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Services

I offer high-quality editing and proofreading in English to BS (British Standard) 5261C (2005), covering material of any type and size from books, reports & research papers to promotional materials and websites.

I specialize in the <u>academic</u> field, in the areas of **biomedical and life sciences**, **STEM subjects**, **computing**, and **business/economics**, but will happily take on other work too, with personal interests in **art**, **architecture**, **music** and **politics**, amongst others.

I can work on paper as well as PDF, Word & TeX/LaTeX (e.g. TeXworks, Overleaf) documents and, thanks to a long career with a global IT/business consultancy, I'm very experienced in the creation and editing of reports, proposals, technical documentation, sales presentations, training courses & publicity materials (e.g. brochures, websites and even videos).

The majority of my work has been for non-native speakers of English, supporting authors from China, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Nigeria, Poland, Spain, Switzerland and Uzbekistan, among others, in publishing to over 40 different academic journals

I've had a lifelong passion for improving things, particularly when it comes to the written word, and making them work better. I would be delighted to work with you on your project.

About

After starting a Chemistry degree at Oxford University, I graduated from Sheffield University with a Special Honours degree in Biochemistry & Microbiology before completing a Master's in Computer Studies.

I worked on clinical pathology systems for 13 years before joining one of the world's leading global IT & business consultancies where, over the course of 16 years, I worked in many different countries, sectors and roles, eventually becoming Chief Architect of its UK business, responsible for technical assurance of all major UK client solutions. I was frequently called upon to review the non-technical aspects of the company's most critical commercial and contractual documents too, and was also heavily involved in organizational development, human resource management (HRM) and corporate training, being the training lead for a group of 300 senior consultants and engaged in designing and delivering training, both in the UK and at the corporate university near Paris.

Having resigned from this role in 2014, I was trained by both the CIEP (then the SfEP) and the Publishing Training Centre (PTC), where I was awarded a Distinction, before taking a position with The Language Editor, latterly as Managing Consultant Editor. There, I oversaw the work of up to a dozen freelance editors, as we edited many hundreds of academic conference papers on subjects ranging from mathematics and electrical/mechanical engineering, through medicine, psychology and law, to social sciences, architecture and education, as well as a series of textbooks on civil engineering. More recently, I have also been working with a leading UK business school, helping academics to prepare papers for submission to over 30 different business, economics and accounting journals. In the last year, I have worked on two reference books for Arm, the largest developer of computer chips for mobile phones, tablets and smart TVs (proofreading Arm Helium Technology M-Profile Vector Extension (MVE) for Arm **Cortex-M Processors** and copyediting a forthcoming book on system-on-a-chip). For other clients, I have worked on theses, manuals, brochures, application forms, CVs, newsletters and websites: in short, whatever is required.

I have excellent all-round communication skills and am very experienced in managing people, processes and projects, being well-used to complex, high-pressure environments and deadlines. Throughout my career, I have been recognized repeatedly for my high standards, professionalism and impact.

My Approach

Words can be very powerful things, capable of doing both great good and great harm,

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I became a professional proofreader and editor, and it has informed all of my work ever since.

My approach is always conscientious and thorough and involves huge attention to detail; I've always been able to rapidly assimilate new topics and I immerse myself in the subject matter to ensure that what I am working on is as accurate, logical and consistent as can be, in addition to being highly readable and understandable.

Testimonials

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I have known Mark for some five years now, first briefly as a subcontractor to my company The Language Editor Limited and then as a much-valued colleague and employee. It did not take long for us to recognise his qualities and recruit him as a full-time member of our organisation, where he also quickly progressed to a more senior position. Mark has a commitment to detail and accuracy that sets him apart from what you would expect from an excellent editor. His perseverance and dedication propel him to a delivery that is above and beyond what is required, not just linguistically but also topically. His rich experience in industry, in a number of domains, equips him with knowledge and expertise to excel in the latter but also with skills and capabilities to engage with any topic. I have no hesitation in recommending Mark as an editor to any client who is seeking excellence.

Dr Gamila Shoib

Director, The Language Editor Ltd.

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