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'Avoid Latinate Words,' and Other Advice for Bush

By THOMAS CRAMPTON

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Some advice for President Bush as he prepared for his acceptance speech tonight:

- "The lack of proper punctuation on TelePrompters may be why the president so often opens new territory in grammar and vocabulary. To avoid that, his speechwriter should use frequent full stops and avoid Latinate words." — Lynne Truss, author of *"Eats, Shoots & Leaves,"* a best-selling book on punctuation.

- "The convention wants to hear that immigration laws will be enforced, even if it means lining our Southern border with troops. The whole room would rise and cheer. He'd get a negative call from Vicente Fox, but he would win the Southwest." — Pat Buchanan, Reform Party candidate for the presidency in 2000.

- "Wrestling fans always look for something new and exciting, so he needs to body-slam his critics, put a choke hold on new ideas and drop a few elbows through the holes in his platform on Iraq and the economy." — Chris (Harvard) Nowinski, a star of *World Wrestling Entertainment*.

- "George Bush must speak strongly out against criminal people in the world. He is strong and I trust him." — Atef Harmeena, salesman at a hot dog cart outside the convention.

- "Copying the best Southern cooking, his speech should be honest, pure and use simple ingredients. He is already a totally authentic person, so he just needs to show how he will hold the course and not bail on those folks in Iraq." — Robert St. John, author of *"Deep South Staples: How to Survive in a Southern Kitchen Without a Can of Cream of Mushroom Soup."*

- "He should start the speech: 'I'm George Bush and I'm reporting for duty. Better late than never.'

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He's also got to make the case clear that drinking mai-tais and getting deferments is more honorable than serving in Vietnam and getting three Purple Hearts." — *Bill Maher, host of "Real Time" on HBO.*

- "Before the speech, I would like to give him a little Econ 101 lesson so that he understands how enlarged fiscal deficits, large household debt and a job deficit are not actually sources of economic strength. Otherwise, he could turn into a textbook example of bad economic management." — *Joseph E. Stiglitz, awarded the Nobel Prize for Economics in 2001.*

- "The president really needs to relax and work on making his style more authentic. I think his difficulties in speaking come from the tensions of the current political situation." — *Ivy Nastadt, author of "Speak Without Fear: A Total System for Becoming a Natural, Confident Communicator."*

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