LINGUISTIC THOUGHTS AT RANDOM

A. ROSS ECKLER Morristown, New Jersey

Below, dear reader. you will encounter perhaps the longest English-language literary isogram ever constructed: every word therein is unique. While reading, please watch carefully for inadvertent duplications (hopefully, they appear impossible to find). Professor H. J. Verschuyl has written a considerably longer Dutch example (see Battus's Opperlandse taal— & letterkunde, page 62); however, this work does not translate very felicitiously. Had he, perchance, too many foreign idioms in his account?

Formerly, some writers piled **one** adjective **on** another ad nauseam, **but** such concatenation **was** often criticized **as** making humdrum narrative. My essay (including title) employs those 33 words (32 emphasized **with** boldface type) rated most common **by** Kucera **and** Francis.

Note that I have <u>used</u> an article here — profligate wastefulness, because it may never be <u>reused</u>. Why underline these? Similarities among letter sequences raise perplexing questions: can prefixing legitimate root <u>reuse</u>? What about changes of tense, shown above? Or plurals? Hyphenated terms cause additional problems; are their component parts disallowed? No! Clearly, different spellings must always generate admissible lexical forms.

Who shall write more extensive prose passages which, free from any repetition whatever, sound natural throughout?