



Style and Clarity

Look at the sentences below and try to rewrite them according to the suggestions:

Join

Modules are loaded on request by an application. Thus, the performance of the application is dependent on modules which are currently used by the application.

Use parallelism

The logging subsystem provides a rich set of filter rules (expressions), detailed description of all filters and rules can be found in the Logging documentation

Identify the Czenglish mistake

The ECA formalism provides a clear and easy-to-understand way how the bytecode injection should be performed without ambiguity.

Link sentences

The class name describes a class with or without the package specification. The method name can be defined either as a plain name or as a name with arguments and return type. The constructor method is defined by the special string <init> in the method name.

Paragraphs plus reporting verb

The authors of Qubes OS believe [3] there is a considerably better isolation between virtual machines than between standard processes in a monolithic kernels of mainstream desktop operating systems.

They claim this is because the interface between virtual machine and hypervisor can be substantially simpler than in case of a traditional operating system. Moreover, the hypervisor itself can be



abundantly simpler as it does not provide many services. Modern computers also provide hardware virtualization support (VT-x, VT-d or Intel TXT), which allows ...

Plagiarism?

student text:

The first type is System Network domain, storage domain and a Special privileged domain are all examples of System VM. These domains provide system-wide services and are common to all installations of Qubes OS. The network domain for example isolates the world-facing networking code into an unprivileged virtual machine, which protects the system when it is used in a hostile network environment (hotel, airport). [3, p. 7] The system would not be compromised even if a vulnerable part of the network domain is exploited. Only possible consequence is a denial-of-service (DoS) attack as the connection would be terminated. The other VMs of the users would remain intact. [3, Ibid.]

the actual paper:

“Additionally there are some default system VMs that are provided automatically. One example is the Network VM, which isolates all the world-facing networking code into an unprivileged VM. This protects the system when using the network in a potentially hostile environment, such as a hotel or an airport. Even if an attacker exploits a potential bug, e.g. in the WiFi driver, this does not allow to compromise the system. At worst, the user would simply lose network connection, but the users VMs and data should be safe.”

I. Make it easy for the reader to understand what you are saying

II. Use the correct words and make every word count

→ Find the balance

a) Long and complex sentence -> avoid by separating into two sentences

eHealth cloud, while at the beginning of its initial run, has a very promising future, as such technology is poised to be supported by modern solutions which are able to react ahead of technological curve, thus significantly prolonging the possible use of the technology.



b) Obfuscation – making statements difficult to understand by using ambiguous or convoluted terms -> avoid by being more direct

Experiments, with the improved version of algorithm as we have described, are the step that confirms our speculation that performance would improve. The previous version of the algorithm is rather slow on our test data and improvements lead to better performance.

c) Not direct enough -> avoid by being more direct

PerfCake has a component architecture. Components are specified through well-defined interfaces; thus, it **might** be easy to provide a new component implementation by a third party. As it **will** be described in the next chapter, the additional implementation **may be simply** loaded into the PerfCake and that **perhaps** is the one of the reasons why PerfCake is easily extensible.

d) Too general or informal -> avoid by knowing your audience

Let us imagine a situation when a company is young and small and the team consists of only few people. The communication between colleagues is not that difficult and so there is probably no effort to establish rules for using the same techniques, technologies and languages for storing data. But as the company comes to some cusses and starts to make big profits, it starts to grow and make new divisions across a country or even across the world.

e) Repetition – not just words/phrases, but also sentence structure -> avoid by using more complex sentence structures

The system of rational numbers is incomplete. This was discovered 2000 years ago by the Greeks. The problem arises with squares whose sides are of unit length. The length of the diagonals of these squares is irrational. This discovery was a serious blow to the Greek mathematicians.

f) Too indirect – verbs such as “perform” or “utilize” -> avoid by using active voice

Tree structures can be utilized for dynamic storage of terms.

Local packet transmission was performed to test error rates.



Grammar and Syntax

1. Find four mistakes among the underlined words/phrases.

A greenhouse is a glass building used to grow plants. A greenhouse has transparent glass that allows the sunlight to pass through, but does not allow the heat inside to escape. The same affect occurs on the earth. The suns radiation passes through the atmosphere to heat the earth's surface. When heated, the earth's surface produces infrared radiation, which has a longer wavelength than that of sunlight. This infrared radiation rises into the atmosphere where gases, such as carbon dioxide, prevents the infrared radiation from escaping into space. The concentrations of these gases which are called greenhouse gases, control how much infrared radiation escapes. The retained radiation heats the earth's atmosphere, thus keeping the planet warm.

2. For each excerpt, identify the source of the ambiguity: (1) improper syntax (word order), (2) missing comma, (3) unclear pronoun reference, or (4) grouping of conflicting words.

- The Lunar Module was only designed to hold two astronauts and to have a life time of forty-five hours.
- The beams are positioned with respect to the chopper blade so that while one beam passes the output of the opposite beam is completely blocked.
- The Hindenburg was filled with hydrogen because it is lighter than air...The report claimed that a hull wire could have ruptured a gas cell if it fractured.
- Avoiding complicated multi-ordered calculations, the equations come from fundamental definitions of mass flow, work, and efficiency.
- To provide spill protection, all tanks were equipped with basins and automatic shutoff devices or overflow alarms or ball float valves.
- Being the first step in introducing CFD, Jones had to set up conservative assumptions.
- As with any system errors occur in localization.
- Having a model would help designers predict the effects of engine operation over all speeds.
- On this physical server was created a standalone host for OpenStack with 6 vCPUs, 16 GB RAM, 60 GB HDD and Centos 7 Operating System.

SEMICOLON

Main clause + main clause (no coordinating conjunction)

The side effects are not minor; some leave the patient quite ill.

*The semicolon separates **equal** sentence elements (often working around expectations).*



The airline campaign had highlighted only half the story; the other half was buried in the copy.

The campaign should not have stressed the pilots' insecurity; instead, the campaign should have stressed the improved performance resulting from that insecurity.

3. Each of the following sentences needs either a comma or a semicolon. Put in the necessary punctuation.

- 1) Many companies make sugar-free soft drinks, which are flavored by synthetic chemicals the drinks usually contain only one or two calories per serving.
- 2) The hill was covered with wildflowers it was a beautiful sight.
- 3) The house was clean, the table set, and the porch light on everything was ready for the guests' arrival.
- 4) He looked carefully in the underbrush but he failed to notice the pair of green eyes staring at him.
- 5) The dog, growling and snarling, snapped at me I was so frightened that I ran.
- 6) San Francisco is my favorite city in fact, I plan to spend two weeks there this summer.
- 7) I am not interested in a trip to Asia this year however, I would like to go to Europe.
- 8) Our dog seems to have a built-in alarm clock he wakes us up at exactly the same time every morning.

*We often use semicolons between main clauses related by **however**, **for example**, etc.*

4. Rewrite the sentences so that they include a semicolon and the expression in parenthesis.

- 1) Most music computers are too expensive for the average consumer. Digital keyboard instruments can be inexpensive. They are widely available. (*however*)
- 2) Inside the keyboard is a small computer. The computer controls a sound synthesizer. The instrument can both process and produce music. (*consequently*)
- 3) The person playing the keyboard presses keys or manipulates other controls. The computer and synthesizer convert these signals. The signals are converted into vibrations and sounds. (*immediately*)
- 4) The inexpensive keyboards can perform only a few functions. To the novice computer musician, the range is exciting. The range includes drum rhythms and simulated instruments. (*still*)
- 5) Would-be musicians can orchestrate whole songs. They start from just the melody lines. They need never again play "Chopsticks." (*thus*)



CZENGLISH

Look at some of the sentences and try to identify the problems common to Czech learners of English. (For more see *Don Sparling: English or Czenglish*)

A) *The town has three theatres and two concert halls. Besides there are more than twenty cinemas. (34)*

B) *This invention enabled to do twice as much work a day. (74)*

C) *I think he won't come./* I want him not to go there./* John seems not to be very bright./ **

D) *Everybody doesn't agree with me./* Some teachers can't understand that everyone isn't interested in their subjects. (154)*