

Back by popular demand:

Skills Lab offers another “Painless Punctuation” session

Do punctuation problems plague your writing? If your memos and letters suffer from chronic comma-itis, exhausted apostrophes and a bad case of sentence fragments, fear not! You can get help for these and other common punctuation maladies in Painless Punctuation, an information session to be held on Tuesday, Dec. 11, from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center’s administration building, classroom 12. There is no charge, but space is extremely limited so you must make a reservation by calling 376-3250.

Response to the first seminar this month was so enthusiastic that the session will be repeated. Columbia Basin College faculty from the Skills Enhancement Lab will present the session. The Skills Lab, a partnership of the Department of Energy, CBC and HAMMER, operated by Fluor Hanford, helps workers improve their basic reading, writing and math skills. The lab is open for individual private tutoring Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center (Room 4) at HAMMER. The staff will host an informal open house on Dec. 11 in the Skills Lab immediately after the punctuation session.

If you are interested in assessing your overall basic reading, math, writing and grammar skills, another helpful service is available through the Skills Lab. You can sign up for a two-hour standardized survey of adult basic skills, administered by appointment only. After your survey is scored, you can schedule a private conference with a CBC faculty member to discuss your results, target areas for improvement and learn ways to boost your skills — either by using the Skills Lab or on your own. All information is kept confidential, but you must make an appointment for this service in advance.

Two other informational sessions planned for this fiscal year are “Goof-proofing your Grammar” and “Successful Spelling.” To sign up or find out more about any of the sessions or the assessment survey, call Kathy Dechter at 376-3250. ♦