

Grammarly vs Hemingway: Which Is the Better Choice for Freelance Writers



You must provide high-quality work to your clients as a competent freelance writer. Your write-up should be grammatically sound, error-free, compelling, and straight to the point. This high-quality output is important in making a good impression on each reader, whether it's an email, blog post, webpage, social media post, press release, or another medium.

Most writers use Microsoft Word or Google docs when typing, but these word processors can be unreliable even with their in-built editors. Moreover, you can be a decent writer and still make little mistakes with tense consistency, recognising different English dialect spellings and sentence structure once in a while. This is where 3rd party text-editing apps come in.

There are several, but for this article we will consider Grammarly and Hemingway; their distinct features, benefits and limitations and most importantly, which choice is better for freelance writers.

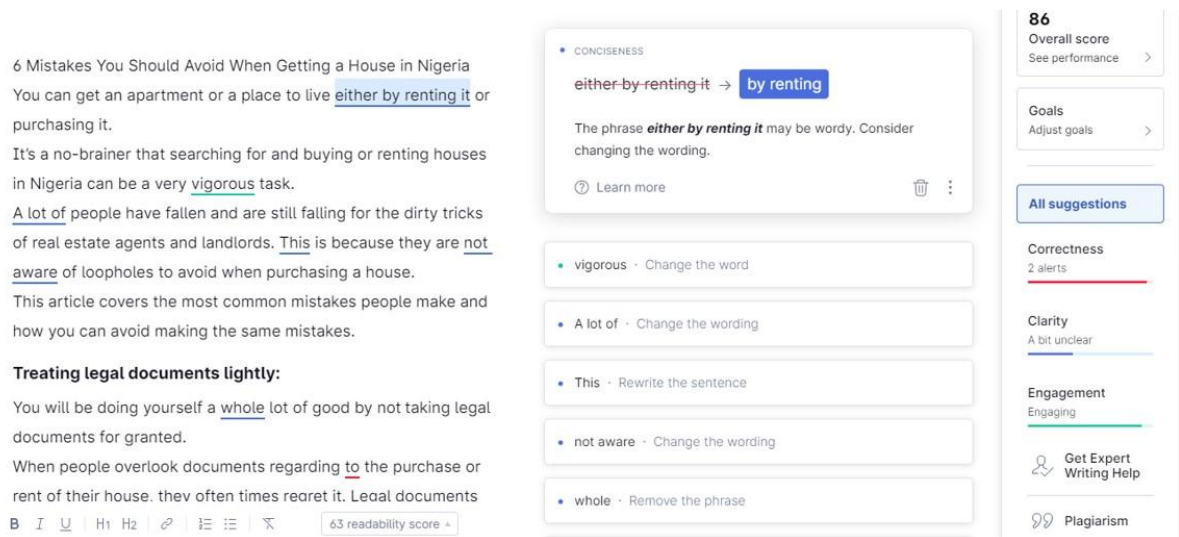
What Is Grammarly?

[Grammarly](#) is one of the most popular text-editing tools. As the name implies, it is keen on your grammar. Moreover, it checks your spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, passive voice, and plagiarism. It has free, premium and business plans as your budget fits. The premium plan starts at \$12.00 per month and the business plan is \$15.00 per member monthly. The premium and business plans have the same features, while the free version is a bit restricted (in terms of plagiarism check, passive voice, and tone selection).

Features

Grammarly has several features for you to ensure your editing is precise and the experience, pleasant. Here are some.

1. Colour representations and score:



The screenshot displays the Grammarly web interface. On the left, a document titled "6 Mistakes You Should Avoid When Getting a House in Nigeria" is shown. The text contains several underlined words and phrases in different colors: "either by renting it" (blue), "vigorous" (green), "not aware" (red), and "whole" (blue). A sidebar on the right shows an overall score of 86. Below the score, there are sections for "Goals", "All suggestions", "Correctness" (2 alerts), "Clarity" (A bit unclear), "Engagement" (Engaging), "Get Expert Writing Help", and "Plagiarism". A bottom toolbar includes icons for bold, italic, underline, and a readability score of 63.

Grammarly makes use of different colours for editing. If a word is underlined in red, it is incorrect (grammar, spelling or punctuation). A green underline means that the phrase causes the work to be less engaging, while a blue underline means that the word or phrase is unclear and needs to be rewritten. Apart from the colours, it gives you a score out of 100 that increases upon improved editing.

2. Language preference:



You can choose one from British, American, Canadian and Australian English.

3. In-built dictionary:

It enables you to add commonly used words, perhaps native names, to your dictionary.

4. Plagiarism checker:

The paid versions provide a plagiarism checker that scans about 16 billion different websites to avoid intentional and unintentional plagiarism.

5. Goal-setting:

A screenshot of a 'Set goals' form. At the top, there is a target icon and the title 'Set goals'. Below the title is a subtitle: 'Get tailored writing suggestions based on your goals and audience.' The form is divided into four sections: 'Domain', 'Intent', 'Audience', and 'Formality'. Each section has a set of buttons to select a goal. 'Domain' has buttons for 'Academic', 'Business', 'General' (selected), 'Email', 'Casual', and 'Creative'. 'Intent' has buttons for 'Inform' (selected), 'Describe', 'Convince', and 'Tell A Story'. 'Audience' has buttons for 'General' (selected), 'Knowledgeable', and 'Expert'. 'Formality' has buttons for 'Informal', 'Neutral' (selected), and 'Formal'. At the bottom of the form, there is a checkbox labeled 'Show Set Goals when I start a new document' and two buttons: 'Reset to defaults' and 'Done'.

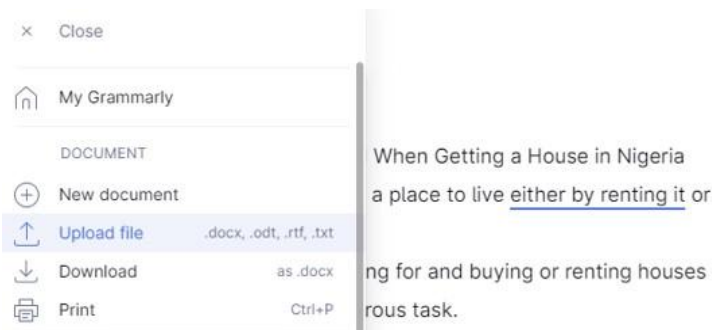
You can set goals for your audience, intent, style, formality and domain.

6. Importing and exporting files:



6 Mistakes You Should Avoid When Getting a House in Nigeria
You can get an apartment or a place to live either by renting it or
purchasing it.
It's a no-brainer that searching for and buying or renting houses
in Nigeria can be a very vigorous task.

Instead of the traditional copy and paste, you may click the menu button at the top left of the page and upload your documents directly from the dashboard.



Pros

- Presence of a plagiarism checker
- Better design and user interface
- Compatibility with Android and iOS
- Compatibility across several web browsers

Cons

- Costly premium version
- Deals with only English language

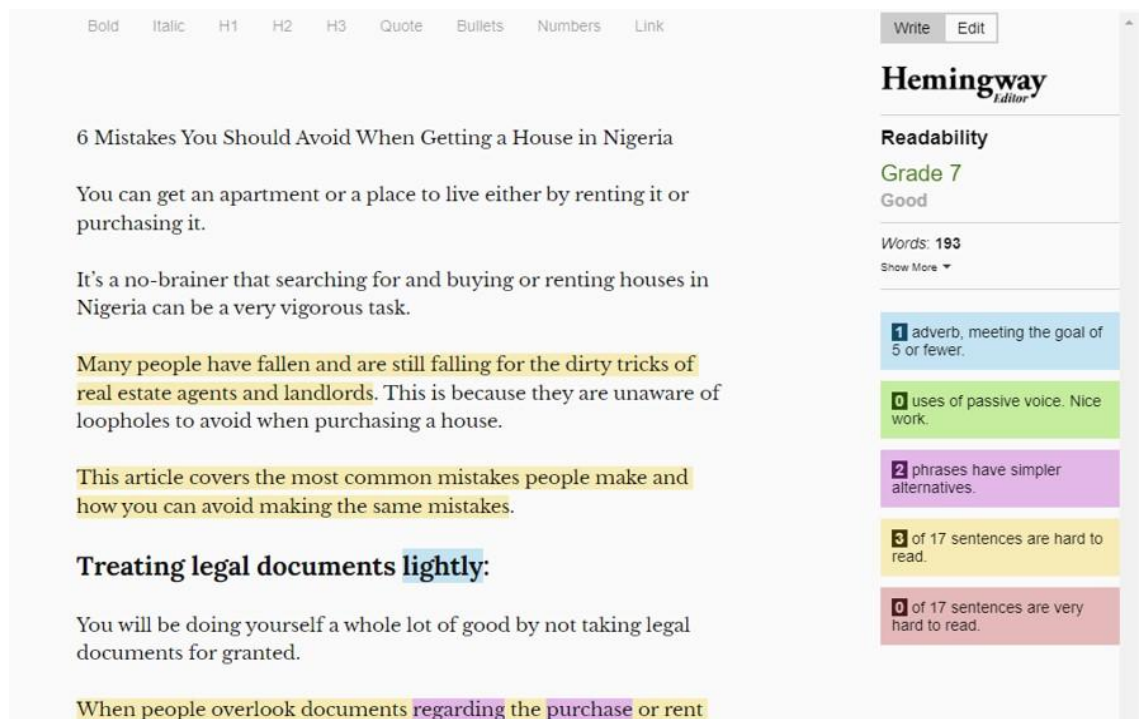
What Is Hemingway?

[Hemingway](#) is a program that improves the conciseness and comprehension of your writing. It targets passive voice, adverbs and hard-to-read sentences. The Hemingway editor can be used online and through the desktop app. The latter requires a one-time payment of \$19.99.

Features

Some defining characteristics of the Hemingway editor are listed below.

1. Colour representations and grades:



Like Grammarly, Hemingway uses colour representations for editing. Only that it highlights, not underline. Blue highlight stands for adverb usage, green represents the presence of passive voice, and purple represents phrases that can be broken down. More colours are yellow and red, meaning hard-to-read and very hard-to-read sentences.

Additionally, this program shows grades for different levels of readability. For instance, grade 7 is easier to read than grade 14.

2. Text editor tool:

The text editor located at the top of the page enables you to add headings, paragraphs, hyperlinks, and numbered lists, amongst other things, to your text.

3. Separate write and edit sections:

The separate write and edit section is an essential feature. Some writers might get frustrated with correcting phrases before making a complete sentence. In other words, the “write” section allows you to keep pouring down ideas without breaking the flow. You can find this at the top right of the page.

4. Importing and Exporting files:

Like Grammarly, the Hemingway app allows you to import and export files before and after editing.

Pros

- Works offline
- More affordable
- No account needed for usage
- Allows direct publishing to medium and wordpress

Cons

- Does not check for writing tone and spelling.
- Cannot check for plagiarism

Which Should I Pick as a Freelance Writer?

As a freelance writer, choosing what tool to use could be a hassle as each writer has their peculiar conditions. For example, a creative writer/storyteller would prefer a program that allows tone selection and does not cut down on the use of adverbs.

The Hemingway app would favour someone with a slim budget. It is also suitable for someone with a good grasp of English grammar and strong spelling skills because it focuses on

readability and adverbs instead. On the other hand, Grammarly's premium edition contains many features that will make you a more proficient writer.

In conclusion, your best bet would be to use both applications when writing anything technical; because of the advantages and drawbacks of each.