

**“Best-evidence rule” - Written contracts - Oral Evidence - It is in reality declaring a doctrine of the substantive law, namely, in the case of a written [contract](#), that all proceedings and contemporaneous oral expressions of the thing are merged in the writing or displaced by it. (See Thayer’s Preliminary Law on Evidence, p. 397 and p. 398; Phipson’s Evidence, 7th Edn., p. 546; Wigmore’s Evidence, p. 2406.)**

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