



CREATIVE WRITING MADE EASY

For Those Who Enjoy Reading & Writing

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Writing As a Career Option

Introduction: My name is Jacqueline L Williamson BBA, MPA, MS
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Why should I consider a career in writing? If you enjoy writing poems, story stories or plays then you should think about becoming a Writer. Writers are people who really enjoy putting their thoughts down either on paper, computer or iPad/Android.

What are the different types of writers? Writing can be divided into 2 parts: fiction or nonfiction. Fiction is what you make up or create with your imagination. It can be based on something you have experienced or something you wish could happen.

Nonfiction is based on what is true. There should be no imagination or pretending in nonfiction. It is pure facts.

How do I choose a career in writing? Depending on the type of writer you want to be there may be a need to go to college and get a degree in Journalism. The better you are at writing ... the more likely you are to get a job as a writer.

Here is a list of writers created by Terje Johansen:

What Kind of Writer Do You Want to Be?

Academic writers are all those who write for scientific journals, university magazines etc. They are basically article writers and/or book writers, but unlike most other writers they don't write for money directly. The articles and/or books published are results of years of studies within the writers' field. Aspiring writers should steer away from this type of work: Leave it to the academics.

Article writers include all the non-fiction writers who do short pieces on specific themes, topics or news items. Travel writers, food writers, medical writers; these are all specialists on their topic and usually write for many

magazines. Article writers can be freelancers or staff writers; what they have in common is the ability to write articles in a concise and crisp language.

Business writers are those writers who work for the commercial business magazines and newspapers for high-income readers. It's like any other type of article writing except for strict demands to language skills and relevant business knowledge; the readers are cutting-edge professionals and the writers must be on roughly the same level -- or better.

Columnists typically make their living by following and commenting on trends rather than news. Columns are a staple item in newspapers, magazines and newsletters. The better class of columnists is syndicated, and their columns can appear in hundreds of newspapers. Writing a new article every week for the same column can be a challenge, though!

Copywriters are among the best-paid writers in the whole business. All marketing is written in order to sell something and normally a good marketing text ('copy') sells more products than a mediocre text, so good copywriters get paid well. There's little public fame to find in this line of writing but being known and respected among the professionals in this line truly comes down to cash. Copywriters' most valuable virtue is the ability to evoke interest and enthusiasm about a product while retaining the readers' trust.

Freelance writers are by definition all those writers who do not make their living of one fulltime writing engagement. The term isn't usually used about novelists, though, even if they write for several publishers. Being a freelance writer has a lot to offer in terms of freedom; you can work when you like and as much as you like, combine your writing with parenting or take breaks for long vacations.

Game Writers are a specialized kind of screenwriter. They write the plots, create the characters and describe the surroundings in general terms, and also write the dialogue used in the game. Unlike many other types of writing this is done in close cooperation with a team.

Ghostwriters are an anonymous but quite large subgroup of book writers. Like speechwriters, they have specialized in writing for other people as if they were these persons. The work is challenging, requires substantial people skills and much patience -- considerable rewrites are often

necessary. Naturally, the ghostwriter is obliged not to reveal his or her work in the book.



lawyers by profession.

Grant writers are copywriters in a class of their own. Their specialized skill is how to write applications for grants from governmental and private institutions that hand out cash for various purposes. This type of writing normally requires substantial knowledge of law and business language. Many grant writers are

Journalists are a mixed group of writers. They are the writers read by the most people; working in the national and local newspapers and magazines that are read every day by millions of people. Working as a journalist in a newspaper or magazine staff normally requires a college degree in journalism. The one unbreakable rule: Keep the deadlines.

Nonfiction book writers are a large group of writers that includes academic and technical writers as well as people with even more enthusiasm than writing skills. Non-fiction book writing is pretty much like article writing in that it requires fact checking and research, no matter if it is a deep political analysis or an account of a historical event. Non-fiction books can be written for love, money or both; what matters is that the writer has sufficient knowledge of what he writes about.

Novelists, also known as authors, write long stories. Much can be said about the craft, but the prime virtue of a novelist is the ability to plan and *complete* the work. These days a fiction book is easily 200,000 words long for some genres; keeping track of the progress of the plot and the characters' development requires forward planning and much patience. Non-fiction book writers have a slightly better chance as there are many companies with projects they'll pay advance for, but you either make a living as a best-selling author or you have a second job. On the other hand, that second job can be a writing-related one!

Online writers are best described as those who do a major part of their writing for websites and e-zines. Most are freelancers, many have no previous background as writers from the paper world, and the vast majority has other day jobs. This group includes article, poetry, short story and even book writers.



Play writers are the most glamorous writers in the writing profession, but the potential for fame is greater than the potential for making an income of it. With a highly limited number of theatrical ensembles, there's a market for only so many plays per year. To get a play script accepted it is essential to live in the right place and have the right connections in

the theatre business.

Poetry writers (poets) have the unenviable position of being the lowest paid writers in the entire writing business. Poetry simply doesn't sell, even if many read poetry. A number of poetry websites and e-zines purchase the occasional poem for small sums, but poetry writing cannot be called paid work for the vast majority of the writers who indulge in it.

Resume writers are a small subgroup of business writers who specialize in helping other people present themselves; the customers are exclusively high-income business workers looking for a new job. A resume writer's job is to take the information given by the customer, interview the customer to find further information, and then reshape the result to focus on the customer's best sides and most important accomplishments.

Reviewers are expected to have very good knowledge of their subject. Be it books, movies, cars or computer models; the reviewer must be both informative and entertaining without -- visibly -- be repeating himself from review to review.

Screenwriters are the most numerous group of scriptwriters. They write scripts for movies and television, and when the movies or TV series make a hit the writers responsible can make tidy earnings as well. Getting a script accepted is as hard as getting a book manuscript published; only one in a hundred submitted scripts are accepted for production.

Songwriters are seldom paid much for the texts they write; a successful writer with several decently selling musicians or studios as customers can make a living, but for most the song writing is just a side income. As with screenwriting, living close enough to the customers is important.

Speechwriters are essential for covering up the fact that many leaders can't write speeches for larger audiences. Company leaders and politicians

depend on speechwriters shaping their clumsily phrased messages into media-friendly communiqués complete with sound bites and jokes.



Staff writers are writers with full time engagements -- permanent or otherwise -- in the staff of larger newspapers, magazines, marketing bureaus, publishing houses and in some cases other types of companies with permanent needs for writing work. A staff job means that you are a hired hand with the pleasant inherent job security, but it also means that you'll be told what to write, what not to write, and that deadlines become vital to keeping your job. Not to mention that all the work becomes the company's property.

Storywriters are a large and very creative subgroup of freelance writers. They are specialists in writing short tales of one or more genres of fiction, and have a big market of magazines to sell to. It's normally not very financially rewarding, unless the writer makes it to a nationally recognized magazine or manage to win a high-profile story contest.

Technical writers don't win much fame for their user manuals and system documentation, but in these days of incredible technical development and product turnover it is a lucrative writing business. Once a writer is engaged by a company to write documentation, he can reasonably expect further work updating old and writing new documentation for other products.

Now, it's time to learn ...

Creative Writing Made Easy



Introduction: Today we embark on an exciting adventure of discovery. We are journeying on the adventure of writing. Whether you are writing for commercial profit or for your own edification, there are certain basic concepts you need to know to be a successful writer. These five concepts are:

1. Prewriting
2. Writing
3. Revising
4. Editing
5. Publishing

Every writer at some point in time has engaged in these concepts. Sometimes, revising and editing follow a different pattern and sometimes prewriting is done on a mental level but eventually, all five concepts have been incorporated in the finished product. It will either be read orally or printed. It can also be digitally recreated.

Our journey will begin with studying how to prewrite!

1. Prewriting

Have you ever sat staring at a blank piece of paper or a blank document on your computer screen? You might have skipped the vital first stage of the writing process: prewriting. This covers everything you do before starting your rough draft. As a minimum, prewriting means coming up with an idea!

Ideas and Inspiration

Ideas are all around you. If you want to write but you don't have any ideas, try:

- Using a writing prompt to get you started.
- Writing about incidents from your daily life, or childhood.
- Keeping a notebook of ideas – jotting down those thoughts that occur throughout the day.
- Creating a vivid character, and then writing about him/her.

See also [How to Generate Hundreds of Writing Ideas](#).

Tip: *Once you have an idea, you need to expand on it. Don't make the mistake of jumping straight into your writing – you'll end up with a badly structured piece.*



Building on Your Idea

These are a couple of popular methods you can use to add flesh to the bones of your idea:

- **Free writing:** Open a new document or start a new page and write everything that comes into your head about your chosen topic. Don't stop to edit, even if you make mistakes.

- **Brainstorming:** Write the idea or topic in the center of your page. Jot down ideas that arise from it – sub-topics or directions you could take with the article.

Once you've done one or both, you need to select what's going into your first draft.

Planning and Structure

Some pieces of writing will require more planning than others. Typically, longer pieces and academic papers need a lot of thought at this stage.

First, decide which ideas you'll use. During your free writing and brainstorming, you'll have come up with lots of thoughts. Some belong in this piece of writing: others can be kept for another time.

Then, decide how to order those ideas. Try to have a logical progression. Sometimes, your topic will make this easy: in this article, for instance, it made sense to take each step of the writing process in order. For a short story, try the eight-point story arc.

2. Writing

Sit down with your plan beside you and start your first draft (also known as the *rough draft* or *rough copy*). At this stage, don't think about word-count, grammar, spelling and punctuation. Don't worry if you've gone off-topic, or if some sections of your plan don't fit too well. Just keep writing! If you're a new writer, you might be surprised that professional authors go through multiple drafts before they're happy with their work. This is a normal part of the writing process – no-one gets it right first time.

Some things that many writers find helpful when working on the first draft include:

- **Setting aside at least thirty minutes to concentrate:** it's hard to establish a writing flow if you're just snatching a few minutes here and there.

- **Going somewhere without interruptions:** a library or coffee shop can work well, if you don't have anywhere quiet to write at home.
- **Switching off distracting programs:** if you write your first draft onto a computer, you might find that turning off your Internet connection does wonders for your concentration levels! When I'm writing fiction, I like to use the free program Dark Room (you can find more about it on our collection of writing software).

You might write several drafts, especially if you're working on fiction. Your subsequent drafts will probably merge elements of the writing stage and the revising stage.

***Tip:** Writing requires concentration and energy. If you're a new writer, don't try to write for hours without stopping. Instead, give yourself a time limit (like thirty minutes) to really focus – without checking your email!*



3. Revising

Revising your work is about making “big picture” changes. You might remove whole sections, rewrite entire paragraphs, and add in information which you've realized the reader will need. Everyone needs to revise – even talented writers.

The revision stage is sometimes summed up with the A.R.R.R. (Adding, Rearranging, Removing, Replacing) approach:

Adding

What else does the reader need to know? If you haven't met the required word-count, what areas could you expand on? This is a good point to go back to your prewriting notes – look for ideas which you didn't use.

Rearranging

Even when you've planned your piece, sections may need rearranging. Perhaps as you wrote your essay, you found that the argument would flow better if you reordered your paragraphs. Maybe you've written a short story that drags in the middle but packs in too much at the end.



Removing

Sometimes, one of your ideas doesn't work out. Perhaps you've gone over the word count, and you need to take out a few paragraphs. Maybe that funny story doesn't really fit with the rest of your article.

Replacing

Would more vivid details help bring your piece to life? Do you need to look for stronger examples and quotations to support your argument? If a paragraph isn't working, try rewriting it.

***Tip:** If you're not sure what's working and what isn't, show your writing to someone else. This might be a writers' circle, or just a friend who's good with words. Ask them for feedback. It's best if you can show your work to several people, so that you can get more than one opinion.*

4. Editing

The editing stage is distinct from revision and needs to be done after revising. Editing involves the close-up view of individual sentences and words. It needs to be done after you've made revisions on a big scale: or else you could agonize over a perfect sentence, only to end up cutting that whole paragraph from your piece.

When editing, go through your piece line by line, and make sure that each sentence, phrase and word is as strong as possible. Some things to check for are:

- **Have you used the same word too many times** in one sentence or paragraph? Use a thesaurus to find alternatives.
- **Are any of your sentences hard to understand?** Rewrite them to make your thoughts clear.
- **Which words could you cut to make a sentence stronger?** Words like "just" "quite", "very", "really" and "generally" can often be removed.
- **Are your sentences grammatically correct?** Keep a careful look out for problems like subject-verb agreement and staying consistent in your use of the past, present or future tense.
- **Is everything spelt correctly?** Don't trust your spell-checker – it won't pick up every mistake. Proofread as many times as necessary.
- **Have you used punctuation marks correctly?** Commas often cause difficulties. You might want to check out the Daily Writing Tips articles on punctuation.

Tip: *Print out your work and edit on paper. Many writers find it easier to spot mistakes this way.*



5. Publishing

The final step of the writing process is publishing. This means different things depending on the piece you're working on.

Bloggers need to upload, format and post their piece of completed work.

Students need to produce a final copy of their work, in the correct format. This often means adding a

bibliography, ensuring that citations are correct, and adding details such as your student reference number.

Journalists need to submit their piece (usually called “copy”) to an editor. Again, there will be a certain format for this.

Fiction writers may be sending their story to a magazine or competition. Check guidelines carefully, and make sure you follow them. If you've written a novel, look for an agent who represents your genre. (There are books like *Writer's Market*, published each year, which can help you with this.)

Tip: *Your piece of writing might never be published. That's okay – many bestselling authors wrote lots of stories or articles before they got their first piece published. Nothing that you write is wasted, because it all contributes to your growth as a writer.*

Conclusion

The five stages of the writing process are a framework for writing well and easily. You might want to bookmark this post so that you can come back to it each time you start on a new article, blog post, essay or story: use it as a checklist to help you.

If you have any tips about the writing process, or if you want to share your experiences, tell us in the comments!

Three Types of Story

1. Short Stories

A short story is a piece of fiction under 20,000 words. More typically, a short story will be 1,000 – 5,000 words. (Pieces under 1,000 words are “short short stories” or “flash fiction”, over 20,000 and they’re novellas.)

Short stories are published in magazines, newspapers and book anthologies. Short stories need:

- A small cast of characters, with one main character
- A compact time frame, with the story taking place over the course of a few days or weeks
- A single plot without subplots, though longer short stories may have a subplot

Most of writing competitions are for complete short stories, rather than novels or novel excerpts. If you do enter competitions, don’t be put off writing if you don’t win – judges have different likes and dislikes.

How to Write a Great Short Story

Like any story, your short story needs to have a beginning, middle and end:

- **The beginning** is where we’re introduced to the characters, especially the main character and his/her problem
- **The middle** is where the action and plot develops. The main character will face difficulties such as opposition from other people or a challenging environment.
- **The end** is where the main character triumphs over his/her biggest challenge (or fails, in the case of a tragedy). The resolution should be satisfying and conclusive for the reader.

Even in literary and experimental short stories, it’s important that something should happen. Much of the action might take place inside the characters’ heads, but there should be a real change as a result.

By the end of your short story, your main character should have experienced an internal change. This means that they’ve grown and developed as a person – perhaps overcoming a fear or recognizing an unacknowledged truth about himself or herself.

Additional Tips for Writing a Short Story

Structure of Your Short Story

Novice writers are often given this advice on how to structure their short stories:

- Put a man up a tree
- Throw stones at him
- Get him down

When you come to think of it, it's good advice for any writer. So follow the steps in the plan below to start writing great short stories.

Short Story Plan

Start with a situation - a problem to be resolved for your protagonist (the man up the tree).

Then present the problems that can occur (throw some stones):

- Misunderstandings / mistaken identity / lost opportunities etc

The final step is to show how you can solve the problem - get the man down from his leafy perch - safely.

- Love triumphs / good conquers evil / honesty is the best policy / united we stand

When you've finished writing, always, always proofread your work to check your spelling, punctuation and grammar. Don't spoil all your hard work by presenting an unprofessional image to your readers.

Short Story Theme

Every piece of writing must have a message or thread of meaning running through it, and this theme is the skeleton or framework on which you hang your plot, characters, setting etc.

As you write, make sure that every word is related to this theme. It's tempting to use your short story to show off your talents at characterization, descriptive writing, dialogue or whatever ... But every excess word is a word that dilutes the impact of your story.

The best stories are the ones that follow a narrow subject line. Decide what the point of your story is and even though it's tempting to digress, you must stick to the point otherwise you end up with either a novel beginning or a mish-mash of ideas that add up to nothing.

Time Span for Your Short Story

An effective short story covers a very short time span. It may be one single event that is momentous in the life of your main character or the story may take place in a single day or even an hour. Try to use the events you depict to illustrate your theme.

Setting for Your Short Story

Because you have such a limited number of words to convey your message, you must choose your settings carefully ... there's no room for free-loaders in a short story!

That doesn't mean you have to be trite or predictable when deciding on settings. For example, some of the most frightening settings for thrillers are not cemeteries or lonely alleys, but normal places where readers can imagine themselves.

Appeal to your readers' five senses to make your settings more real.

Characters in Your Short Story

Around three main characters is all a short story can effectively deal with because too many will distract you from your theme.

Don't give in to the urge to provide detailed background on your characters ... decide on the characteristics that are important for your theme and stick

to those. If you fall in love with your character, use him/her as the basis for a novel later.

Short Story Dialogue

Never underestimate the power of dialogue in conveying character, but it must contribute to the main focus of the story - don't just use it to pad out your characters. Every word you put into the mouth of your characters must contribute to revealing your theme ... if it doesn't, be ruthless and cut it.

Plot for Your Short Story

Begin with an arresting first paragraph or lead, enough to grab the readers and make them curious to know what happens next.

Make sure your plot works - there must be a beginning, a middle and an end. But don't spend too much time on the build-up, so that the climax or denouement (as in the twist ending) is relegated to one sentence, leaving the reader bothered and bemused but sadly, not bewitched.

And don't signal the twist ending too soon - try to keep the reader guessing until the last moment.

If you're telling a fast-moving story, say crime, then keep your paragraphs and sentences short. It's a trick that sets the pace and adds to the atmosphere you're conveying to the reader.

Publish Your Short Story

Once you've written your story, you'll want to get it out to your eager public, so you'll need to know how to publish your story.

2. Novels

A novel is a piece of fiction that's 60,000 words or longer (shorter books are novellas). The typical novel is around 80,000 – 150,000 words, depending on genre.

Novels and short stories share similar structural features, but novels give the author a much wider scope. A novel might have:

- More than one main character (though attempt this with caution!)
- A large cast of characters
- A long-time frame – potentially covering several centuries and several generations
- Multiple subplots

Novels tend to be much more popular than short stories with the reading public, and almost all full-time authors are novelists rather than short story writers.

How to Write A Novel

A novel is a much bigger undertaking than a short story. **Even if you can write short stories without much planning, you'll need to plan out your novel in advance.** There are several ways to do this, but whichever you choose, ensure:

- You have enough plot to meet your word count target
- Your main character (protagonist) is sympathetic – readers of short stories will put up with a dull or unlikeable character, but novel readers are stuck with the character's viewpoint for much longer. As the writer, you'll need to be able to become your characters.
- You have an escalation of events throughout the plot. Things need to get worse and worse for your characters, until they finally overcome their problems or enemies.

3. Life Stories

A life story is a true story – though it shares features with fictional stories. Life stories are either “biography” (when you write about someone else) or “autobiography” (when you write about yourself).

Most biographies and autobiographies are book length, similar to a novel. Many writers draw on their own life experiences for newspaper columns and magazine articles, though. There is also a market for “true life” stories in magazines, which are told in a story-like way: writing about your own life is a simple way to write about what you know.

How to Write A Life Story

A life story needs to be engaging and interesting for the reader. **Don't include boring details just because they're “true” – the reader doesn't need to know everything that happened.** In many cases,

details of childhood or dull years can be summarized – or told through a few vividly-drawn incidents.

You will need to be careful when writing a biography or autobiography to:

- Structure your piece as a story, focusing on interesting events and incidents.
- Show the personality of the subject (yourself or the person you're writing about) and making sure the reader will find them at least partly likeable.
- Be conscious of the other people involved – try to be sensitive to how they might feel (and avoid getting sued for libel – make sure you're certain of your facts).

There is often a fine line between life writing and fiction. If you are writing the story of your life, you will need to make decisions about whether you will alter or make up lines of dialogue, for instance.

General Story Writing Tips

Whatever type of story or stories you're writing, and however experienced you are, there's always room for improvement...

Share Your Story Writing Efforts

It's hard to write in isolation and sharing your work with other writers is a great way to get feedback and suggestions. Look for a local writers' circle, or join an online forum. You want to find somewhere that's supportive but where people aren't afraid to offer advice about things that aren't working in your story.

Keep Learning

Writing is a craft that you can learn, like any other. There are hundreds of books on all aspects of writing, from the nuts and bolts of grammar and punctuation to writing in specific genres. You can also find free advice on the Internet (on blogs like this one). You can even take a degree or post-graduate course in creative writing.

Keep Practicing

As well as learning about writing, you need to practice. That means writing regularly – ideally daily. As you write more, your stories will get better – your characters are more “real”, your plots are convincing, and your endings are deeply satisfying to readers. You'll also find that writing itself becomes easier: you'll spend less time struggling to find the right words, and more time enjoying seeing the story spill from your fingers.

Always Revise

All authors need to revise their work. Your first draft might have a lot of problems – inconsistent characterization, scenes which don't really fit, holes in the plot, incorrect pacing or tension. Don't worry if this is the case: most published authors must extensively rewrite their first drafts too. Always allow time to revise your story, and if possible, do several rewrites. Most authors recommend letting your story sit unread for a few days or weeks when you complete a draft, so that you can come to it with fresh eyes.

With so much information, there is nothing more to learn other than how to perfect your newly acquired skills! The culmination of class is the writing on a novella. Don't be alarmed—you will have had plenty of practice before this is due.

The information for this project is included in the last pages of this workbook! You will know when each of these assignments are due at a later time! In the meantime, you have your writing prompts that are included in your workbook and the assignments that will be done in class.

Happy Writing!

Creative Writing Prompts

Today I'd like to share a mash-up of creative writing prompts. There are no rules. Write a poem. Write a short story. Write an essay. Aim for a hundred words or aim for a hundred thousand. Just start writing, and have fun.

1. You're digging in the garden and find a fist-sized nugget of gold. There's more where that came from in this hilarious story of sudden wealth.
2. Write about something ugly — war, fear, hate, or cruelty—but find the beauty (silver lining) in it or something good that comes out of it.
3. An asteroid and a meteoroid collide near Earth, and fragments rain down onto the planet's surface, wreaking havoc. Some of those fragments contain surprising elements: fossils that prove life exists elsewhere in the galaxy, for example.
4. A kid comes out of the school bathroom with toilet paper dangling from his or her waistband.
5. Revisit your earliest memories of learning about faith, religion, or spirituality.
6. Use all of the following words in a piece of writing: bit, draw, flex, perilous, bubble, corner, rancid, pound, high, open.
7. Write a poem about a first romantic (dare I say: sexual) experience or encounter.
8. He turned the key in the lock and opened the door. To his horror, he saw...
9. Silvery flakes drifted downward, glittering in the bright light of the harvest moon. The blackbird soared.
10. Tell bad drivers, rude customers, and evil dictators how grateful you are for what they've done. Do it with a wink and a smile.
11. Write a story about a detective solving a crime that was committed against his or her partner or a crime that his or her partner committed.
12. Three children are sitting on a log near a stream. One of them looks up at the sky and says...
13. There is a magic talisman that allows its keeper to read minds. It falls into the hands of a young politician...

14. We've seen cute and cuddly dragons, mean and vicious dragons, and noble dragons. Write a story about a different kind of dragon.
15. Use all of the following words in a piece of writing: dash, hard, staple, billboard, part, circle, flattened.
16. A doctor puts his hand on his patient's arm and says, "You or the baby will survive. Not both. I'm sorry."
17. Write about when you did something bad and got away with it.
18. The kids were raised on the mantra "Family is everything." What happens when they find out their parents aren't who they pretended to be? Will the family fall apart?
19. You walk into your house and it's completely different — furniture, decor, all changed. It doesn't look like the same house anymore. And nobody's home.
20. Turn ordinary animals into monsters that prey on humans: dog-sized rats, killer rabbits, or a pack of rabid mountain lions. Give the animals intelligence and set them loose.
21. A twinkling eye can mean many things. Write a poem about a twinkle in someone's eye.
22. What determines an action or person as good or evil? Who gets to decide what or who is good or evil?
23. Write about your body.
24. Have you ever been just about to drift off to sleep only to be roused by a spontaneous memory of an embarrassing moment from your past?
25. Use all of the following words in a piece of writing: feast, fire, modify, squash, robbed, forgotten, under-stated.

Beginning My Novella Project

Name _____ Date Started _____

A novella is a piece of fiction over 20,000 words but less than 60,000 words. You will be working on this assignment during class periods mostly and only occasionally at home. You will have:

1. At least one main character (you can have more than one)
2. A large cast of characters
3. A long-time frame—potentially covering several centuries and several generations (however you can limit it to at least a period of several years)
4. Multiple subplots

Assignment One: Pre-write

1. Build on Your ideas either by Free Writing or Brainstorming
2. Plan and structure your novella

Assignment Two: Writing

This is when you actually begin your rough draft. You will have approximately one hour each session to work on your rough draft. You may need several sessions in order to complete a success draft.

Assignment Three: Revising

This is when you will make any necessary changes you need to make. This revising will be done in one-hour sessions as needed and consist of:

1. Adding
2. Rearranging
3. Removing
4. Replacing

Assignment Four: Editing

This is when the instructor begins to seriously critique your writing looking at spelling, grammatical errors and validity of content. No time limit.

Assignment Five: The finished product

This is when all errors have been corrected and the novella is suitable to be submitted for consideration with an online publisher.