeling inferior. The Conversation has an article on inclusive communication strategies. The Conversation article, We can all help to improve communication ...

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Easy English: Same as Easy Read?

Australian Easy English is for people with low or few literacy skills. It is not the same as Easy Read. According to Cathy Basterfield, Easy English is not the same as Easy Read. Her comparison of the two highlights some important differences. Australian Easy English assumes almost no literacy skill. Material is presented with just three or four short sentences ...

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Plain Language Summaries: Good for everyone

What are Plain Language Summaries? These are an invaluable adjunct to abstracts in academic papers. They help more readers understand the content of the article, especially if the topic is unfamiliar. Beth Myers and Teukie Martin provide a good example when explaining why they use these summaries: What are Plain Language Summaries (PLS)? Plain language summaries are short summaries of ...

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What is Easy Read and who needs it?

Easy Read is a good example of how less is more. But conveying messages in fewer words is more difficult than writing more words. Easy Read is for people with low levels of literacy. It's mostly used for essential information such as health alerts and legal

terms and conditions. Writing with minimal words is a skillset of its own. It's ...

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Zoom communication and dementia guide

Adjusting to online platforms for our work and social life during the pandemic was relatively easy for many. But for some, the situation isn't so easy. This can be the case for people with dementia or those who get confused easily with anything tech. Zoom is relatively easy to use, but it is good to get some help. Dementia Australia has ...

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Inclusive communication encourages buying

Inclusive communication is key to any purchase for people with and without disability. Whether in written formats, online, or in person, communication is a critical part of the purchasing process. Service based businesses such as tourist attractions, restaurants and banks are difficult to access based on a survey by Business Disability Forum. "I ended up staying with my current bank ...

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Introduction to Universal Design: free online course

Introduction to Universal Design online course is in visual, audio and text formats and there are quick quizzes at the end of each module. This course is good for newcomers to the concepts and a refresher for others. There's a certificate at the end.

Get started on the Introduction to Universal Design course! It will take less than an hour.

Sign up - it's Free!

[Livable Housing Design course](#)

This short course is tailor-made for professionals in the housing and home mods sectors seeking an understanding of the NCC requirements for Livable Housing Design Standard. It delves into the technical details of both the new standard and the enhanced standard. The enhanced standard, similar to the Gold level of Livable Housing Design Guidelines, is good for anyone doing home modifications, or thinking about it.

CUDA presents this course under licence from the Australian Building Codes Board.

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Conferences and calls for papers

This page has the latest information on upcoming conferences and calls for papers. Email udaustralia@gmail.com with a link to your event and it will be added to the list. New to the list: ICT4AWE 2024 (10th International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies for Ageing Well and e-Health) 28-30 April, Angers, France. Call for Position and Regular Papers open until ...

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