

**20 Tips to Self-editing by Christina Boyd, editor of The Quill Ink and author Beau North
with links for future reading**

1. Show. Don't Tell

<https://lithub.com/the-three-words-that-almost-ruined-me-as-a-writer-show-dont-tell/>

2. Point of View: 1st POV, 3rd POV Limited, Omniscient

<https://jerryjenkins.com/point-of-view/>

3. Over-describing the Action <https://www.maloneeditorial.com/stop-over-describing-action-your-novel/>

4. Too Many -ly Words (Adverbs) <https://www.writersdigest.com/whats-new/subverting-adverbs-and-cliches>

5. Cut Overlong Sentences in Two <https://canvas.hull.ac.uk/courses/213/pages/overlong-sentences>

6. Refine Your Verbs <https://www.techimage.com/blog/pump-up-your-writing-with-stronger-words/>

7. Your Crutch Words <https://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/so-um-you-really-need-to-stop-using-crutch-words>

8. Redundancies <https://typely.com/articles.html/articles/redundancy-in-writing-what-it-is-and-why-you-should-avoid-it-r3/>

9. Reduce Prepositions <https://www.dailywritingtips.com/5-ways-to-reduce-use-of-prepositions/>

10. Cut “Start to”

<https://penandthepad.com/rid-linking-verbs-paper-8691657.html>

11. “That” is Not Necessary <https://www.bkacontent.com/avoid-overusing-word-writing/>

12. There Must Be a Better Word Than “Thing”

<https://www.lexico.com/grammar/top-tips-for-word-choice>

13. The Extraneous “Very” and “Really”

<https://thewritepractice.com/better-writer-now/>

14. Effective Punctuation <https://www.firstediting.com/how-to-improve-your-writing-em-dashes-and-ellipses/>

15. Capitalizations <https://www.englishgrammar101.com/module-11/capitalization/lesson-2/titles>

<http://kristenstieffel.com/fiction-qa-style-royal-noble-titles/>

16. Dialogue Tags <https://thewritelife.com/dialogue-tags/>

17. Eliminate “There is” or “There are”

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/eliminate-other-expletives-l-michelle-baker-phd>

18. Avoid the Words “Up” and “Down”

<https://wordvice.com/avoid-fillers-powerful-writing/>

19. Avoid Similar Names <https://writeitsideways.com/what-not-to-name-your-characters/>

20. Read Aloud.

<https://thewritepractice.com/proofreading-technique/>