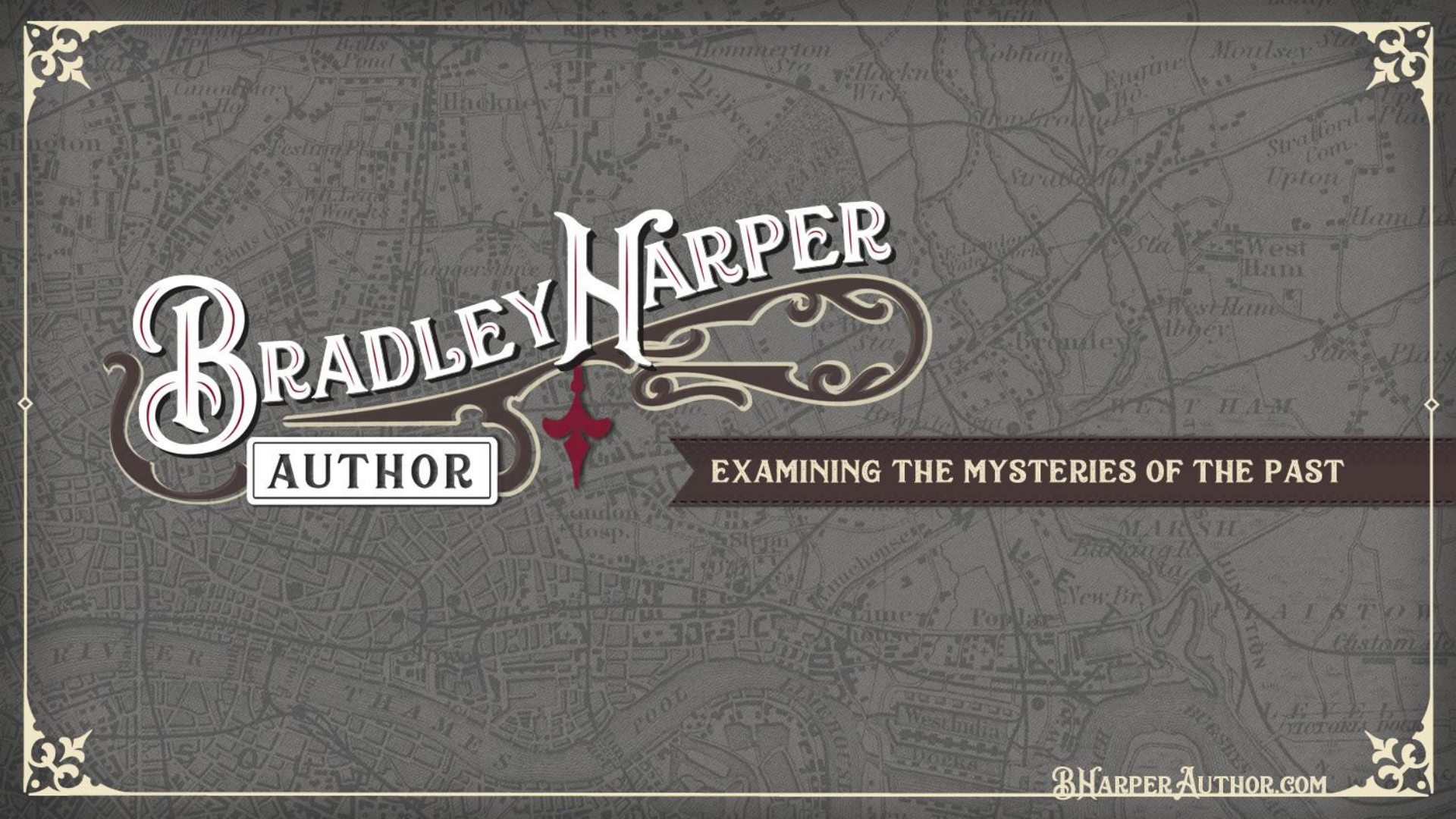


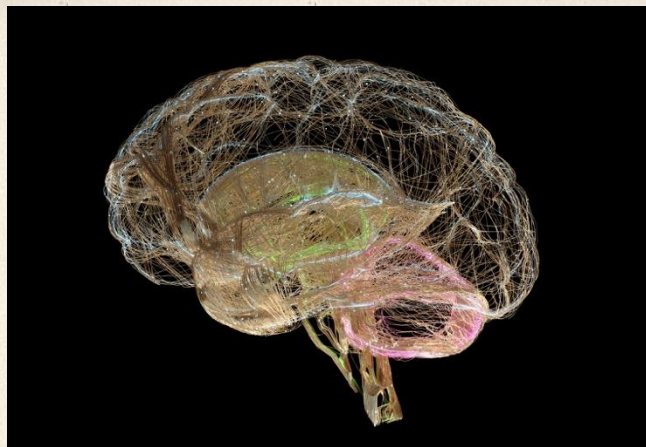


BRADLEY HARPER

AUTHOR

EXAMINING THE MYSTERIES OF THE PAST

BHARPERAUTHOR.COM



**“A Mind is not a Vessel to be filled.
It is a fire to be ignited.”**

Plutarch

Stages of Learning

1. Information
2. Knowledge
3. Skill (Diving)



What helps you learn?

1. Sleep
2. Exercise
3. Social Interaction
4. Walking Away
(Corpus Callosum)



The 3-2-1 Method of becoming an Active Listener



3. Things you learned
2. Things you found interesting
1. Questions you still have

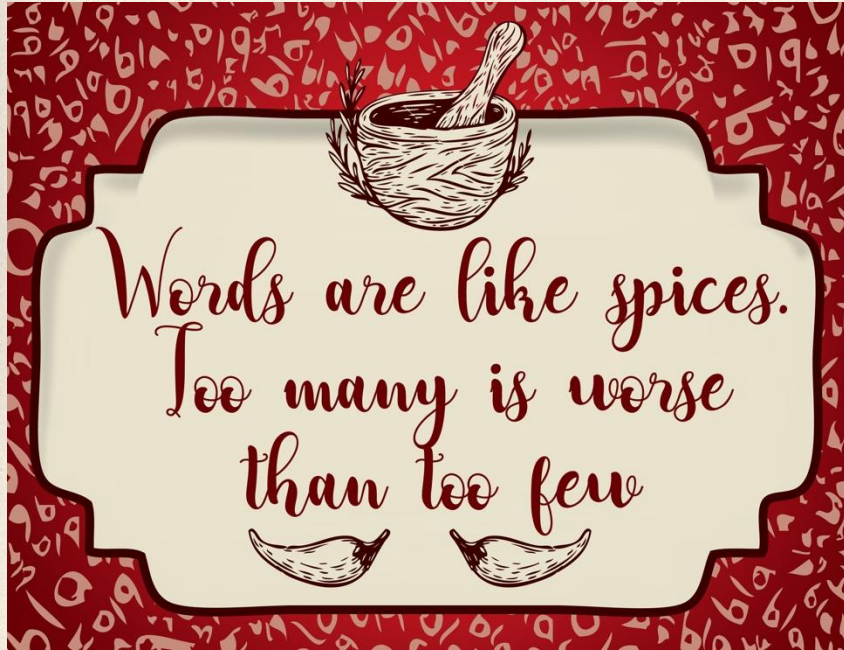
The **Best Curve** System for self-editing
by Bradley Harper
(and a touch of philosophy)

B: BORING



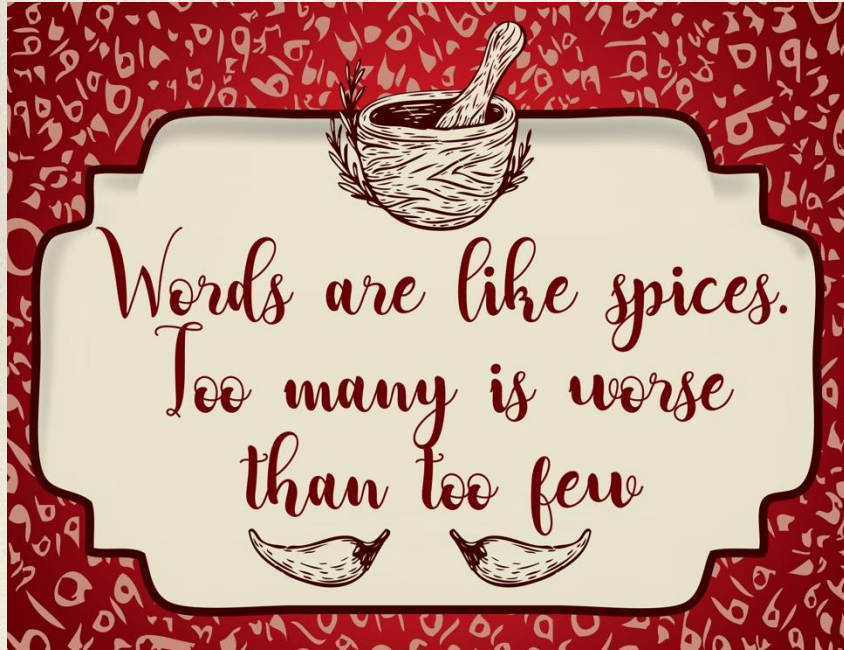
- ❑ Passive voice or lack of change
- ❑ The castle was captured by the Moors vs. the Moors captured the castle
- ❑ Two people arguing who never agree and they and the story are unaltered at the end of the scene. (If there is no change, why is the scene there?)

E: Efficient Word Use



- “I suppose that Henry went to the store just now to try to persuade Helen to go out with him.”
- “Henry went to the store to ask Helen out.”

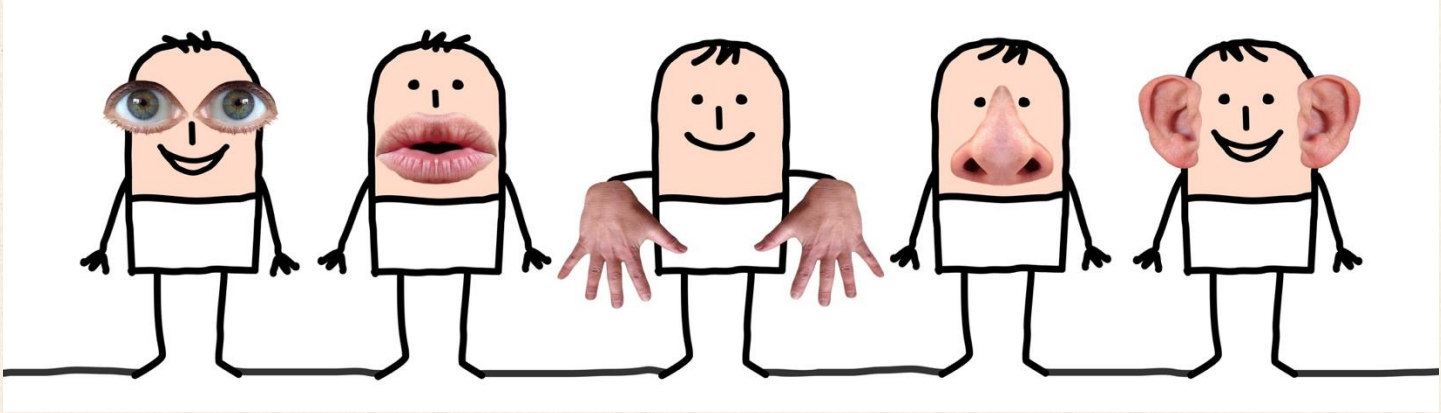
E: Efficient Word Use cont.



- “Henry walked slowLY to the door.
- “Henry limped, sauntered, stumbled, sashayed...”
- It was a very cold night.
- Mark Twain was right.

S: SENSES (Vary!)

- “As the peals from the clock tower echoed through the mist, the smell of the damp earth reminded him of a fine German Riesling.”
- Amygdala and Smell



T: TELLING

- “Helen was angry.” vs.
“Helen clenched her jaw
as she stormed out of the
room, slamming the door
behind her.”



C: CONFUSING



- “Helen and Susan were having tea when her boyfriend called.”

U: UNBELIEVABLE



- ❏ “Marty was decorated for shooting down twelve enemy fighters on his first mission.”

R: REPETITION

- ☛ “Henry's briefcase contained his briefing.”



R: Reveal

- Make them laugh
- Make them cry
- Make them wait



V: VARY



- ❑ "The sun blazed down. The soldiers were thirsty. They cheered when they found the well. They cried when they learned it was poisoned."
- ❑ "The sun blazed down upon the parched troops. A cheer broke out when they sighted a well, thinking they were saved. They were wrong."

E: ENDING

- "Harry sat silent as he peered through his binoculars when suddenly, his throat felt the caress of a blade."
- "She didn't die from the gunshot wound. She died of loneliness."



Questions?

Three things you Learned?

Two things you found interesting? (at least two, I hope!)

One question you still have.

Your Turn

Exercise One: Take your MC and blindfold them. Then take them on a trip in your world and describe their journey using everything BUT sight.

Exercise Two: Put your MC on a beach and have their antagonist come rushing towards them from a distance. Describe the antagonist from one-half mile, one-hundred yards, and ten feet.

Drum Story



Write like Kirk
Edit like Spock



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FOR MY E-PUBLICATION TODAY.

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