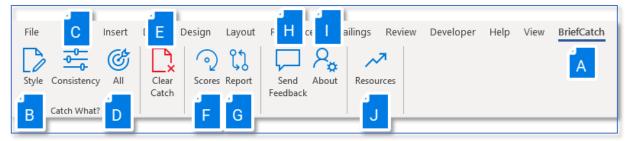# BriefCatch

Developed by Ross Guberman

A   With an open document, select the **BriefCatch** tab from the Word menu.

Choose one of the three "Catch" modes (BriefCatch can be used on either a portion of or the entire document):

B   **Style**
This feature taps into thousands of editing possibilities designed to make the document crisper, tighter, and more precise. The edits are all automatic—you just "Accept" or "Ignore" each one—with no rewriting needed.

C   **Consistency**
This feature focuses less on style and more on pure accuracy. With one click, you can spot and fix inconsistent language, formatting, and punctuation along with commonly confused words and citation errors.

D   **All**
This feature explores nearly every aspect of a draft. On top of all the automatic style and consistency checks, you'll be prompted to recast passive constructions, streamline quotations, cut dates, shorten sentences, and vary your transitions.

E   **Clear Catch**—Clear all catch highlights from the document.

F   **Scores**—Generate scores for the document, or selected portion.

G   **Report**—Generate a detailed report of the document's style strengths, weaknesses, and wording patterns.

H   **Send Feedback**—Submit online feedback about your BriefCatch experience.

I   **About**—View or add a BriefCatch license.

J   **Resources**—Online link to relevant articles and longer explanations.

BriefCatch Benefits

Active-voice check, with tailored exclusions	**Explanations** for suggested changes. Learn as you edit	**Punctuation** check, including proper placement, spacing, and consistency
Citation check for abbreviation, spacing, and punctuation	**Footnotes** are reviewed	**Quotation mark and bracket pairing** check
Clarity check. Spot and fix miscues, focus on concrete subjects, and quantify when possible	**Fresh-language check**. Get automatic suggestions for vivid verbs and for avoiding clichés and jargon	**Scores driven by artificial intelligence** that allow you to compare your style against that of top brief-writers and judges
Commonly confused, misspelled, and mis-typed **word check**	**Italics** check	**Secure-editing environment**. BriefCatch never saves your document or collects your editing data
Comprehensive **Report** that identifies style strengths, weaknesses, and habits	Omit suggested changes to **quotations and block quotes**	**Sentence length, structure, and persuasiveness** check
Conciseness check. Thousands of ways to shorten your drafts	Omit suggested changes to **URLs**	**Subject-verb agreement** check
Context-appropriate **word-choice** check	Perform **partial-document** checks	**Usage check** including split infinitives, proper articles, double-negatives, gendered language, and plural-singular forms
Document-format consistency check	**Punchiness**, including transitions, check	User can "**ignore all**" flags in a given category

K   Edits tab–Select this to display your options for each highlighted catch.

L   Editing Points–A gamification feature rewards you for working through the flagged catches.

M   Edit–An editing compass shows how each flagged edit fits in.

N   Navigation Arrows–Arrows allow you to navigate the flagged catches. You can also scroll throughout the document and address the highlighted text in any order.

O   Highlighted text–Flagged items invite review.

P   Editing buttons–For each flagged item, you can make the highlighted "Change," "Ignore" the flag, "Ignore All" similar flags in the document, or "Undo" a change.

Q   Alternatives–Unlike many tools, BriefCatch often offers several editing alternatives. Click on the one that best fits your style or the context.

R   Explanation–BriefCatch explains the basis for any flagged text.

S   Scores tab–Click here to generate scores for the document, or selected portion.

T   Report tab–Click here to generate a detailed report of the document's style strengths, weaknesses, and wording patterns.

BriefCatch

| Style | Consistency | All | Clear Catch | Scores | Report | Send Feedback | About | Resources |

Catch What?

overly simplistic. He properly cautioned against too

"[e]ven seemingly straightforward text" as unambi

Greebel v. FTP Software, Inc., 194 F.3d 185, 192 (

elying on the dictionary definition of a single statu

. Grimes Packing Co., 337 U. S. 86, 115-16 (1949))

dictionary definit on which the majority relied (C

geographic concept of an island—a piece of land tha

y water and smaller than a continent—but they do n

oundary of an island parcel. Addressing the latter is

esolution of this suit.

K S T

BriefCatch   ✕

| Edits | Scores | Report |

Editing Points   **49** / 100

Edit: 12 of 60   **N** ← →

Ignore All   Undo   Ignore   Change

PUNCHINESS

on which the   →   that the majority
majority relied   relied on

Q   which the majority
                         relied on

                         that the majority
                         cited

Relax the diction. There's no need to avoid ending midsentence phrases with prepositions.

S

BriefCatch   ▼   ✕

| Edits | Scores | Report |

Thanks for using BriefCatch to help improve your draft!

Reader Engagement Score	**82** / 100
Concise and Readable	**73** / 100
Flowing and Cohesive	**81** / 100
Crisp and Punchy	**78** / 100
Clear and Direct	**82** / 100

(i) How to improve these scores

T

BriefCatch   ✕

| Edits | Scores | Report |

Thanks for using BriefCatch 2.0 to improve your document! Here are some global observations and recommendations.

Readability Feedback

Average characters per word Longer than average	5.1
Median words per sentence Typical length	22
Passive voice sentence count Typical rate	6

Strengths and Room to Improve

The greatest strengths of your document are that you start sentences crisply and favor verbs over nouns.

The best ways to improve your document are to replace wordy phrases with single words and to end more sentences with short, crisp words.

Wording Patterns

We've calculated how often the document uses select words and phrases and compared those rates with typical rates.

We flag below any words or phrases that might be overused, though you should consider these flags in the context of your needs.

Long, heavy transition words at the start of sentences: none.

Other words and phrases: none.