Avoiding Redundancies

Purpose: Upon completion of this activity, students will understand what redundancies are and will have practiced eliminating redundancies in writing. This DLA should take approximately one hour to complete.

For this activity, you will need to sit at one of the computers here in the Writing and Reading Center, and you will need to print for this activity. Please be sure you have the money to print at the end of this activity before beginning.

1. Go to a computer and find the “Writing Applications” icon on the desktop. If you need help locating the icon, please call a lab aide to help you. When you have located the icon, double-click on it.
2. Next, double-click on “Guide to Grammar.”
3. The page you see next will look like the diagram below. Click on “Index.”

4. From this menu, scroll down and choose the lesson entitled “Concise Sentences.”
5. Read this lesson, taking notes as you feel the need.
6. Answer the following questions about the reading:
   - What is a redundancy? ______________________________________________________
   - Name two intensifiers that ought to be eliminated from your writing.________________________
   - What is expletive construction? ______________________________________________
   - Why should you eliminate phrases such as “due to the fact that” from your writing? ____________________________
What is a cliché? ____________________________________________
What is a euphemism? ________________________________________
Why should clichés and euphemisms be eliminated from your writing?
____________________________________________________________

7. Correct the sentences below by eliminating redundancies. Please write your answers on a separate sheet.
   • It took a long period of time to complete the project.
   • Should we cut some wood for fuel purposes?
   • If you open a new account at Downtown Federal Savings, the bank will give you a new gift.
   • The incident was significant in several ways. One of the ways the incident was significant is that it marked the first time I was totally and completely on my own.
   • Enclosed inside of this box are my high school papers.
   • I have difficulty coping and dealing with pressure-type situations.
   • This newspaper article is factually accurate.
   • After a time interval of thirty seconds, a card that is round in shape and red in color is shown to the subject.
   • It is very unusual to find someone who has never willfully told a deliberate lie.
   • In today’s modern world, it is important to have knowledge of computers and other technological devices.

8. Take this completed sheet plus corrected sentences to an instructor or tutor. Review your answers and ask any additional questions you may have.

Attach a confirmation sheet or get a signature below:

Instructor Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________