THE WRITERS

A Guide To The Use of TI-WRITER And It's Clones

2nd Edition

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THE WRITERS

THIS MANUAL IS DEDICATED TO
THE TEN PERCENT OF THE TI
COMMUNITY THAT DOES THE WORK,
POSSIBLY TEN TO FIFTEEN
THOUSAND PEOPLE WORLD WIDE.
IT'S BECAUSE OF THEM THAT
I HAVE BEEN GIVEN MY FIFTEEN
MINUTES OF GLORY, FRIENDSHIPS
THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET, AND
A REASON TO LIVE THESE LAST
EIGHT YEARS.

HTB

THE WRITERS

FORWARD
+=====+

There are many people (probably late-comers to our computer), that have received word processors such as BA-Writer, Funnel-Writer, or even TI-Writer, that do not have any documentation for these programs. This manual is intended to HELP those people get started with one of the best, most versatile word processing systems designed for any computer.

All three of the forementioned programs are essentially the same. The basics of the original TI-Writer program have, for the most part, been considered hallowed ground and hence, there have only been a couple of items or commands added here and there in any of the fairware versions. The Show Directory command is slightly different in all versions and BA-Writer will allow you to do this from the formatter. Very handy! Probably one of the most significant new items in the Funnel-Writer version is a bell that sounds seven letters from the end of your line.

No matter which version you have, this will cover the basics. It is not my intention to guide you through in the same way TI did with the original 176 page manual that came with the cartridge. I am only going to tell you the functions and what they do. You will have to practice them on your own.

This is the second printing of The Writers. I want to thank the people that have declared this manual to be an essential part of the TI library. I have worked hard to produce a comprehensive document, but I also welcome comment on it and hints that could significantly update it in the future. Please be kind enough to submit your thoughts to:

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THE WRITERS

FIRING IT UP

There are four files that you HAVE to have for a complete Writer, two for the Editor and two for the Formatter. These always start with EDIT and FORM, but they will probably have letters or numbers on the end of the names, like FORMA1 or EDITA1. Also, they will be program image files of no more than 33 sectors each. Generally, these four files will be accompanied by a LOAD program that will allow you to select the Editor, Formatter, or Utility from a menu. If you do not have this loader, you may use the Editor Assembler cartridge (option five) to access the files, but chances are this will not be necessary. We will assume that you will be loading from one of the Extended Basic cartridges or, perhaps, from a ram disk.

From the menu, select the Editor. You will be on the command line as soon as you enter the program. This is where all the major elements of the formatter are accessed. Certain defaults are present at this point, all of which can be changed to suit your own document preparation. The colors are white text on a blue background. The margins are set to left 0 and right 80 with no indent. Line numbers are present and the word wrap mode is on.

CHANGING THE DEFAULTS

The command line is transparent to case so whether your alpha lock is up or down makes no difference here. Press (T) for Tabulation. The line that appears looks like this;

```
123456789 123456789 123456789 etc.
L....T....1....T....2....T....3..
```

The Left margin is set by using the letter "L" on the column of choice, the indent with "I", and the right margin, of course, with "R". You may move along the tabulation line with the Function and arrow keys, but I would suggest that you use the period ".". I like to do this because it gets rid of all the other characters on the line and keeps it simple. Also, if you want to set your tabs next, you can easily put them where you want without worrying about the defaulted ones every five or ten columns. Use the letter "T" to set up any tabs you may want. When you're all finished, press ENTER. Your tabulation is now set and you are sent to the first editing line to write your document.

HINT: I HATE WINDOWING! If you have to write a seventy column letter, you will be driven NUTS by the effect of the screen jumping every time you hit column forty. Trying to read what you have written with this jumping effect is nigh unto impossible. TI did the best they could with the forty column system, and I don't fault them for it.. but I also don't have to put up with their answer to windowing.

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Set your margins to Left zero and Right forty. There
won't be any windowing this way and you can read your
document with ease. Put your faith in the formatter commands
that we'll get into later. Trust Me! The only time I ever
exceed forty columns is when I am making up a list of stuff
with tabs. I have even gone into the EDIT1 file and changed
the tabulation string to default to forty columns instead of
eighty. Ask someone familiar with a sector editor to do this
for you, as it will save you the time of setting this all up
every time you want to write a note or two.

You may not like the white text on blue background that
you start out with. Pressing the control three (3)
combination will pass you through black on lt. green, white
on lt. green (YUK), black on cyane (my choice), and white on
black, which may be your preference if you are working with a
black and white TV.

As far as word-wrap is concerned, you probably won't
want to change this. All general text is done with the wrap
on because it automatically drops an incomplete word to the
next line and allows you to type away without interruption.
In non-wrap, each time you reach the right margin, you must
press enter to drop to the next line. Also, no carriage
return symbols are inserted into the document for formatting.

There are some spots where you might want to leave
word-wrap, though. For instance, if you don't intend to go
through the formatter, or for columnized figures, or if you
have LISTED a program to a DV/80 file and need to insert
something in a line. These are all good examples for using
non-wrap. Control zero (0) will toggle you in and out of
this mode and the cursor will change its shape to show you
which one you are in.

WARNING: If you aren't careful when INSERTing in
non-wrap, you will push your line of text over the edge and
lose characters.

IN THE EDIT MODE

As previously stated, once you enter your tabulation,
you will go directly to Edit mode. This can also be
accomplished by entering an "E" in command line mode any time
you happen to be there. If you have been working on a text
file and escape to the command line, (Function 9), you will
always be returned to where the cursor originally was when
you left your document.

The following is a general description of the Function
and Control key presses available while editing.

FUNCTION KEY COMMANDS

FCTN 1=Delete: Deletes one character at a time or a line
of characters by holding the key down.
FCTN 2=Insert: In word-wrap mode, the line will split

and allow you to insert a letter, word, or whole paragraph. In non-wrap (CTRL 0), the effect is like inserting in a program. It pushes the letters to the left of the cursor, one column for each letter inserted. If the right margin is encountered by the end of the line, the letters will disappear off the end.

FCTN 3=**Erase**: This will delete the line the cursor is on completely. If you deleted the wrong line, however, press CTRL 1 (OOPS) to retrieve it.

FCTN 4=**Roll up**: The text on the screen will scroll up by 23 lines or one entire screen.

FCTN 5=**Next Screen**: Actually, this is the windowing mode. (A better term) The screen will move from right to left by 20 characters. When the right margin is encountered the movement is then back to the far left, column one.

FCTN 6=**Roll Down**: The opposite of roll up. The screen is scrolled down 23 lines at a time.

FCTN 7=**Tab**: The cursor will move the cursor to the next preset or defaulted tab to the right.

FCTN 8=**Insert Line**: This function will insert a blank line at the current row the cursor is on. All text lines, including the one the cursor is on, will drop down the page by one row and the blank line will contain no carriage return. This function can be accomplished from any column position without affecting the line of text.

FCTN 9=**Escape**: Allows you to escape whatever you are doing, whether you are in edit mode or on the command line.

FCTN 0=**Line Numbers**: Allows you to toggle the line numbers off and on. If you set up for forty columns, you will want to delete the line numbers so that no windowing is required.

FCTN ==**Escape**: This is an alternate Escape route from text mode only, and reacts the same as FCTN 9.

CONTROL KEY COMMANDS

CTRL 1=**Oops**: This key will redo a line deletion or a single line overwrite as long as the key press in error has not been repeated or the cursor has not been moved. If you accidently delete a line, press CTRL 1 immediately and the line will be returned to you.

CTRL 2=**Reformat**: This one gets alot of use. If you insert a word or line with FCTN 2, then the lines must be brought back together again by pressing CTRL 2. Also, if you decide to change margins, you must go to the beginning of each paragraph and reformat it. The reformatting is restricted to any area PRIOR to a carriage return. As helpful as this function is, it can also be a disaster. If you load a text file that has no carriage returns anywhere, such as a listed program or a columnized report, and you press this key... you're dead! The entire file will be sucked up into a mishmash of never ending sentences. ALWAYS

make sure there are carriage returns before pressing this key.

CTRL 3=Color Change: Passes you through five text/background color combinations.

CTRL 4=Paragraph Up: Similar to FCTN 4 (roll up) except that it's more of a cursor control. It will scroll the screen up, but only one paragraph at a time, with the cursor set to the start of the paragraph.

CTRL 5=Dupe Line: This is a strange and somewhat ineffectual command. It's kind of like they couldn't think of anything else to do, and when they did think of something, they didn't finish it. The function will duplicate the line above the cursor to the line that the cursor is on. It doesn't move the text down to make room, so it takes the place of the cursored line. Wierd, but occasionally useful.

CTRL 6=Paragraph down: The reverse of CTRL 4. It will scroll the screen down one paragraph at a time.

CTRL 7=Word Tab: Will move the cursor to the start of the next word to the right of it's location. This will only work on one line and will not wrap to the next or return to the start of the line.

CTRL 8=New Paragraph: This key will place a carriage return wherever the cursor is located. If this takes place in the middle of another paragraph or line of text, the line is split as it is for Insert. CTRL 2, Reformat should then be used to establish the new paragraph beginning.

HINT: When you break an existing paragraph in two with CTRL 8, the cursor goes to the next line down. If you are using a paragraph indent, the cursor recognises this and sits at the indentation. However, when you reformat to set up the new paragraph, the indent isn't noticed, and the first word winds up at the far left margin. To stop this from happening, press FCTN 2, Insert, right after CTRL 8.. then CTRL 2, Reformat. The indent will then be correct.

CTRL 9=New Page: This keypress inserts a carriage return and a formfeed character. Your hard copy will then advance to the top of the next page when printed through the formatter.

HINT: CTRL P will do the same thing as CTRL 9. Almost all of. the CTRL and FCTN number key presses have an equal CTRL/FCTN alpha equivilant. In most cases, though, it's easier to work the digit keys.

CTRL 0=Word Wrap Toggle: Allows you to pass into and out of word wrap mode. The cursor changes shape to correspond with the mode. Cursor shapes will differ between Writer versions.

MISC EDIT COMMANDS

If you think you have all of the above commands straight now, prepare to be confused again. I'm truly sorry but, as I mentioned in the HINT above, all of the FCTN/CTRL/NUMBER

commands also have a FCTN/CTRL-ALPHA equivalent. Don't worry about this, you've got enough problems. There are a couple of commands, however, that come from the alpha keys alone. They are...

CTRL T=Back Tab: Moves the cursor from right to left for the preset and defaulted tab positions.

CTRL V=Cursor to Beginning of Line: Moves the cursor directly to the left margin.

CTRL K=Delete End of Line: This press will delete everything to right of the cursor in one line.

CTRL L=Home Cursor: This is a lie! In every other word processor I have seen this means that the cursor moves to the first position of the first line in the entire document. In ours, the cursor moves to the top left position of the current screen only.

CTRL Y=Left Margin Release: I don't know why, but if you need it, there it is. There is no right margin release, which I think would have been a little more practical.

That's all there is to the editing commands that affect you while you are in edit mode in the main body of your text. Next we will cover those items that must be accessed from the command line.

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THE COMMAND LINE

The command line is accessed by FCTN 9 or FCTN = (Quit).
There is a "help" list at the very top of the screen to
remind you of the various functions available. We'll cover
these functions from left to right. The paragraph headers
will show the proper key presses in brackets. In some cases
you must enter two letters for a single command, hence I will
prefix the command with this entry in brackets.

[E]dit: If you have just booted up, this will take you
to the first text position. If you go to the command from
within a text file, it will return you to the location you
were at when you pressed FCTN 9.
[T]abs: This was covered in the boot up default changes,
but you should be reminded that you can change tabulation at
any time while you are entering your text.
[F]iles: This command will bring up a further menu of
"helper" words. The six file functions are as follows.

[LF]Load File: Once you have entered this two letter
command, the prompt will then call for the file name. Enter
the drive number and file name you wish to load as
DSKn.FILENAME. (The little "n" is replaced by you with the
drive number.) If the file exists, it will be loaded into the
text buffer, but if the name cannot be found, you will get an
error 02. Error message 06 tells you that something is
screwy with the drive... gate not closed, no disk in the
drive, etc.
[SF]Save File: This is handled the same as [LF]
except you are going to SAVE your text to a disk. I should
point out that once a file name has been used from command
mode, whether to load or save, it is forever-more defaulted
until changed, so be careful.
[PF]Print File: This is a text dump to the printer.
Whatever you have written in whatever form, that's the way it
will be printed. After you enter this command, you will be
prompted for the device name. Unless you are working with
the original TI-Writer, this prompt is defaulted to PIO. In
the original, it was defaulted to the RS232 port and will
have to be changed before entry.
[DF]Delete File: You may delete a text file from your
disk with this command. It is again handled the same as the
[LF] and [SF] commands. WARNING: I repeat, any file name
once used is defaulted, BE CAREFUL!
[P]urge: Will delete the file in the text buffer.
DON'T use it until you have SAVED the file.
[SD]Show Directory: Enter this command, then enter a
drive number at the prompt and you will be shown the catalog
of the disk in that drive. This is handled differently in
the various program versions. Refer to the version
particulars that come with your program for further

information. It is also possible that in some very early,
total disk access versions of TI-Writer, Show Directory does
not exist.

[L]ines: There are four sub-functions from the Lines
command.

[M]ove: Entering "M" will produce a prompt that says,
"Start line, End line, After line." Ok, here's where those
line numbers become absolutely necessary. Let's assume you
want to move a paragraph that occurs from line number 100 to
line number 110, and you want to move it to line 210. Enter
the numbers like this...

```
             100 110 209
              :   :   :   :   :
              S   S   E   S   A
              T   P   N   P   F
              A   A   D   A   T
              R   C       C   E
              T   E       E   R
```

Hit ENTER and in a moment, the task is finished. If you
ever needed justification for your word processor, you will
have it after you have done this once.

[C]opy: This is handled in exactly the same way as
"Move"; Start, End, and After. The only difference is that
the text will be COPIED word for word to the new location.

[D]elete: In this command, enter only the beginning
and ending lines. Those, and everything in between, will be
deleted.

[S]how: Enter a single line number at the prompt and
the cursor will move to the beginning of that line. This
function can be the fast way to get to the start or end of a
large text file.

NOTE: In all of the first three functions, if you want
to work with only one line, enter the same number as the
beginning AND ending numbers. i.e. 102 102 110 ..move line
102 to after line 110. (It will become line 111)

[SH]Search: Two sub-commands will be available.

[FS]Find String: You must enter a slash, "/" then the
word or string of words, then another slash. Suppose you
want to find the word "test". Enter it as "/test/" and press
enter. If the word is in your text, the cursor will be
placed at the beginning letter of the first occurence of the
word. If that is not the "test" you are looking for, go to
command mode again and default the search word. DO NOT GO
BACK TO THE TOP OF THE DOCUMENT FOR THE CONTINUED SEARCH,
leave it where it is.

[RS]Replace String: Let's assume you are writing a
story and you want to change the name of the hero from Tom to
Tim. Enter a slash, "Tom", slash, "Tim", slash, ENTER... or

"/Tom/Tim/" At the first occurence of "Tom" you will get the prompt, "Yes,No,All,Stop". If you enter "Y" then it will change Tom to Tim and go to the next occurence of Tom. Again, the prompt. If you enter "N" for no, then it will leave the name as is (Tom) and proceed to the next "Tom" it can find, etc. If you entered "A" for All at the first occurence, all the "Tom's" would be changed automatically in the entire file. "Stop" is obvious.

WARNING: Everyone commits the same error the first time they use these commands. You MUST place the cursor at the very top of your text file for these commands to work correctly.

[RE]Recover Edit: In order to explain what happens here, we must step out of sequence a bit. The last command line function is [Q]uit. In this command you are asked if you wish to [S]ave, [P]urge, or [E]xit. To Save the file, press "S" and you will be sent to the [SF] (Save File) area we covered previously. After this you may want to continue using the editor on a new letter or what have you, in which case you will Purge the file from the VDP. Notice that I specified the VDP because, in fact, the file remains in the text buffer to be simply written over. If you were dumb enough to have Purged before you Saved, go to the [RE] function and use it. The file will be returned to your use in it's entirety.

The [E]xit command from [Q]uit will send you back to your power-up screen.

MORE LINE NUMBERS

As you get used to using the Writer, you find that there are times when you want to break files up or bring in parts of a file to merge with something you are working on. This is where the real power of TI-Writer comes into play. The line numbers can be used with the File, Lines, and Search command areas, to specify what area of your text you wish to use or manipulate. You saw these numbers used already in the Lines explanation but there's more to it than meets the eye.

Let's assume that you have written a letter to the Widget Company sometime past. You have the address and "Dear whats-his-name" in the top seven or eight lines of that letter, so why do it all over again? Go to the [LF] command and enter....

Ø 1 8 DSKn.Widget

In sequence, you will load after line zero, lines one to eight of the file named Widget. (The line numbers begin with zero in your on-screen file.) Presto! There are your first eight lines of the file and you can continue your new letter from there.

It is possible to load any part of any file to any

section of the buffered file, using this format. Likewise, you can SAVE any part of your buffered file to a new file name. Just enter the start line number and the ending line number. i.e. 120 156 DSKn.PART1.

If you intend to load or save a section of the file that will include the end of the file, then enter 120 E DSKn.FINISH. You will be working with line 120 to the end of the file and you don't need to know what the last line number is. The "E" can also be used as the first digit to indicate that the file is to be loaded at the end of the buffered file.

If you wish to load an entire file after line 100 then just use the "After" digit. i.e. 100 DSKn.MERGEFILE.

The [PF]Print File command that we covered earlier can also use the line numbers in a couple of ways. You can enter the starting and ending line numbers you want printed in front of the device name. i.e. 100 150 PIO. You may also have need to print line numbers WITH your document. This can be accomplished by entering "L" in front of the device name, (L PIO).

Consider, if you will, "L 204 E PIO" This would print lines 204 to the end of file with the line numbers to the PIO printer port.

STRIP PRINTER CONTINUED FROM PG 20

```
500 FOR X=1 TO 9 :: CALL SPACE(CHR$(7),88):: CALL L.NE :: NE
XT X
510 CALL SPACE(CHR$(7),74):: PRINT #1:L$
520 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"@" :: CALL LINEFEED(24*FLAG):: PRINT
#1:L$ :: NEXT Y
530 CLOSE #1 :: END
540 !
550 SUB SPACE(A$,A)
560 IF A>254 THEN PRINT #1:RPT$(A$,254);:: A=A-254 :: GOTO 5
60 ELSE PRINT #1:RPT$(A$,A);
570 SUBEND
580 SUB LINE
590 PRINT #1:CHR$(255);CHR$(255);
600 SUBEND
610 SUB FORMAT(F)
620 CALL LINEFEED(F):: PRINT #1:CHR$(27)&"L"&CHR$(192)&CHR$(
3);
630 SUBEND
640 SUB LINEFEED(F)
650 PRINT #1:CHR$(27)&"3"&CHR$(F);
660 SUBEND
```

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THE DOT FORMAT COMMANDS

You can put anything you want into the editor in any way you like. Use any number of columns, no indents, everything entered to the far left or any other non-standard method. The dot commands that you enter will turn a sows ear into a silk purse every time.

In this chapter you will be given a partial list of these commands and then I will explain each one. There are a couple of symbols that are used also, but we'll hit those separately at the end of the chapter.

I also am not going to explain them in the order of the list because some are dependent on others, and some are a lot more important. I will present examples wherever I can and you should also refer to the "Forward" of this manual and the Editor dump we did on it that is included in this chapter.

COMMAND	NAME	FUNCTION
.AD	ADJUST	JUSTIFIES THE RIGHT MARGIN
.BP	BREAK PAGE	FORM FEED
.CE	CENTER	CENTERS TEXT WITHIN MARGINS
.CO	COMMENT	LIKE A REM
.FI	FILL	FILLS LINE WITHIN MARGINS
.FO	FOOTER	SETS UP TEXT FOR PAGE BOTTOM
.HE	HEADER	SETS UP TEXT FOR PAGE TOP
.IF	INCLUDE FILE	CALLS IN A NEW FILE FOR PRINTING
.IN	INDENT	SETS PARAGRAPH INDENTS
.LM	LEFT MARGIN	SETS LEFT MARGIN
.LS	LINE SPACE	SETS SPACING BETWEEN LINES
.NA	NO ADJUST	TURNS OFF ADJUST (.AD)
.NF	NO FILL	TURNS OFF FILL COMMAND
.PA	PAGE NUMBER	RESETS PAGE NUMBERS
.PL	PAGE LENGTH	SETS NUMBER OF LINES PER PAGE
.RM	RIGHT MARGIN	SETS THE RIGHT MARGIN
.SP	SPACE	SETS A LINE SKIP
.TL	TRANSLITERATE	CHANGES CHARACTER DEFINITION

FILL (.FI): This command is used to fill a line between pre-set margins. This assumes a letter or normal text of some kind and should not be used, or should be turned off in front of something like the list above. The FILL would ignore all columnizing and simply place one space between the words, plus it would pull the lines together if it still had room to do so. FILL is generally used in conjunction with left and right margin commands and the paragraph indent. Consider the following series of commands:

.FI;LM 10;IN +5;RM 72

We have set the left margin to 10, the right margin to 72, the paragraph indent to the left margin plus 5 spaces, and have asked that the lines be filled as far as they will go within the confines of the margin settings. Without the FILL command, all of the other parameters are useless; therefore, the FILL command should be one of the first commands that the formatter encounters under ordinary conditions.

WARNING: If the FILL command is turned off with .NF, the formatter will use whatever margins have been used for the textfile. Therefore, you should make provision to adjust the margins via printer commands if necessary. These will be discussed later on with the .TL command.

ADJUST (.AD): The ADJUST command MUST be used in conjuction with the FILL command as in the following:

.FI;LM 10;IN +5;RM 72;AD

The preceeding series of commands will create a sixty-two column page with the right margin perfectly straight; the last letter of the last word on each line will be on column seventy-two. Generally speaking, this is mostly used in publications. I do not recommend it for correspondence or narrow-margin material. The adjustment is accomplished by adding spaces between the words until the line is equal, and in columns of less than forty characters, the spacing can get very distracting.

ADJUST can be dropped at any time using .NA, without harm to the other parameters that have been set.

LEFT MARGIN (.LM n);RIGHT MARGIN (.RM n): There is little I can say regarding these commands. They are self-explanatory. Just remember that you must leave a space between the dot command and the column number. Also keep in mind that they cannot be used without the FILL command. The column numbers can be changed at any time by using plus or minus with the .LM command by itself. For instance, .LM +5 would move the text in towards the center of the page by five columns. The minus sign can also be used when required.

BREAK PAGE (.BP): This command can be interchanged with CTRL P. It simply tells the formatter (or the printer in the case of CTRL P) to stop printing and feed to the next page.

CENTER (.CE n): This can be one of your most valuable commands, and one of the easiest to use. It can be used by itself or with a number following it to designate a number of lines to be centered.

.CE 2
<div align="center">

THIS IS A TITLE
===============
</div>

The command as used above would center both the title
and the underscore, two lines of text. Used without the
number it would only center that line that is directly below
it.

FOOTER (.FO t); HEADER (.HE t): The FOOTER and HEADER
commands allow you to add headers like the title, "THE
WRITERS", at the top of each of these pages and footers like
the page numbers that appear at the bottom. They should come
as soon as possible in your commands and I would recommend a
page break right after them. This allows various other
commands to "take hold" before they are used. On a standard
page of 66 lines, the header is placed on the third line down
and the footer is placed one line from the bottom. If the
percent symbol is used in either text, the pages are numbered
sequentially. Using them by themselves, without text, will
trash any previous text used in them. Also, if you wish to
center the text, you must use necessary space symbols.
Header and footer examples would look like this...

```
.HE ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^THE WRITERS
.FO ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^PAGE %
```

INCLUDE FILE (.IF f): Have you ever run into a program
that has three or four doc files on a disk? It's a pain to
bring in each of those files to the formatter to run
separately. To make life easier, you can make up a master
file using the .IF command. It would look like the following
example;

```
.IF DSK1.CHAPTER1
.IF DSK1.CHAPTER2
.IF DSK1.CHAPTER3
```

When the formatter encounters these .IF commands, it
gets each of the three files and loads them, in order, to the
formatter. All of the files will be run in order without a
break. When we print out the Interface newspaper each month,
we use a master file in this manner to print all of the
articles. We also include all of the margin commands,
indents, etc., at the head of this file so we do not have to
put them with each article.

INDENT (.IN n): Your paragraph indent can also be used
as an outdent, (Strange word!), it just depends on whether
you use a plus or minus in front of the number. It is
important to remember that the plus and minus signs are NOT
accumulative. In other words .IN +5 will leave five spaces

between the left margin setting and the first word.
Conversely, .IN -5 placed after the forementioned +5, would
NOT move everything back to the left margin, instead it would
push the in/out-dent five places to the LEFT of the left
margin. .LM 0 is your left margin setting.

LINE SPACE (.LS n): This command tells the printer how
many lines to skip between text lines. A command of LS 2
will produce double spacing for your great American novel.

PAGE NUMBER (.PA n): This sets up the page numbers for a
header or footer command, therefore it must occur before said
commands. .PA 1 will set the next page encountered to the
commanded number. Plus and minus can also be used in resets.

PAGE LENGTH (.PL n): The defaulted page length is 66
lines; however, there are cases where you would want to
change this. If, for instance, you set your printer for 1/8
instead of 1/6 line spacing, you might want to have 80 or
more lines printed per page. The command .PL 80 would
signify this.

SPACE (.SP n): This command will inset the number of
spaces set by n into the text. This is handy when pictures
or diagrams are going to be pasted to the page. .SP 12 would
leave 12 space before the next line of text. This is a
one-time command and should not be confused with Line Space
(LS).

TRANSLITERATION (.TL n:n...): This is one of the most
powerful commands that the Writers have, but one that few
people seem to get a handle on. I will do my best to explain
the various functions this command will let you do, but at
the same time, I will probably only scratch the surface. I
can only use my own experience for these instructions, but
you can let your imagination run wild finding uses for .TL.
The Writer Formatter is really a smart program utility
and, for the most part, it can boss your printer around with
ease. However, there are a few things that the Formatter
knows nothing about, such as font commands to the printer.
Therefore, printer codes must be "translated" by the
formatter so that the printer knows what it's talking about.
Let's say that you want your letter printed in condensed
print and your printer will only accept the software code of
CHR$(15). (Some newer printers can be preset to various
fonts.) Here is the .TL way of accomplishing this printer
command.
Look for a character that you would not use in your normal
text such as the reverse slash (\). The ANSII code for this
character is 92. At the very top of your text, place the
command, .TL 92:15. On the next line, place a reverse slash
"\". When the formatter sees the slash it will know that it

really translates to CHR$(15) and will send that code to the
printer. Let's look at another similar example. .TL
92:27;66;4. In this case we have told a Gemini SG-10 to use
near letter quality print. In software the code would be
CHR$(27);CHR$(66);CHR$(4). NOTICE how the syntax of
semi-colons remains the same.

You may use as many .TLs as you like in a body of text,
just keep in mind that if you were to use a character that
was normally in your text, something is going to happen every
time the formatter sees that character, so it's best to stay
out of the way of normal upper and lower case letters.

You are reading another prime example of
transliteration. The formatter will not allow the printer to
print a dot command, otherwise you would get some really
wierd stuff mixed into your letters. I needed to print the
commands for this text, however, so that it would all make
sense to you. Here's what I did... .TL 92:46. Instead of
putting dots (ANSII #46) in front of the commands, I put
reverse slashes (ANSII #92). That fooled the formatter into
thinking that the dot commands were part of the text and it
told the printer to turn the slash into a period. This would
occur if you were were quoting part of sentence in your text,
such as... ...part of a sentence... The formatter considers
anything that STARTS with a dot or period as a command, and
won't allow it to be printed. The forementioned
transliteration will do the trick.

There are programs that will take a TI-Artist Instance
and transliterate every character in the ANSII code to
graphic commands so that you can print logos at the top of a
page. When the logo graphic is finished, all the characters
are converted back to ANSII again and the letter is printed
out normally. Talk about power!!

MISC: To finish up here, there are a few characters that
are automatically used as a kind of transliteration. The
power symbol (^), the ampersand (&) and the "at" symbol (@)
are all used by the formatter for specific tasks. If you
need the ampersand or "at" symbols printed, they must be
entered twice right next to each other. The power sign would
HAVE to be transliterated.

POWER SYMBOL (^) (hereafter known as the "NECESSARY
SPACE MAKER"): Is used to join words into a single string and
to force required space. If you need to run a short list of
three items such as...

                    CHAPTER 1^^^^^^^PG 2
                    CHAPTER 2^^^^^^^PG 7
                    CHAPTER 3^^^^^^^PG 11

...it might be easier to use space characters than to
turn off the Fill command. I would never want to do this for
extensive columnizing, but for little things, it keeps it

simple!

AMPERSAND (&): This is the underlining command. When it is placed next to a word the word is underlined until a space is encountered. If you need more than one word underlined then you must use the necessary space symbol between them. Here is an example.

&CHAP^3:^THE^DOT^COMMANDS _

AT SYMBOL (@): This symbol placed next to a word will cause the word to be double struck for emphasis. Here, too, if more than one word is to be over-struck, the necessary space symbol must be used, as in...

CHAP 3:^&THE^DOT^COMMANDS _

How's that for fancy? Double strike with underlining on the title.

That ends our chapter on DOT COMMANDS. The only ones I did not include are those that relate to the mail list entries. To date, I have not found a single person that has any need for these so I have excluded them from this manual. If I get a lot of flack because of this, I'll do an update, but don't hold your breath.

```
100 ! TI-WRITER STRIPMAKER
110 !  Version 1.2 by:
120 !
130 !  Robert Coffey Jr.
140 !  102 Woodgate Road
150 !  Tonawanda, NY 14150
160 !
170 ! Revised on: 02/11/88
180 !
190 B$=CHR$(0):: L$=CHR$(10):: SM$=CHR$(27)&"S"&CHR$(1)&CHR$
(15)
200 OPEN #1:"PIO.LF.CR",VARIABLE 254
210 DISPLAY AT(5,1)ERASE ALL:"Look in your printer manual":
:"and find out whether": : :"  ESC ""3"" n": : :"will linefe
ed:"
220 DISPLAY AT(16,5):"1) 144th of an inch": :"    2) 216th o
n an inch": : :" ...please choose one..."
230 CALL KEY(0,X,Y):: IF X<49 OR X>50 THEN 230 ELSE CALL HCH
AR(14+2*(X-48),5,42):: FLAG=(X-47)/3
240 FOR X=1 TO 300 :: NEXT X
250 DISPLAY AT(3,6)ERASE ALL:"T I - W R I T E R": :"      S T
R I P M A K E R": :"      Version 1.2  by"
260 DISPLAY AT(9,6):"Robert Coffey Jr."
270 DISPLAY AT(13,2):"How many would you like?"
280 ACCEPT AT(13,27)SIZE(2)VALIDATE(DIGIT):Q
```

```
.FI;LM 10;IN +5;RM 70;AD
.TL 124:27;71
.TL 123:27;87;1
.TL 125:27;87;0
.TL 42:27;52
.TL 35:27;53
;
.CE 2
@FORWARD
@+=====+
```

There are many people (probably late-comers to our ·
computer), that have received word processors such as
BA-Writer, Funnel-Writer, or even TI-Writer, that do not
have any documentation for these programs. This manual is
intended to HELP those people get started with one of the
best, most versatile word processing systems designed for
any computer.
All three of the forementioned programs are essentially the
same.   The basics of the original TI-Writer program have,
for the most part, been considered hallowed ground and
hence, there have only been a couple of items or commands
added here and there in any of the fairware versions.   The
Show Directory command is slightly different in all versions
and BA-Writer will allow you to do this from the formatter.
Very handy! Probably one of the most significant new items
in the Funnel-Writer version is a bell that sounds seven
letters from the end of your line.
No matter which version you have, this will cover the
basics.   It is not my intention to guide you through in the
same way TI did with the original 176 page manual that came
with the cartridge.   I am only going to tell you the
functions and what they do.   You will have to practice them
on your own.
This is the second printing of The Writers. I want to thank
the people that have declared this manual to be an essential
part of the TI library.   I have worked hard to produce a
comprehensive document, but I also welcome comment on it and
hints that could significantly update it in the future.
Please be kind enough to submit your thoughts to:

```
    .CE 3
    Harry T. Brashear
    2753 Main St.
    Newfane NY 14108
  {
.IN +2
@TABLE^OF^CONTENTS
@-----------------
) *
.IN +13
```

```
#
```

HOW IT WORKS FROM THE TOP

The preceeding page is a PIO dump from the editor, showing all the various codes we used to get the Forward for this manual. Following is the explanation for each format command.

1. The first line tells the formatter to FILL all lines with a LEFT margin of ten, the paragraph INDENT set to five spaces, a RIGHT margin of seventy and the text should be right ADJUSTED. Note that only one dot was required in front of the settings and they are separated by semi-colons from there.

2. .TL 124:27;71 sets Boldface type as soon as the ":" (ansii chr.124) is seen by the formatter.

3. .TL 123:27;87;1 gives us double wide letters when the "{" comes up.

4. .TL 125:27;87;0 turns off double wide letters when the "}" is seen.

5. .TL 42:27;52 will turn on Italics when the "*" occurs.

6. .TL 35:27;53 cancels Italics with the "#".

7. The ":" turns on Boldface print.

8. .CE 2 will center the next two lines for the title.

9. The "at" sign in front of the title and underline will double-strike both lines.

10. The three paragraphs of text is printed per intructions.

11. At the bottom of the text the .CE 3 centers the three name and address lines.

12. "{" turns on Double Wide letters.

13. .IN +2 makes an adjustment to move the next two lines further into the center of the page.

14. the "at" symbols perform double strike on the title, while the necessary space (power symbol) markers make sure the entire title is double struck.

15. The "}*" turns off Double Strike and turns on Italics.

16. Another .INdent adjustment is made.

17. The table of contents is printed in Italics and double struck.

18. The "#" turns off the Italics.

In theory, at the bottom of the page all transliterated letters should be returned to normal (i.e. .TL 124:124) and the INDENT should be returned to +5. This way if I were going to continue to print something, I would not get into trouble if the characters were again encountered during normal text.

THE WRITERS

THE FORMATTER

Your text is ready to print and it's time to go to the formatter for this task. As you already know, the formatter is a separate program from the editor and to get there you will have to call it up from the Writer Menu.

The first prompt you are asked for is the file name (DSKn.FILENAME). It will look and see that the requested file is truly there. If it isn't, it will tell you so and give you another chance to make the entry.

The second prompt is for your printer device name. In the early versions of TI-Writer this was defaulted to an RS232 port but the upgrades used PIO. You could also format to another disk file, which is quite valuable for bulletin board files, screen instruction files, and other oddball situations.

The third prompt asks if you want to use a mailing list... I'm not getting into this, so we'll assume a default of "N" for no.

The fourth prompt in the sequence is "All Pages?" Most of the time you will answer "Yes" to this but, just in case, here's what can happen. You may lay in any page numbers you like by using hyphens (5-12), or commas (2,4,8,12), or a combination of both (1-6,8,12,16-E). The formatter will do it's thing internally until it gets to these pages and then sends them to the printer. Neat, huh?

The fifth prompt asks you how many copies of the document you want. Just enter the number, from one to as many copies as your printer ribbon will stand.

Finally, you are asked if you want to pause at the end of the page. The handiest use for this is when you are using single sheet input to your printer. After each letter is finished, the formatter stops and waits for you to insert another sheet and press enter. If you are using fan-fold paper, enter "N" at this prompt.

Stand back, you are about to see the culmination of all your hard work.

IMBEDDED PRINTER CODES

Transliteration is one way to get your printer to do what you want, but there is another way that can often prove to be more convenient. There are a series of codes that are unseen in general ANSII format from 0 to 31 and from 128 on. These codes can be accessed after you press CTRL "U" and are usually used as a prefix to other characters. Together they can send numerous commands to the printer from within the text.

Many of the codes and their functions appear in the list on the following page. Most work with Epson and Epson compatable printers such as Gemini, but you may have to

experiment a bit if you have a different kind.

One of the best features of using imbedded codes is that you can print a fairly well formatted document right from the editor. The imbedded codes can be considered "printer direct", so no matter where they come from, they tell the printer what to do without a translator.

Follow the key-presses carefully and make sure there are no spaces between the characters. Some of them are a bit complicated, but well-worth learning because it cuts down on your command work. To illustrate, type a line or paragraph in the editor and above the line, enter as follows; Control "U", Function "R", Control "U", and an upper case "E". Now go to command mode and "PF" (Print File). The text you wrote will be printed in condensed letters.

WARNING: The times, they are a changing. Recent printer commands have changed a bit, so you may find that a couple of the imbedded commands may not work for you and your printer. You may have to play around a bit to find the commands that work for you. The following list is based on pre-NX10 Gemini machines.

```
290 FOR Y=1 TO Q
300 CALL FORMAT(15*FLAG)
310 CALL SPACE(CHR$(7),960)
320 PRINT #1:L$ :: CALL LINEFEED(9*FLAG)
330 PRINT #1:SM$&"    OOPS!    REFORMAT    SCREEN    N
EXT        DUPE        LAST        WORD        NEW
   NEW           WORD"&L$
340 CALL FORMAT(15*FLAG)
350 CALL SPACE(B$,74):: CALL LINE
360 FOR X=1 TO 9 :: CALL SPACE(B$,88):: CALL LINE :: NEXT X
370 CALL SPACE(B$,74):: PRINT #1:L$
380 CALL LINEFEED(9*FLAG)
390 PRINT #1:SM$&"                        COLOR        PAR
AGRAPH        LINE        PARAGRAPH     TAB        PARAGRAPH
   PAGE          WRAP"&L$
400 CALL FORMAT(12*FLAG):: CALL SPACE(CHR$(2),74):: CALL LIN
E
410 FOR X=1 TO 9 :: CALL SPACE(CHR$(2),88):: CALL LINE :: NE
XT X :: CALL SPACE(CHR$(2),74):: PRINT #1:L$
420 CALL LINEFEED(12*FLAG)
430 PRINT #1:SM$&" DELETE        INSERT        DELETE        R
OLL        NEXT        ROLL                    INSERT
   COMMAND or    LINE"&L$
440 CALL FORMAT(9*FLAG):: CALL SPACE(B$,74):: CALL LINE
450 FOR X=1 TO 9 :: CALL SPACE(B$,88):: CALL LINE :: NEXT X
460 CALL SPACE(B$,74):: PRINT #1:L$
470 CALL LINEFEED(15*FLAG)
480 PRINT #1:SM$&" CHARACTER    CHARACTER      LINE        D
OWN        WINDOW        UP        TAB        LINE
   ESCAPE        NUMBERs        QUIT"&L$
490 CALL FORMAT(24*FLAG):: CALL SPACE(CHR$(7),74):: CALL LIN
E
```

IMBEDDED CODES

++=================================++

TO GET FUNCTION	PRESS THE FOLLOWING KEYS: CTRL	FCTN	CTRL	KEY	CTRL	SHFT	CTRL
CONDENSED ON					U	O	U
CONDENSED OFF					U	R	U
DOUBLE STRIKE ON	U	R	U	G			
DOUBLE STRIKE OFF	U	R	U	H			
DOUBLE DENSITY	U	R	U	L			
ELITE ON	U	R	U	B	U	B	U
ELITE OFF	U	R	U	B	U	A	U
EMPHASIZED ON	U	R	U	E			
EMPHASIZED OFF	U	R	U	F			
DOUBLE WIDE (1 LINE)					U	N	U
DOUBLE WIDE STOP					U	T	U
DOUBLE CONT. ON	U	R	U	W	U	A	U
DOUBLE CONT. OFF	U	R	U	W	U	2	U
ITALICS ON	U	R	U	4			
ITALICS OFF	U	R	U	5			
SUBSCRIPT ON	U	R	U	S	U	A	U
SUPERSCRIPT ON	U	R	U	S	U	2	U
SUPER OR SUB OFF	U	R	U	T			

===

SPACING CONTROLS

===

1/6 LINE SPACE	U	R	U	2			
1/8 LINE SPACE	U	R	U	0			
5/72 LINE SPACE	U	R	U	A	U	E	U
7/72 LINE SPACE	U	R	U	1			
BACK SPACE					U	H	U
FORM FEED					U	L	U
n/216 LINE SPACE	U	R	U	3,n			
n/72 LINE SPACE	U	R	U	A,n			

===

MISCL CONTROLS

===

STOP PAPER END DETECT	U	R	U	8			
HORZ. TAB					U	I	U
LINE FEED					U	J	U
MASTER RESET	U	R	U				
STOP PERF SKIP	U	R	U	O			
SET FORM LENGTH	U	R	U	C,n			
SKIP PERF	U	R	U	N			
SOUND BUZZER					U	G	U
UNDERLINE ON	U	R	U	-	U	A	U
UNDERLINE OFF	U	R	U	-	U	2	U
VERT. TAB					U	K	U

THE WRITERS

THE OTHER GUYS

TI-Writer has it's clones, which is a misleading statement. As I said in the Forward to this manual, Writer is hallowed ground, so the bare bones is always Ti-Writer. There's QS-Writer from Quality 99 Software, BA-Writer (My preference), and Funnel-Writer from Australia. Although I don't know very much about QS, it's my understanding that this one is as close as you can get to the original from TI, with little or no embellishment.

BA-Writer, enhanced by Paolo Bagnaresi in Italy, is very easy to handle because the editor and the formatter are easily accessed from one another. No matter where you are in the program environment, you can get to the EDITOR/FORMAT/UTILITY menu. The disk has a disk formatter on it that is defaulted by choosing the UTILITY function. Very handy! The SD (Show Directory) command produces one of the cleanest directories you will ever see, and it's also accessable from the Formatter. There is a program to set personal defaults. You can once and for all change the colors to anything you like, change the defaulted printer device, and/or the defaulted Utility name. Another nice feature is that the last file name you used in the editor follows you to the formatter. If you're bilingual, the disk has eight or ten CHARA1 files for other languages.
My only complaint is that the program crashes if you try to get to a ram disk. I understand there is a new version available as of 1987 that cures this problem, but I have no idea how you can obtain it. Sorry, but folks that I know have had no luck with the connection that has been advertised. Maybe you will do better.

Funnel-Writer started out as the answer to some poor business practices in Australia some years ago. As of this writing, the version is 4.0+, and it has turned into a system of loaders, editors, and utilities that should run if you could apply electricty directly to the disk. To keep the story short, however, we will concern ourselves only with the Writer parts.
Like BA-Writer, Funnel-Writer (hereafter known as FW) allows access of the Editor/Formatter and utilities quickly within it's own environment. Once again, colors, devices, and file names can be selected and maintained forever in the program.
Probably the most unique feature is the directory. It's very clean, and allows you to print the directory to your printer, mark a file for input or deletion, and, of all things, ALLOWS YOU TO VIEW ANOTHER MARKED FILE WITHOUT LOSING THE ONE YOU'RE WORKING ON. WOW!
They took out the "End of File" at the bottom of the screen and replaced it with a very handy 80 column tab line,

and also put in a quiet little beep to warn you of the up-coming right margin.

The file names follow you around just like BA and, again, the directory is available from the formatter (though not so many options as the editor SD).

the only bad thing I can say about FW is that I hate their CHARA1 file. It's very hard for me to read. I suggest changing theirs with one more to your liking.

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING REALLY DIFFERENT!

There are two major competitors to the Writers; WriterEase by CorComp, and The Companion Word Processor. Neither of these programs have anything in common with each other or with TI-Writer. This is not to say that they shouldn't be given consideration, however. They are very good programs and very powerful in the area of word processers.

WriterEase is the newcomer as of 1987. The concept is one of editor AND formatter built into a single program. It also allows you up to 255 columns of text. This ability will allow you to type in a 132 column text file meant for condensed output. Of course, once you have passed 80 column format, the file can no longer be accessed by TI-Writer.

What you see is what you get. In other words, the format of the document must be made up on screen and then "dumped" to the printer. There is some help in this by way of an auto-center function, but that's about it. You are expected to use imbedded printer commands to get what you want in the way of font style, etc. There is an on-screen help file and I must admit that text manipulation (copy, search, move, and delete) is a little easier than in the TI-Writer clones. The scrolling is fast and smooth but the cursor movement up or down through the lines leaves something to be desired.

The big feature of this program is the built-in dictionary. You can check words as you go or check the entire text when you're done. The spell checking is VERY fast, and with a ram disk, it's just plain super. The problem here is that you have no ability to make up a user file for words that their dictionary doesn't have. Very bad move! None the less, I like the program and would recommend it as a good alternative, or at least in addition, to the Writers.

NOTE: It is my understanding that there is a new version of WriterEase that now allows you to update the dictionary. I have not seen this issue as yet, but if it's true, WriterEase becomes a true contender for the top TI word processor.

Companion is another very good program with fantastic speed of operation. The author set out to make a word processor based on the idea of never having seen TI-Writer.

THE WRITERS

The result is a truly different program with totally proprietary functions, files, and methods of operation. Everything you would ever need is there to produce a nice-looking 80 column document using Companion's version of imbedded commands.

Unlike WriterEase, the documentation that comes with this program is extensive and very "user friendly". There is no spell checker and no other utilities for Companion. I might point out that both it and WriterEase are protected to the nines.

While both of the forementioned programs are good, neither one can truly take the place of the Writer clones in versatility. I think it all really depends on what you are doing document-wise. If formal letters are your main interest, then certainly ALL of the processors will do the job very well. On the other hand, there is no way that this manual could have been prepared with anything but TI-Writer or a clone. There are other word processors on the market that I haven't mentioned, with good reason. They just don't do much!

THE GREAT DRAGONSLAYER

There is a spell-checker that will work with all TI-Writer clones, and that is the one from Dragonslayer American Software. It's a little slow, but it's thorough, and you are allowed to make up as many special user dictionaries as you like. Unlike the speed of the WriterEase dictionary, you can go eat lunch while the program "stacks" the words it cannot find. You may then go through them and make your corrections, or add words to the user files. If needed, you can look at the way the word was used in the sentence. It has drawbacks, such as not being transparent to case and, like most spell-checkers, plurals aren't recognised, either. Also, the document has to be reformatted when the spell-checker has finished correcting, but it's the best we have for now and I do recommend it to anyone. If you have a ramdisk and are willing to do a bit of sector hacking to make the spell-checker work from it, you can gain about 40% in operating speed. The program costs about thirty dollars and can be had from Tenex.

THE WRAPUP AND THE FUTURE

We have need of a better word processer, but I'm not sure who will do it or where it will come from. CorComp had a good chance with WriterEase but they blew it by using stupid protections that keep the program out of our ramdisks. Some small effort could produce an upgrade in the program and clean up the cumbersome details.

There are too few utilities or tools that work with the Writer clones, and no one seems to have the guts to tear the

THE WRITERS

programs apart and put them back together in a better form. We need the ability to columnize, insert pictures, access dictionaries and thesauruses all within a single program. In the meantime, we will muddle along with what we have, which is damn good by any standards. TIers are a greedy lot, we always want more and, sooner or later, we get it.

Happy computing!

WHERE TO FIND THE WRITERS

QS-WRITER, (No manual available $9.95), and TI-WRITER, (Manual included, $29.95 - $19.95) can be found with the following companies:

Tenex Computer Express   Tex-Comp
P.O. Box 6578   P.O. Box 33064
South Bend IN 46660-6578   Granada Hills CA 91344
1-800-348-2778   1-818-366-6631

Triton Products Co.
P.O. Box 8123
San Francisco CA 94128
1-800-227-6900

At least one or all of the preceeding companies will also carry WRITEREASE from CorComp, ($49.95).

FUNNEL-WRITER: Fairware, no writer manual is included but extensive documentation for the rest of the program is.
This program is generally found in a group library. The "Writer" section of the program is only a small part of a vast system. Current Vrs is 4.0. Fairware cost is $20.00... Worth it!

Funnelweb Farm, 215 Grinsell St., Kotara NSW 2289, Australia

BA-WRITER: Fairware, no writer documentation included, but docs are on disk for the general use of the program and it's utilities. Again this program can be found in most group libraries. The current Vrs is 1.5. Fairware cost is $20.00.

COMPANION: Extensive documentation, not compatable with the TI-Writer clones, but very good just the same.
COST: $79.95 US

Intelpro, 13 Saratoga Dr., Kirkland. QUE H9H 3D9, Canada

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