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10 Writing Tips From Great Authors

A Checklist For Budding Writers

Here are some writing tips for improving your writing from such great writers as Ernest Hemingway and Stephen King.

1. Stop while there's more to say. Limit your daily writing output to 500 words; the rest of the day you are still subconsciously working on the creative process
2. Write early in the morning when it is quiet
3. Never drink alcohol while writing
4. Stop writing when you know what is going to happen next. Don't allow your inspiration to be drained at one sitting
5. Know when to write and when not to write. Write a set amount a day – e.g. 2,000 words – every day, however long that takes
6. Write the story first. Revise only after it is complete. Don't use any reference books during the first draft; it interrupts the creative process. Then leave your finished manuscript in a drawer for several months before revising
7. Structure your work however it suits your creative process best
8. Write your books on 3" x 5" filing cards. Arrange and rearrange these cards as the story takes shape. Copy each card onto notebook paper, expanding them to create a coherent novel
9. Write standing up
10. Make boredom productive. Write in a place you find terribly boring. With nothing interesting to distract you, it is easy to sit down and write for long stretches of time. Move your writing desk to face an uninspiring view and you'll be surprised that you'll be able to write for several hours a day.

[Learn more writing tips from great writers such as Ernest Hemingway, Stephen King, Francine Prose and Vladimir Nabokov.](#)

There is no argument that good writing is difficult – but it can be made easier with a good editor. Check out our [Testimonials](#) page to read what writers who have used our quality [editing](#) and [manuscript appraisal](#) services have to say.