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OK, this has nothing to do with square-dancing. Frankly, I've run out of things to poke fun at. Suggestions would be most welcome.

But, while rummaging through old files, I found an interesting exercise. It, the exercise, was to write a 100-word essay without repeating any words.

Try it.

You never know when an old, dormant exercise might come in handy.

100 Words

Hmmmm, interesting challenge: one hundred words, no repeats, normal sounding paragraphs.

Presumably, preposition shortages could create some problems; articles too – just three to nail nouns in place throughout this entire exercise – ouch!

Aha, try numerous adjectives and flowery, lyrical speech. Filibuster, you wild, crazy old fool!

But, are there rules? Would listing fifty states be amiss, using foreign languages foul, quoting biblical passages incorrect? Lacking guidance, I can only muddle forward, hopefully avoiding disqualifying transgressions.

Now, nearing completion, temptation whispers, "Go for it. Use an 'of' or a 'whereas.' Don't save those passive verbs."

So, my final count (excluding exclamations) is?

Ninety-nine.

Rats!