

1096-AF-801 **Katherine Socha*** (ksocha@mathforamerica.org). *On The Elements of Style.*

“Do cats eat bats?” “Do bats eat cats?” Order matters. *“When nine hundred years old you reach, look as good you will not.”* Order does not matter.

“In the sentence the student should find the law of unity, of continuity, of proportion, of order.” Order matters - but so do other elements of style. Effective thinking, embodied by effective use of language, is inherently mathematical; both effective thinking and mathematics are inherently stylish. We will explore examples from fiction and non-fiction to see the mathematical thinking that underlies effective (and elegant) communication of ideas. (Received September 10, 2013)