Orwell's Rules for Writers

In his essay *Politics and the English Language* (1946), Orwell wrote about the importance of precise and clear language, arguing that vague writing can be used as a powerful tool of political manipulation because it shapes the way we think. In that essay, Orwell provides six rules for writers:

- Never use a metaphor, simile or other figure of speech which you are used to seeing in print.

- Never use a long word where a short one will do.

- If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out.

- Never use the passive where you can use the active.

- Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent.

- Break any of these rules sooner than say anything outright barbarous.