

# Explain This!

How to explain a story's 'nub'

# Agenda

## the nub **noun**

: the main part or point of something

| *the nub* of the story/problem/matter/argument

# Breaking it down

- Recognize
- Research
- Think
- Write/Tighten
- Check



# Recognize

What

- is the central point?
- do you stop to explain?
- gets misunderstood?

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# Research

- Published articles
- Expert interviews
- Online searches



# Research

- Wikipedia, for the links
- Google, for high quality sites
- [Journalistsresource.org](http://Journalistsresource.org)



# Think

- Negative and positive definitions
- Analogy/simile
- Visual imagery



# Negative and positive definition

— — —

*If fusion can be deployed on a large scale, it would offer an energy source devoid of the pollution and greenhouse gases caused by the burning of fossil fuels and the dangerous long-lived radioactive waste created by **current nuclear power plants**, which use the **splitting** of uranium to produce energy.*

*Within the sun and stars, **fusion continually combines** hydrogen atoms into **helium**, producing sunlight and warmth that bathes the planets.*



# Analogy/Simile

— — —

Comparing two things

that are mostly dissimilar

but have a similarity, either in themselves or in relation to other things that illuminates a particular characteristic of one.

Simile: His mood was as dark as a thundercloud.

Analogy: A football coach runs a team the way a manager runs a business.

# US Repo Markets: A Chart Book

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A repurchase agreement (repo) is a financial transaction in which one party sells an asset to another party with a promise to repurchase the asset at a pre-specified later date (a reverse repo is the same transaction seen from the perspective of the security buyer). Repos can be overnight (duration one day) or term (duration up to one year, albeit some are up to two years and the majority are three months or less). The repo market enables market participants to provide collateralized loans to one another, and financial institutions predominantly use repos to manage short-term fluctuations in cash holdings, rather than general balance sheet funding.

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You can think of the trillion dollar repo market as the world's largest pawn shop, making short-term collateralized loans.



# Uruguay, the Switzerland of Latin America

The Latin American country is called the 'Switzerland of Latin America' thanks to its great economic and social development.



By **Erika Ardila**  
October 04, 2021

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MORE



# Visual imagery

— — —  
In all of the efforts by scientists to control the unruly power of fusion, their experiments consumed more energy than the fusion reactions generated.

That changed at 1:03 a.m. on Dec. 5 when 192 giant lasers at the laboratory's National Ignition Facility blasted a small cylinder about the size of a pencil eraser that contained a frozen nubbin of hydrogen encased in diamond.

The laser beams entered at the top and bottom of the cylinder, vaporizing it. That generated an inward onslaught of X-rays that compressed a BB-size fuel pellet of deuterium and tritium, the heavier forms of hydrogen.

**Write and tighten**

# Writing and tightening

— — —

Over here are investors with cash that's not doing anything profitable at the moment. Over there are banks with tons of bonds and a need for ready money. The so-called repo market is where the two sides meet. Repurchase agreements make up an essential, if esoteric, piece of financial plumbing. By providing a place where assets can be pawned for short-term loans, a healthy repo market helps a wide range of other transactions go more smoothly.

... that became ...

You can think of the trillion dollar repo market as the world's largest pawn shop, making short-term collateralized loans.

**Check**



# Checking

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The less familiar you are with a subject ...

... the more backup you need.

- Find the experts in your newsroom
- Check with outside experts or sources – in keeping with your newsroom’s policy
- Check concepts as well as facts



Photo: Warner Bros.

The plan

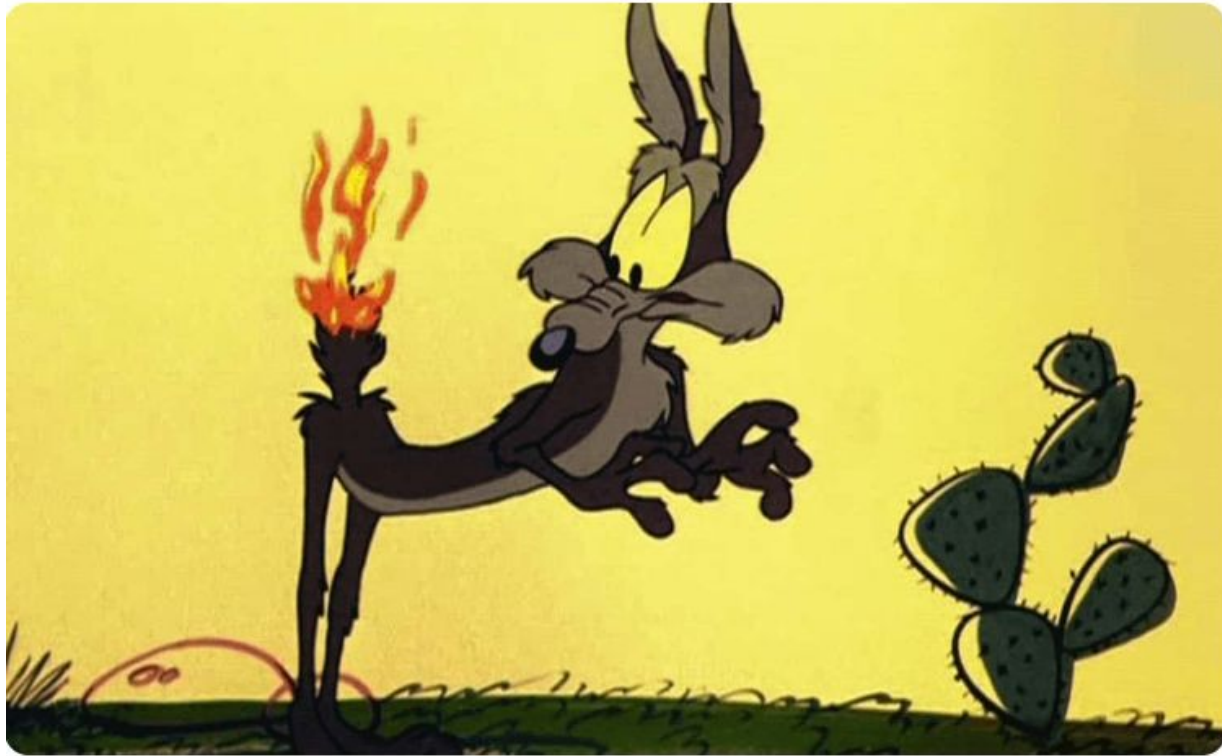


Photo: Warner Bros.

**The reality, sometimes**

# *Equation of Time Solves Mystery of Gray Mornings*

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Give this article



By **John O'Neil**

Jan. 14, 2013

3 MIN READ

As the parent of teenage boys who have to be dragged out of bed on school days, I had been looking forward to earlier sunrises once the winter solstice was past. But early January mornings seemed darker than ever while at the same time, the sky was clearly lighter around 5 p.m.

It turned out that what I suspected was actually true — by Jan. 2,