

The G³ of Writing and Publishing Tips: Gentle Guidelines, Great Stories, and Gigantic Scholarly Gains

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1

November 17, 2014

The Habits of Highly Productive Writers
Rachel Tour, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-habits-of-highly-productive-writers/?cid=gen_login_refresh&cid=gen_sign_in

You have time only if you make it a priority. Productive writers don't allow themselves the indulgence of easy excuses. **When they start to have feelings of self-doubt—I can't do this, it's too hard, I'll never write another good sentence—they tell themselves to stop feeling sorry for themselves and just do the work.**

They know there are no shortcuts, magic bullets, special exercises, or incantations.



2

November 17, 2014

The Habits of Highly Productive Writers
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They believe in themselves and their work. Perhaps it's confidence, perhaps it's the Quixote-like delusion, but to be a prolific writer you have to believe that what you're doing matters. If you second-guess at every step, you'll soon be going backward. A writer I know likes to say that over the years he has "trained" his family not to expect him to show up for certain things, because they know his work comes first. **You have to be willing to risk seeming narcissistic and arrogant, even if you don't like to think of yourself that way. The work takes priority.**



3

June 7, 2018

6 Ways to Beat Writer's Block

Rachel Tour, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/6-ways-to-beat-writers-block/>

1. Work up a sweat. ...
2. Take a quick trip. ...
3. Just keep at it. ...
4. Heed Anne Lamott's clarion call..."write a shitty draft first."
5. Try the "compost" method...a pile of crap can lead to something worth cultivating
6. Remind yourself that even the best writers get stuck.



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December 11, 2020

How to Find a Writing Routine that Works

Manya Whitaker, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/how-to-find-a-writing-routine-that-works>

1. Always work on at least 2 projects.
2. Review potential publishers and options.
3. Set a reasonable writing timeline.
4. Make a writing schedule and plan.
5. Have a project-based writing schedule.
6. Expand notion of when "writing."
7. Set time writing goals, not word goals.
8. Write what motivates you that day.
9. Establish flexible schedules.
10. Read more and edit as you go.



5

February 15, 2019

The Hardest Part of Writing Is Restarting

Rebecca Schuman, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Hardest-Part-of-Writing-Is/245720?cid=cp242>



Reprints and Permissions: <http://www.wiley.com/go/permissions>

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March 31, 2019
Step Away From the Delete Button
 Rebecca Schuman, The Chronicle of Higher Education
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/Step-Away-From-the-Delete-Button/248013?cid=cp242>



Rebecca Schuman | MARCH 31, 2019

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September 13, 2016
Strategies to Maintain Focus while Writing Your Dissertation
 GradHacker, Inside Higher Ed
<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/strategies-maintain-focus-while-writing-your-dissertation>

Strategies to Maintain Focus while Writing Your Dissertation

How to find your writing rhythm and keep it going

By GradHacker | September 13, 2016

GradHacker is a Ph.D. candidate in Forest Ecosystems and Society at Oregon State University. You can find her on Twitter @gradhacker or on her website.



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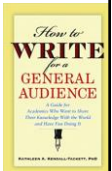
December 10, 2019
Rewarding Your Writing
 Leslie Leonard, Inside Higher Ed
<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/rewarding-your-writing>



9

January 19, 2021
Writing for Diverse Audience: Prewriting
<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/social-co-writing-considerations>

1. Ask questions about audience
2. Ask more questions about audience
3. Restate what you interpreted as the audience
4. Read, read, and read some more
5. Scan sample publications
6. Look to the popular press and news



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January 19, 2021
Writing for Diverse Audience: Writing Drafts
<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/social-co-writing-considerations>

1. Ask at least two others to read and comment.
2. Read what you wrote out loud.
3. Print it and look at it (digital versions can be misleading).
4. Simplify wording.
5. Revise and revise and revise some more.
6. Use a thesaurus.



11

January 19, 2021
Writing for Diverse Audience
<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/social-co-writing-considerations>

1. Be careful on forms of humor and types of jokes.
2. Avoid political, religious, economic, etc. commentary.
3. Be careful with metaphors, idioms, and proverbs (e.g., make hay when the sunshines) and domain specific lingo (e.g., "he has a sweet stroke" in baseball).



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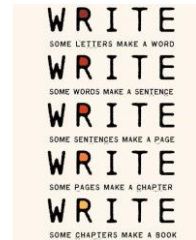
Curt Bonk: Reflections on a Hot Streak



1. Persistence and grit.
2. Sense of now.
3. One at a time.
4. Assemble best team for you. Find comfort.
5. Intense and Relaxed Planning.
6. Explore potential publishers and Commit.
7. Everyone has clear role.
8. Set bold and audacious goals.
9. Recheck list. Recheck goals.
10. Revel in good luck. Do not sulk if bad luck.

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The Top 20 Writing Tips



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1. Mark Writing Days in Planner



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2. Maintain a List and Network of Potential Research and Writing Collaborators



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October 3, 2019 Crucial Co-Writing Considerations Jordan McNeill, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/blog/gradhacker/crucial-co-writing-considerations>



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Sidenote: Find Good People to Work With...Life is Short—Avoid Egomaniacs and People Who Lie



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October 10, 2019

The following is an email from the past, composed on October 10, 2018. It is being delivered from the past through FutureMe.org
FutureMe mailer@futureme.org



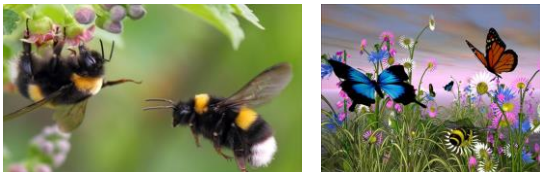
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4. Think Ahead About the Publishing Potential of Each Project or Idea



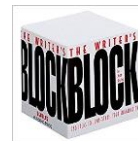
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5. Be a Bumblebee and Butterfly



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6. Find, Save, and Use Starter Text (overcomes writer's block)



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7. Always Scan the Reference Sections of Other Articles to Articles You Like to See What Journals are Popular



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8. Edit Your Papers a Lot! (Mozartian vs. Beethovenian)



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October 1, 2018

6 Tips to Shape Up Your Writing

Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace
Fernanda Zamudio-Suaréz, The Chronicle of Higher Education
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/6-Tips-to-Shape-Up-Your/244281?cid=cp221>
<https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221>

1. Writing is an exercise (write!).
2. Set goals based on output not input (e.g., 3 pages double-spaced).
3. Find a voice (don't just focus on getting published).
4. Give yourself time (not deadlines).
5. Pick a puzzle (your writing is an answer to that puzzle).
6. Edit your work (over and over and over again...just like Beethoven).



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**9. Be Creative Somewhere
(e.g., unique model, figure, chart,
etc.)**



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10. Modify Your Environment (Find or Create Your Personal Sandbox)



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But not too much!



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11. Try Not to Give Up: Persistence and Grit Wins the Day



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12. Be Polite and Thankful to the Editors



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16. Keep a Notebook of What Thinking



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17. Engage in Free Writing



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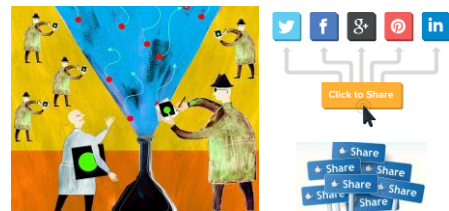
18. Read Everyday!



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19. Share Your Publication Efforts

(e.g., Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, email, ResearchGate, Academia.edu, etc.)



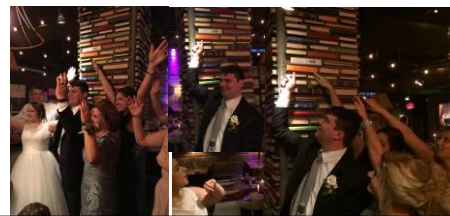
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20. Celebrate Your Writing Accomplishments with Friends



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You never know where you'll be celebrating your writing accomplishments... Even at a wedding of your nephew!



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Just don't celebrate too much!



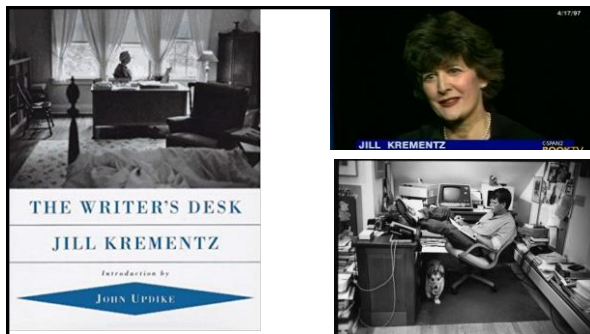
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99 Seconds Activity #1

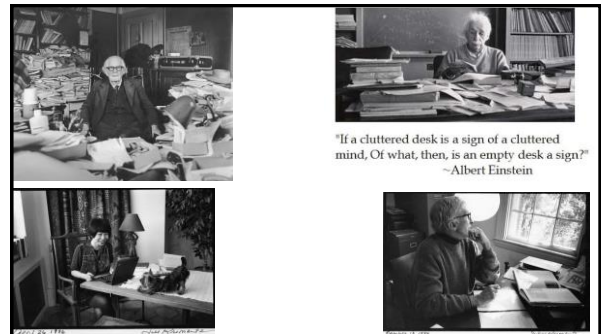
With your next chair neighbor discuss what you plan to write about.



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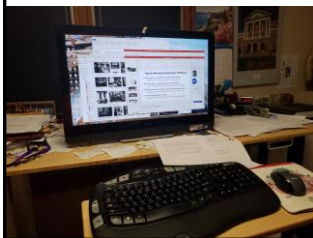


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Writing Space: Curt Bonk



I having standing desk...power it up and down via hydraulics. And my office looks out into a forest.

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Writing Space: Curt Bonk



Desk #2 is available if needed...and a beer.

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Writing Space: Curt Bonk



Paper...I love paper....and my daughter Nicki.

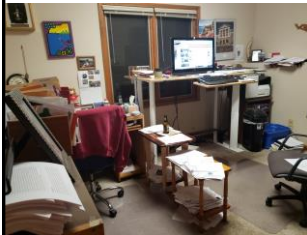
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Writing Space Themes of Successful Writers

1. Openness
2. Flexibility
3. Mixed...social spaces as well as private
4. Modifiability
5. Multiple screens
6. Multiple sites
7. Mobile...on the go
8. Ubiquitous...we are surrounded by writing spaces

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Writing Space: Curt Bonk



My office. I save interesting articles to later reference in papers and books.

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Basement books: Curt Bonk



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How do you schedule your writing? How far in advance do you plan your writing? How do you prioritize your writing? How do you visualize your writing? Do you use a timeline or a planner? Do you have advice for developing a writing plan?

1. **Plan:** I save days for writing in my paper planner.
2. **Focus:** I say no to things that don't fit my writing plans.
3. **Track:** I note projects in process and completed in my daily Dalia Lama quote of the day.
4. **Monitor:** I look at articles I have in review, in revision, and in press in my CV all the time.
5. **Be Responsive:** I respond to co-writer requests.
6. **Goals:** Put writing plans in annual report.



Writing Tools: Curt Bonk

What particular writing tools do you use? How have they changed over time? What about tools for collaboration?

My top 10 key writing tools:

1. Keyboard—buy special letter keys
2. Microsoft Word
3. Google Search (I hate Bing)
4. Email. And forward email to self.
5. TravelinEdMan blog
6. Dropbox
7. Zoom (or Skype for team meetings)
8. Blue pens and lots of paper
9. My monster syllabus (R678)
10. FutureMe: Write a letter to yourself in the future:



Writing Space: Curt Bonk



One of my biggest challenges is my tendency to burn through keyboards!

Behind my house: Curt Bonk



Writing Tips: Curt Bonk

Anything special that you do?

My top 10 key writing tips:

1. Create a "Work" file on your desktop.
2. Save screen shots, dates, and URLs of articles.
3. Create "Articles to read" folder on your desktop.
4. Listen to audiobooks for writing ideas.
5. Watch movies & look for educational issues and ideas.
6. Always save documents at least twice.
7. Send draft of document to yourself on email...restart anywhere.
8. Ask friends to read second or third draft.
9. Save articles published by year.
10. Keep drafts of articles in special files.



10 More Writing Tips: Curt Bonk

Anything special that you do?

My top 20 key writing tips:

11. The Collins thesaurus.
12. Look for historical info online (e.g., Wikipedia and other).
13. Relocate to another room to edit document (i.e., kitchen table).
14. Sometimes sit. Sometimes stand.
15. Print out articles that you read parts of online.
16. Review paper piles on my pool table before you write.
17. Find info and URLs in previous talk slides.
18. Almost be more optimistic than pessimistic.
19. Work when your friends and family are sleeping.
20. Wherever you are is your writing space.

Collins
English
Dictionary
& Thesaurus



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Habits/Rituals/Inspiration: Writing

How do approach your writing tasks? Any rituals that you use and recommend for inspiration? Anything that really works for you?

1. Save writing ideas on slips of paper and look back at them.
2. Talk about your ideas.
3. Save starter text.
4. Clear email and to-do list.
5. Create checklist of plans.



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Habits/Rituals/Inspiration: Food

How do approach your writing tasks? Any rituals that you use and recommend for inspiration? Anything that really works for you?

1. Start with a vitamin or health drink.
2. Grab plate of berries and celery.
3. Then perhaps tea or coffee.
4. End with a health drink.
5. Dilly bars are good after dinner.



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Concerns? Comments? Commitments?

Curt Bonk, IU, Email: cjbonk@indiana.edu
Slides: <http://www.trainingshare.com/workshop.php>



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