

## The G<sup>3</sup> of Writing and Publishing Tips: Gentle Guidelines, Great Stories, and Gigantic Scholarly Gains

Curtis J. Bonk, Ph.D.  
Indiana University  
[cibonk@indiana.edu](mailto:cibonk@indiana.edu)



INDIANA UNIVERSITY

## Purposes of this Session

### Part I: The Process

- Exploring the process for getting published
- Selecting a journal for publication
- Academic information resources
- Predatory journal issues
- Taking the plunge

### Part II: Writing Tips and Insights

- Examining 20+ writing tips
- Making commitments to future writing

### III. Slaying I-Monsters

- Detailing the pros & cons of SSCI publications

**October 2, 2018**

## A New Series on Scholarly Productivity: 'Are You Writing?'

Rebecca Schuman, The Chronicle of Higher Education  
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/A-New-Series-on-Scholarly/244588>

A New Series on Scholarly Productivity:  
'Are You Writing?'



By Rebecca Schuman | 10/2/2018 12:00 PM

**November 4, 2018**

## The Worst Writing Advice in the World

Rebecca Schuman, The Chronicle of Higher Education  
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Worst-Writing-Advice-in/244972?cid=cp242>

The Worst Writing Advice in the World



By Rebecca Schuman | 11/4/2018 12:00 PM

Editor's Note: This is the second column in a new series, "Are You Writing?" Part 1 is here.

**December 12, 2018**

## Don't Spend Your Holiday Break Writing

Rebecca Schuman, The Chronicle of Higher Education  
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/Don-t-Spend-Your-Holiday/245292>

Don't Spend Your Holiday Break  
Writing



By Rebecca Schuman | 12/12/2018 12:00 PM

**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>

The Hardest Part of Writing Is  
Restarting



By Rebecca Schuman | 2/15/2019 12:00 PM

**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/246013?cid=cq242>

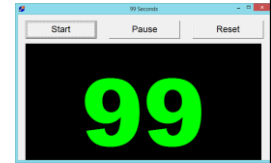
Step Away From the Delete Button



By Rebecca Schuman | MARCH 31, 2019

## 99 Seconds Activity #1

With your next chair neighbor discuss 1 to 2 writing dilemmas currently facing.



Insights and Advice on Getting Published in Higher Education

## Part I: The Process

## Writing Difficulties and Challenges of a Early Career Scholar

1. Time
2. Writing habits
3. Resources
4. Local/Global Support
5. Starter text
6. Reputation
7. Connections
8. Journal awareness
9. Energy/Stamina
10. Service/Teaching duties



## Put Forward your Best Work

1. Collaborative research projects
2. Literature reviews
3. Reflections/ conceptual pieces
4. Grant projects
5. Class projects



## Finding a Journal that Fits

### What to look for?

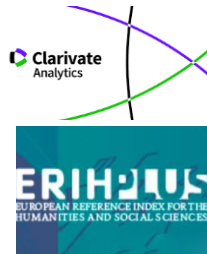
1. Who will be your target readers?
2. Who are the authors and journals you cite the most related with your research program?
3. Is there a match between your work and the journal aims and scope?
4. What is the journal turnaround time?
5. What is the journal acceptance rate?
6. Do you know the editor(s)?



## Finding a Journal that Fits

### Where to look for?

1. *Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)* is a commercial citation index product of Clarivate Analytics. It was originally developed by the Institute for Scientific Information from the Science Citation Index.
2. *European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences (ERIH PLUS)* was created and developed by European researchers under the coordination of the Standing Committee for the Humanities of the European Science Foundation.



## Where to start?

### Practitioner Journals

1. Target practitioners
2. Deal with problems and issues tied directly to practice
3. Receive wider circulations and visibility
4. Refereed or nonrefereed articles



## Where to start?

### Peer-Reviewed Journals

1. **Top-tier journals:** are SSCI-indexed
2. **Second-tier journals:** have an established history in the field
3. **Third-tier journals:** often are newer to the field



## TOP-TIER JOURNALS



*British Journal of Educational Technology*



*Educational Technology Research and Development*



*The Internet and Higher Education*



*Instructional Science*

## SECOND-TIER JOURNALS



*Journal of Educational Computing Research*



*TechTrends*



*The American Journal of Distance Education*

## THIRD-TIER JOURNALS (often new journals)



*International Journal of Online Pedagogy and Course Design*



*Contemporary Issues in Technology and Teacher Education*



*Interactive Technology and Smart Education*

## Resource and Idea Suggestions

- **Subscribe to news feeds (not too many)**
- **Save links and images to interesting articles**
- **Review saved documents for themes monthly**
- **Share those links in Facebook, Twitter, etc., for peer reactions**
- **Write to people interviewed in articles**

## Academic information/ Resources

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- **Tools for research**
  - Citation/reference management
    - Ex. [Endnote](#), [Zotero](#), [Refwork](#), [Paper](#), etc.
  - Incorporate other software
    - Ex. [Nvivo](#) (qualitative analysis tool, Network analysis i.e.)
- **Writing Tutorial Services**
- **Tutoring Services**
- **Writing Tools (e.g., Grammarly)**

## Academic information/ resources (Cont'd)

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- **Journal selection/evaluation**
  - Impact/accreditation (\*Predatory Journals)
  - Citation index (Web of Science, Google Scholar, etc.)
  - Impact factor
  - Ranking
  - Open Access vs. non-Open Access
    - [Directory of Open Access Journals](#)
    - [Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association](#)

## Academic information/ resources (Cont'd)

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- **Journal evaluation & legitimacy**
  - Consult with a librarian
  - Visit & Examine the journal's web site.
  - Reach out to journal's editorial board members.
  - Aim and goals of journal. Read the scope of the journal.
  - Read their peer review policy.
  - Check to see what "author fees" are being requested
  - Research industry associations.
    - DOAJ= Directory of Open Access Journals
    - OASPA = Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association

## Journal Impact Factor

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- Impact = The frequency in which the average article in a journal has been cited in a specific period of time.
- Rank or importance of a journal = the higher impact factor, the better rank.
- The calculation is to dividing the number of times articles were cited by the number of articles that were citable. It is usually based on a two-year period.

### Tools to measure journal impact factor

- **Journal Citation Report**, <https://goo.gl/yVw8si>
- **Scimago Journal Rank (SRJ)**, <https://www.scimagojr.com/>

## Predatory Journals/ Publishers

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

### Be Aware of Predatory Journals/Publishers!

- The publishing venue prey on academicians for making money without following scholarly publishing standards, commonly seen in the Open Access world.
- Also called "Pseudo-journals," "fake journals," and "sham journals."

(Beager, 2017; Clark & Smith, 2017)

## Predatory Journals/ Publishers

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

### Be Aware of Predatory Journals/Publishers!

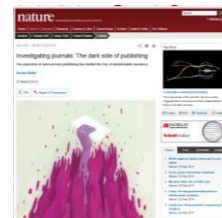
- Characteristics
  - The journal asks for a *submission* fee
  - Promises of fast peer review and fast publication
  - Spam emails to attract potential authors
  - Small size of editorial board or not indicated clearly
  - Newness and the quantity: a very new journal that consists of a high quantity of articles in one issue
  - Inconsistencies in the scope and the content or journal title and contact address

(Beager, 2017; Prater, 2018)

**March 27, 2013**

### Investigating journals:

The dark side of publishing (The explosion in open-access publishing has fuelled the rise of questionable operators), Declan Butler, Nature  
<http://www.nature.com/news/disciplinary-action-1.12668>



**March 27, 2013**

### Sham journals scam authors: Con artists are stealing the identities of real journals to cheat scientists out of publishing fees.

Declan Butler, Nature  
<http://www.nature.com/news/sham-journals-scam-authors-1.12681>



**April 7, 2014**

### Scientific Articles Accepted (Personal Checks, Too)

Gina Kolata, The New York Times  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/07/health/scientific-articles-accepted-personal-checks-too.html>



## Predatory Journals/ Publishers

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

### Examples of spam emails to attract potential authors

IOSR JOURNALS

Dear Sir,

We are happy to announce you that International Organization of Scientific Research Journals have come under AQG - 2017 Top 10 Journals Ranking. It was calculated on the basis of "Google Scholar Citation" of published articles. IOSR Journals got 9th Ranking by AQG (African Quality Center for Journals) - Top 10 Journals Ranking, Best Author's Choice Journal.

Indexing: Index Copernicus, Cross Ref (USA), NASA ads, NED (American national Engineering Database), Google Scholar Open J Gate.  
 IOSR Journals provides DOI (Digital Object Identifier) to each article. IOSR Journals DOI is 10.9790

Papers are invited for IOSR Journals September 2018 Issue related to all field of Engineering, Management, Medical & Dental Science, Pharmacy, Applied Sciences, Nursing, Humanities and Social Science etc.

Call For Paper: September 2018 Important Dates  
 Submission last date : 30th September 2018  
 Acknowledgment : Within 24 hrs  
 Acceptance Notification : After 10 days  
 Publication Date : 30th October 2018

Regards,

Director General,  
 (A Unit of International Organization of Scientific Research) Mail id : SUPPORT@IOSRMAIL.ORG URL : <IOSRJOURNALS.ORG>

## Predatory Journals/ Publishers

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

### Examples of spam emails to attract potential authors



Dear Sir,

Warm greetings!  
 Your article titled Understanding the Self-Directed Online Learning Preferences, Goals, Attainment, and Challenges of MIT OpenCourseWare Subscribers which has been published in EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY has impressed us a lot.  
 The paper has attracted attention from researchers and scholars specializing in Open education, OpenCourseWare, Self-directed learning, Massive open online courses (MOOCs), Informal learning, Motivation.

#### Submit Your Research Papers

Started with the aim to promote communications within scientific community, specialists in various research fields can get the latest research results from Education Journal. Given the novelty, advance, and potential extensive application of your research achievements, we invite you to send other unpublished works of similar themes to the journal. We are also quite looking forward to receiving your further research on the published paper.

You can refer to the following link to know more information:

<http://www.educationjournal.org/submissions>

#### To Be the Member of the Editorial Board/Review Team

On behalf of the Editorial Board of the journal, it is privileged for us to invite you to join us as the editorial board member/reviewer of Education Journal. In terms of your academic background and expertise in this field, we believe that you may be the most suitable candidate for this position. We

hope that your position as the editorial board member/reviewer will promote the development of scientific researches in this field.

You can click the following link to get more information:  
<http://www.educationjournal.net/joinus>

Here attached the excerpt of your research which has left us a deep impression:

**Title:** Understanding the Self-Directed Online Learning Preferences, Goals, Achievements, and Challenges of MIT OpenCourseWare Subscribers

**Abstract:** This research targeted the learning preferences, goals and motivations, achievements, challenges, and possibilities for life change of self-directed online learners who subscribed to the monthly OpenCourseWare (OCW) e-newsletter from MIT. Data collection included a 25-item survey of 1,429 newsletter subscribers; 613 of whom also completed an additional 15 open-ended survey items. The 25 close-ended survey findings indicated that respondents used a wide range of devices and places to learn for their self-directed learning needs. Key motivational factors included curiosity, interest, and internal need for self-improvement. Factors leading to success or personal change included freedom to learn, resource abundance, choice, control, and fun. In terms of achievements, respondents were learning both specific skills as well as more general skills that help them advance in their careers. Science, math, and foreign language skills were the most desired by the survey respondents. The key obstacles or challenges faced were time, lack of high quality open resources, and membership or technology fees. Several brief stories of life change across different age ranges are documented. Among the chief implications is that learning something new to enhance one's life or to help others is often more important than course transcript credit or a certificate of completion.

Looking forward to your favorable reply.  
 With best regards,  
 Jessie Wright  
 The Editorial Office of Education Journal

## Selecting a Journal

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

### Be Aware Predatory Journals!

- Using the "Think. Check. Submit." checklist
  - Developed by a initiative of scholarly publishing organizations



#### Are you submitting your research to a trusted journal?

Publishing your research results is key to **advancing your discipline** – and your **career** – but with so many journals in your field, how can you be sure that you're choosing a **reputable, trustworthy** journal?



Tips to **confirm** a journal's credibility and decide if it will help you **reach** the right audience with your research, and make an **impact** on your career.

Take control of your career at  
[thinkchecksubmit.org](http://thinkchecksubmit.org)

(think.check.submit.org, 2018)

## Selecting a Journal

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

### Be Aware Predatory Journals!

- Criteria to check the journal
  - Do you or your colleagues know the journal?
  - Can you easily identify and contact the publisher?
  - Is the journal clear about the type of peer review it uses?
  - Are articles indexed in services that you use?
  - Is it clear what fees will be charged?
  - Do you recognize the editorial board?
  - Is the Publisher a member of a recognized industry initiative?



Access the checklist in detail at <http://thinkchecksubmit.org/check/>

## February 18, 2019

### A Turning Point for Scholarly Publishing

Lindsey Ellis, The Chronicle of Higher Education  
<https://www.chronicle.com/interactives/Trend19-OpenAccess-Main>



## Selecting a Journal

(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

### Two resources to identify the journals and publishers

1. The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ): <https://doaj.org/>
  - Identify legitimate and high quality open access, peer-reviewed journals
2. Beall's List of Predatory Journals and Publishers: <https://beallslist.weebly.com/>
  - Identify predatory journals/publishers

## Take the Plunge...Part 1

- Look for opportunities to create publishable manuscripts from your dissertation
- Contribute with a chapter
- Conduct an interview
- Write a practical article, newsletter, or book review



## Take the Plunge...Part 2

- Write a major grant proposal
- Lead a special journal issue
- Edit a book
- Sole author a book
- Get your name out there!



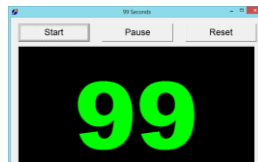
## Generate Starter Text...

- Author a blog
- Use social media
- Submit a conference proposal
- Write editorials
- Write book and software reviews



## 99 Seconds Activity #2

Commit to 1 to 2 things that take the plunge and share them with your next chair neighbor.



Insights and Advice on Getting Published Higher Education

## Part II: Writing Tips and Insights

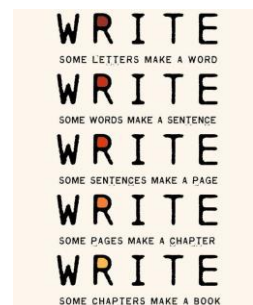
**October 2, 2018**

**How to Learn to Write Like a Machine**  
Rose Jacobs, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.chronicle.com/blogs/linguafranca/2018/10/02/how-to-learn-to-write-like-a-machine/>



## The Top 20 Writing Tips

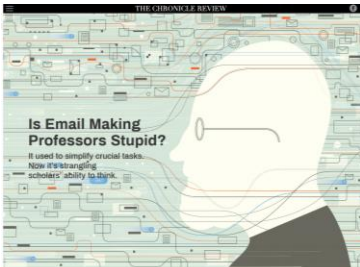


**February 13, 2019**


**Is Email Making Professors Stupid?**

**Cal Newport, The Chronicle of Higher Education**

<https://www.chronicle.com/interactives/is-email-making-professors-stupid>



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

A network diagram illustrating a collaborative research and writing environment. It features 20 stylized human figures of various ethnicities and ages, each standing on a grey circular base. The figures are interconnected by a web of dashed lines, forming a complex network. Several blue speech bubbles are scattered throughout the network, suggesting communication and collaboration. The overall layout is circular, with figures positioned around the perimeter and in the center, all connected to each other.

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

A group of diverse people, including a young boy, a woman, and a man, are shown from the chest up, holding a globe together with their hands. They are looking upwards at the globe. In the top right corner of the image, there is a circular logo with the text "GOOD PEOPLE" at the top, a cartoon car in the center, and "A GOOD PEOPLE COMPANY" at the bottom.

### 3. Draft a Timeline or Multiple Timelines with Flexible Goals

A tracking system for the production of manuscripts

Stage of Development

Meas and planning	Data collection and analyses	First draft of manuscript	Share manuscript for feedback	Draft revised and completed	Submitted for review
→	→	→	→	→	Paper 1
→	→	→	→	→	Paper 2
→	→	→	→	→	Paper 3
→	→	Paper 4	→	→	
→	Paper 5	→	→	→	
Paper 6	→	→	→	→	

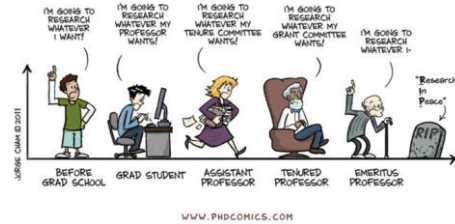
The screenshot shows the FutureMe.org website. The main heading is "Write a letter to the future". Below it, there is a text input area with a placeholder "Write your letter to your future self here...". To the right of the input area, there is a "SEND" button. Below the input area, there is a "Preview" section showing a preview of the letter. The preview shows a letter dated "10/10/2018" and addressed to "Future Me". The letter text is "I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing this letter to you because I want to tell you how much I love you and how much I care for you. I hope you are happy and healthy and that you are achieving all your dreams. I love you and I will always be there for you." The preview also shows a "SEND" button. The website has a blue header with the "futureme" logo and a navigation menu with links to "Home", "About", "Contact", and "Privacy Policy". The footer contains the text "© 2018 FutureMe.org. All rights reserved." and "FutureMe.org is a registered trademark of FutureMe.org."

## 4. Think Ahead About the Publishing Potential of Each Project



## Sidenote: Don't Just Publish for the Sake of Publishing...

### THE EVOLUTION OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM



## March 27, 2019 One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

### One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations

It's not just you: sociology publishing expectations have doubled in recent decades, by some measures, and other research suggests that's not just a one-time thing.

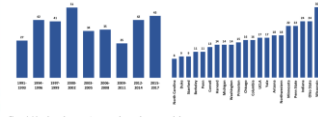


Figure 1: Number of new assistant professors by year and department.

## March 27, 2019 One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

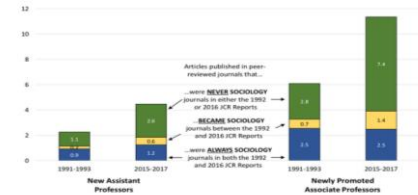


Figure 9: Articles published in journals classified as "sociology" in the 1992 and 2016 Journal Citation Reports by rank and year.

## March 27, 2019 One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

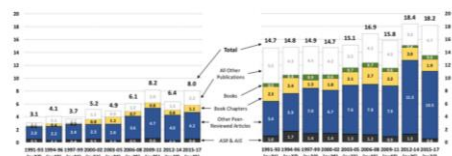


Figure 3: Mean number of publications by type and year. Shown are new assistant professors (left) and newly promoted associate professors (right).

## March 27, 2019 One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

"What does that look like, exactly? In 2017, new assistant professors at the 21 departments included in the study had published 4.8 peer-reviewed articles, on average, on their start date. About 25 years ago, the number was 2.5."

**March 27, 2019**

**One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations  
Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed**

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

"Newly promoted associated professors in article-centric subfields in the 2010s also published almost twice as many peer-reviewed articles as their counterparts two decades earlier. And even in book-centric subfields, the number of peer-reviewed articles has risen."

**March 27, 2019**

**One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations  
Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed**

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

- Asked whether he thought his findings would apply to other social science fields, Warren said recently that he suspected "the larger macro forces at work -- which really have to do with the organization and financing of higher education -- apply at least to the other social sciences and economics."
- In any case, he said, sociologists now face "much greater pressure to publish" and "to publish often."

**March 27, 2019**

**One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations  
Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed**

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

- Echoing the "why" piece of his study, Warren said that his findings have potential "human consequences," in that "it's stressful and may push otherwise qualified people out of the field."
- Expectation creep also has "implications both for the quality of scholarship -- which may go down as demands for quantity increase -- and for the topics that sociologists may choose to study," he said.

**March 27, 2019**

**One Discipline's Soaring Publishing Expectations  
Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed**

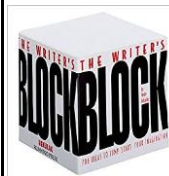
<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/03/27/sociology-publishing-expectations-have-doubled-recent-decades>

**In other words, the trend toward more publications might also mean a trend toward "topics or approaches that ensure quicker and more certain publication."**

**5. Be a Bumblebee and Butterfly**



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



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



## 8. Avoid High Quality (i.e., SSCI) Journal Fixations



## 9. Be Second or Third Author Sometimes to Spread Limited Resources



## 10. If Need Summer Money, Teach Short Term or Intensive Courses

Intensive Courses  
Click Here

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

Everyone needs an editor.

good



**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-Suarez, 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).



**October 8, 2018****How to Improve Your Teaching-Philosophy Statement**

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/How-to-Improve-Your/244283><https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221>**How to Improve Your Teaching-Philosophy Statement**

Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace

By Fernanda Zamudio-Suaréz | 10/8/2018 10:10 AM

**Two-Minute Tips**

Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace

By Fernanda Zamudio-Suaréz | 10/8/2018 10:10 AM

How to Improve Your Teaching-Philosophy Statement

Fernanda Zamudio-Suaréz, The Chronicle of Higher Education

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/How-to-Improve-Your/244283><https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221>**October 15, 2018****How to Become a Highly Productive Writer**

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/How-to-Become-a-Highly-Productive-Writer/244351?cid=cp221><https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221>**How to Become a Highly Productive Writer**

Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace

By Fernanda Zamudio-Suaréz | 10/15/2018 10:10 AM

**Two-Minute Tips**

Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace

By Fernanda Zamudio-Suaréz | 10/15/2018 10:10 AM

How to Become a Highly Productive Writer

Fernanda Zamudio-Suaréz, The Chronicle of Higher Education

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/How-to-Become-a-Highly-Productive-Writer/244351?cid=cp221><https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221>**12. Organize Conference Symposia Which Can Lead to Special Journal Issues and Books****Orchard Symposium 2018**June 20 & 21  
Indianapolis, IN**13. Sponsor Visiting Scholars to Work with You; They Often Have Writing Plans****14. Try to Submit or Publish Your Paper Before the Conference****15. Be Creative Somewhere (e.g., unique model, figure, chart, etc.)**

CREATIVE

WRITING



## February 12, 2019

### From Dreaded to Amazing

Cathy N. Davidson, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2019/02/12/how-use-reviewers-revise-and-resubmit-comments-most-effectively-opinion>

#### Deconstructing the R and R

I begin by deconstructing the reader's reports. I use a template, which I describe later in this essay in order to make the process as clear, clear, even mechanical (as possible). Here are the specific steps I take:

- I print out the reader report(s) to make it easier to deconstruct them. (This is not the time to go paragraph(s).)
- I make four categories that I'll explain in more depth later into which I will put every single comment by each reader. I cut and paste everything from the reader's report onto separate pages for each category.
- I make each category its own sheet(s). I print these out and then I literally check off the boxes after I do something so I have a clear visual of completion and progress. (This is unlike editing online where you work disappear and your facts seem to stay, and stay, and stay.)

Then I turn to my manuscript:

- I keep a clean original copy of my full manuscript – exactly what the readers saw.
- I make an online copy of the manuscript using a visually and distinctly different font or type size or margins or color.
- I make my revisions, both by hand and online, on this new copy, leaving the original pristine. At some point(s), I also want a physical copy of the revised so I can see how much I'm accomplishing. Other times, I don't want to see the process – only how the final version is coming along.

Rewarding myself with progress on these steps is essential for an R and R.

## February 12, 2019

### From Dreaded to Amazing

Cathy N. Davidson, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2019/02/12/how-use-reviewers-revise-and-resubmit-comments-most-effectively-opinion>

No. 1. **Prmise** I list any complimentary comments according to Reader A, Reader B or both. I put in page numbers if they are available.

Action: I start with anything that both readers love and you shouldn't either. Do very careful, changing anything even one reader loved if the other one doesn't mention it. The reward way to defeat yourself with an R and R is to revise the good parts that don't need revision.

No. 2. **Small, easy fixable things.** These include typos, fact errors, run-on sentences, clarity points and the like. Again, list these according to Reader A, Reader B or both.

Action: I like to fix simple things first. I usually go through the new manuscript in its new revision 2 font and make all these changes. Every time I make a change, I check it off on my No. 2 sheet. Small, Easy Fixable Things. This is a great psychological reward for tackling the next step.

No. 3. **Large, conceptual, and structural revisions.** This is where I do much more extensive work on the paper.

Action: Sometimes I do this with a trusted writing group or friend. I like to make the revision first, then show someone the before and the reader's comment and the other and get feedback. It's easy to get lost. I do not have a method for whether to do both or the one or the other first. But I like to get feedback on how I'm doing any time I can stick.

No. 4. **Personal readings of reader's reports.** This is what I think is actually happening in reader's reports but that they aren't saying. Sometimes, personal readings usually go something like "I'm sure I know what Reader A was. This is a misinterpretation and here's how I know."

Personal readings aren't criticism and undermine the reader's support, so my experience, personal reading is usually wrong.

HR: I was editor of American Literature for a decade and heard versions of the personal reading dozens of times, resulting in papers about the specific person who must have written the report. About

## March 24, 2019

### Tackling Revisions

Alexandra Gold, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/tackling-revisions>

#### Tackling Revisions

Revision strategies for your next big writing project.

by Alexandra Gold | March 24, 2019

Alexandra (A.J.) Gold recently completed her Ph.D. in English at Boston University. She currently teaches as a Preceptor in the Harvard College Writing Program. Follow her on Twitter [@ajgold123](https://twitter.com/ajgold123) or check out her website.



## October 4, 2018

### A New Series on Scholarly Productivity: 'Are You Writing?'

Rebecca Shuman, The Chronicle of Higher Education

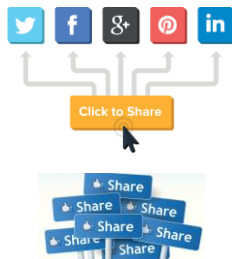
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/A-New-Series-on-Scholarly/244689>

1. Read as peer reviewer; mark up everything.
2. Catalog problems on a 1 to 3 difficulty scale (Level 1 takes less than 30 minutes, Level 2 takes 2 hours or less; Level 3 takes more time).
3. Fix the easy ones and gain momentum for the harder ones!
4. Take breaks as needed.



## 19. Share Your Publication Efforts

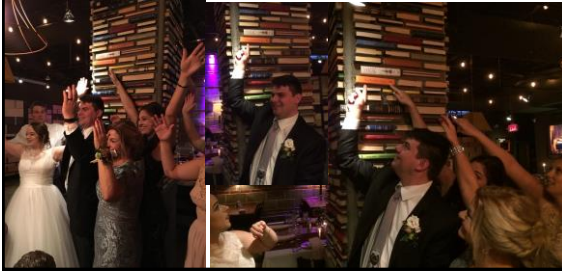
(e.g., Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, email, ResearchGate, Academia.edu, etc.)



## 20. Celebrate Your Writing Accomplishments with Friends



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



**January 6, 2019**  
**You're a Full Professor. Now What?**  
Kathryn N. McDaniel, The Chronicle of Higher Education  
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/You-re-a-Full-Professor-Now/245403>



By Kathryn N. McDaniel | JANUARY 06, 2019

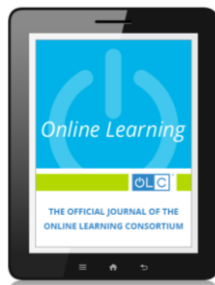
**Just don't celebrate too much!**



**Bonus #1. Be Careful Committing  
to Other People's Projects (OPP)**



**Bonus #2. Look for Special Issues  
that You Might Contribute To**



**Bonus #3. Save Research Articles  
for a Rainy Day**  
(file folders on different topics)



### Bonus #4. Treat Graduate Students as Colleagues (hec, treat everyone as a colleague)



### February 24, 2019 The Importance of Friendships Sophia Sanchez, Inside Higher Ed <https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/university-venues/importance-friendships>

#### The Importance of Friendships

Reading this post as a priority for international students

By [Sophia Sanchez](#) // February 24, 2019

Let's jump right in. An international student who might have traveled across the globe to study in the United States might have to cope with a host of things when they leave.

Here's a short list:

- Family

- Language

- Academic subjects

- Method of writing assignments

- Making connections

- Lack of financial stability

- Culture

- Food

- Sleep schedule

- Climate

- Job stress

Considerably, international students are becoming global citizens with 230 billion in revenue flowing to them more than 1 million foreign students in U.S. educational institutions. All this is fine and dandy, but if the power is always in your grasp to stop being the global citizen.

Reading this

### Bonus #5. Find a Mentor and Ask Senior People for Advice



### February 25, 2019 Dear Faculty: You Matter More Than You Know Brandon Busted, Inside Higher Ed <https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2019/02/25/faculty-mentors-provide-students-exceptional-educational-benefits>

#### Dear Faculty: You Matter More Than You Know

Those of you who mentor students are the lodestone in higher education, writes Brandon Busted.

By [Brandon Busted](#) // February 25, 2019

During a time in which the value of a college degree is being called into question and the work readiness of graduates is highly doubted, it's vital that we all understand, celebrate and promote the single most important ingredient of college success: mentorship from faculty member.



### Bonus #6. Form a Writing Group



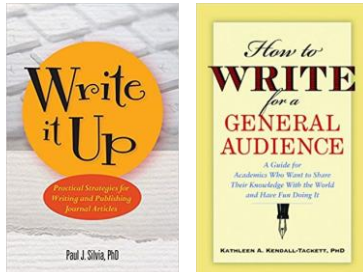
### December 2, 2018 On the Value of Dissertation-Writing Groups Leonard Cassuto, The Chronicle of Higher Education <https://www.chronicle.com/article/on-the-value-of/245184>

#### On the Value of Dissertation-Writing Groups



By Leonard Cassuto // 12/2/2018

## Bonus #7. Write for the General Public



**March 25, 2019**

### Writing for Peers vs. the Public: When Academic Writing Falls Short

<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/rethinking-research/writing-peers-vs-public-when-academic-writing-falls-short>

#### Writing for Peers vs. the Public: When Academic Writing Falls Short

Writing for non-academics requires a different set of tools and approaches than for scholarly writing, but the payoff is worth it, writes Diana Brazzell.

by [Diana Brazzell](#) · 11 March 25, 2019

1 COMMENT

The internet has made it easier than ever for scholars to engage directly with the public. An explosion of new content formats and dissemination channels has opened up opportunities to increase the impact of your research by connecting with practitioners, policymakers, business and nonprofit leaders, journalists, activists, and citizens. But to truly inform and influence audiences outside academia, scholars must learn to speak in a language the public can understand.



**January 29, 2019**

### The Professor Who Quit His Tenured Job to Make Podcasts and Lecture Videos

Jeffrey R. Young, EdSurge

<https://www.edsurge.com/news/2019-01-29/the-professor-who-quit-his-tenured-job-to-make-podcasts-and-lecture-videos>



## Bonus #8. Keep a Notebook of What Thinking



### February 24, 2019 'Slouching Toward' Productivity, Deidra Faye Jackson, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/%E2%80%98slouching-toward%E2%80%99-productivity>

#### 'Slouching Toward' Productivity

How novelist Joan Didion teaches us to accelerate our writing output by focusing on the result, not the beginning, of another taxing routine.

by [Deidra Faye Jackson](#) · 11 February 24, 2019

1 COMMENT

Deidra Faye Jackson earned her Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Mississippi in Oxford, where she teaches in the Departments of Writing and Rhetoric and Higher Education. You can find her on Twitter at [@DeidraJackson1](#).



## Bonus #9. Engage in Free Writing

**5 SIMPLE  
MOVES TO FREE  
THE STUCK  
WRITER**



## Bonus #10. Read Everyday!



## Time to Recap...

1. The process for getting published
2. The process for selecting a journal for publication
3. Writing tips and insights
4. Curated resources
5. Your commitments to future writing



## Concerns? Comments? Commitments?



**Curt Bonk, Indiana University**

**Email:** [cjbonk@indiana.edu](mailto:cjbonk@indiana.edu)

**Homepage:** <http://curtbonk.com/>

**TravelinEdMan in Twitter:**

<https://twitter.com/travelinedman>

