

Apple Writer Hints for Beginners

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Increasingly, as firms discard their A/// systems in favor of those more expensive and compatible with their business needs, we are confronted with the new-owner heirs to problems we 'veterans' faced when all this was new to the computer world of users.

These people invariably have little idea of what the A/// can do; are lacking in accumulated documentation that was junked by the former owners; and, have a real desire to know the rudiments of that most basic of programs, "Apple Writer", since their main needs are for correspondence and writing. For those of us who gained this knowledge by sitting on the manuals while we watched TEE VEE or slept with them under our pillows hoping thereby that osmosis would help us gain that vital key to solution of our syntax dilemmas, it is refreshing to know there are still people who need HELP.

"Apple Writer" is particularly valuable as a word processing program when one uses WPL or "Word Processing Language", whose commands enable us to program an entire operation and use this to perform the same chore repeatedly. But, more basic and to the point of interest of those 'newers' that just want to see their A///s perform, as a computer should, a few helpful hints on startup might be in order.

1. Even should you lack the manual, regarded by many as being one of the earlier examples of programmer non-communication, built in aids abound. For instance, the OPEN APPLE + ? will give you the basic SOS commands menu. While you are in that mode, by hitting ? again a HELP menu is accessible that will give you all the instructions necessary to begin using Apple Writer. There are 10 of them and, in depth, they cover all the bases in instruction on how to use the various commands. More will follow concerning the finer points of the use of those commands and their variations as well as the ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS MENU, which is attainable by the [Q] command. Just practice with these until the next coverage of this subject in February, which will be a little more entertaining and cover these matters more thoroughly.