

Taking the Helm: *Developing a Creative, Focused, and Accountable Writing Practice*



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Welcome!

****Do Now:****

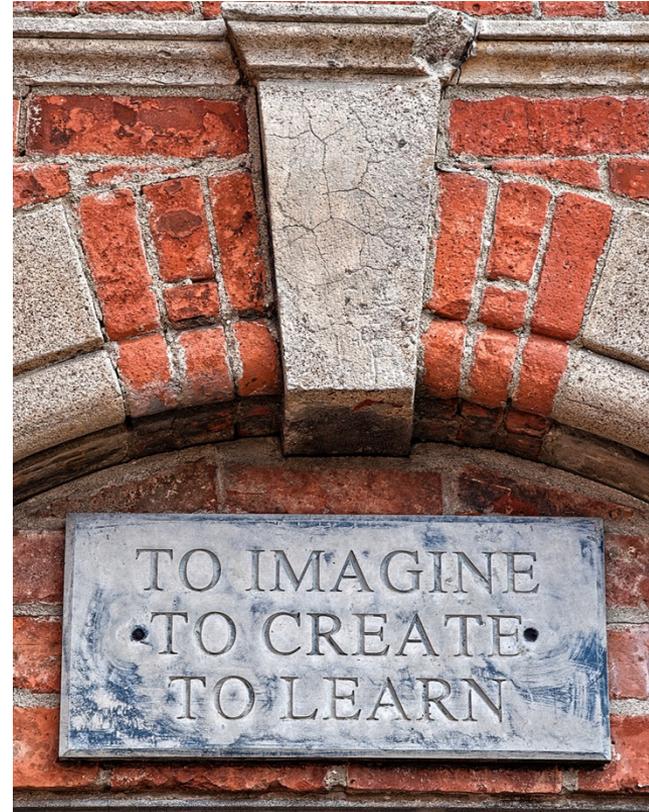
As you arrive, please use the chat to tell us **where you are from** and **share one word/phrase** that you would use to describe yourself as a writer.

Quick Poll – Publishing for your Job



Goals / Intentions for the Next Hour

- Get your creative juices flowing
- Facilitate a supportive & engaging online writing group
- Motivate you to get stuff done (or started)
- Share resources, tips, and tools for focus and productivity
- Provide ways to connect for potential future collaboration and accountability
- Heads Up! Using breakout rooms





Creativity
[kree-ey-tiv-i-tee]

Quick poll - Creativity



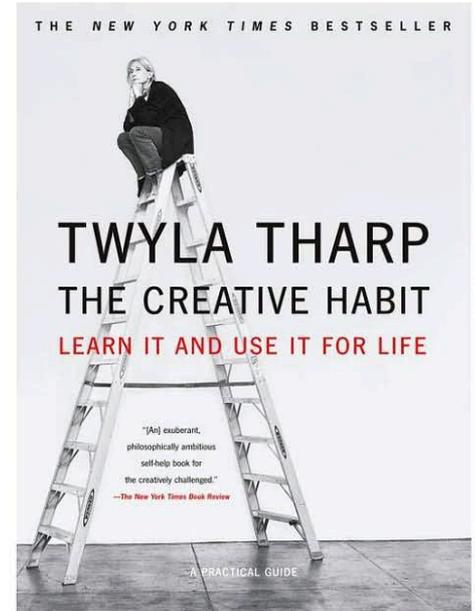
Activity: *Creative Autobiography*

[Adapted from the book]

On a piece of paper, answer a few of the following (quickly, instinctively, honestly) --

1. What is your creative ambition, and what are the obstacles?
2. Who is your muse, and why?
3. When you work, do you love the process or the result?
4. At what moments do you feel your reach exceeds your grasp?
5. What is your ideal creative activity?

"If creativity is a habit, then the **best creativity is the result of good work habits**. They are the nuts and bolts of dreaming." -- Twyla Tharp, *The Creative Habit*



Creativity To Go

<http://bit.ly/creativitytogo>



Creativity To Go

Books

Art & Fear: Observations on the Perils (and Rewards) of Artmaking by David Bayles and Ted Orland.

Creative Confidence: Unleashing the Creative Potential Within Us All by Tom Kelley and David Kelley.

The Creative Habit: Learn It and Use It For Life by Twyla Tharp.

The War of Art: Break Through the Blocks and Win Your Inner Creative Battles by Steven Pressfield.

Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within by Natalie Goldberg.

Videos

[How to Build your Creative Confidence](#) | David Kelley

[On Being Creative](#) | Ira Glass

[TED Talks - Creativity](#)

Focus
[foh-kuh s]



Quick poll – Where are you now?



Activity:

***Shut Up
and
Write!***



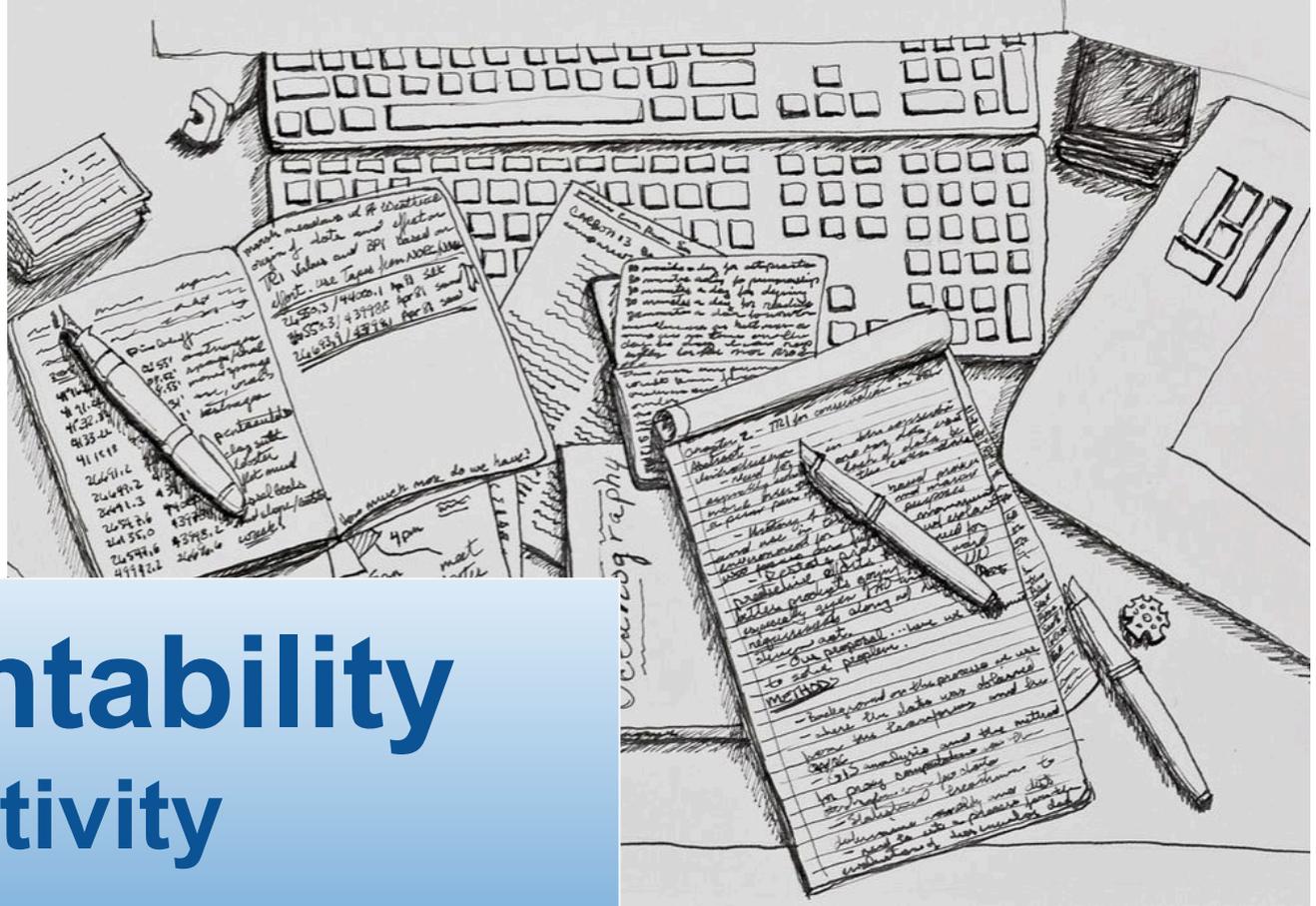
Image: Grace Fell <https://www.flickr.com/photos/kuriousoranj/361907520> CC BY-NC-SA

Times up!



Quick poll – Focus





Accountability & Productivity

Example of breakout rooms / chat boxes.

The image displays a screenshot of a breakout room interface, likely from a video conferencing platform. The interface is divided into four quadrants. The top half contains two 'Instructions' panels, and the bottom half contains two 'Activity #1 Chat' panels. The top banner features a collage of images including a harbor with boats and colorful geometric shapes. Each panel includes a toolbar with icons for text formatting and a dropdown menu showing '11'. The chat panels have a 'QUESTION' header and a text input area at the bottom. The bottom status bar shows 'Everyone' for both chat boxes.

Instructions - Breakout 2	Instructions - Breakout 2
11 [Text] [Text] [Text] [Image] [List]	11 [Text] [Text] [Text] [Image] [List]
Use this chat box for Activity #1.	Use this chat box for Activity #2.
Activity #1 Chat - Breakout 1 (Everyone)	Activity #1 Chat - Breakout 2 (Everyone)
QUESTION: Use this chat box for Activity #1	QUESTION: Use this chat box for Activity #2
[Input] [Send]	[Input] [Send]
Everyone	Everyone

Activity: Time to Share! (Breakout Rooms!)

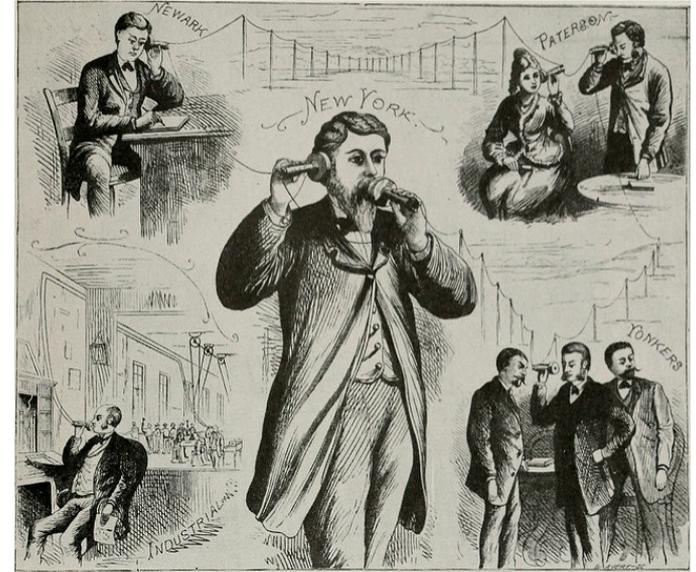
Activity #1: (chat window on the left)

Share and discuss *productivity* and *accountability* strategies for **starting, progressing with, and/or finishing** a writing project.

Activity #2: (chat window on right)

Together, select the most significant (or useful, or intriguing...) **2-3** strategies.

Have one person (from each group) volunteer to share those 2 or 3 strategies once the larger group reconvenes.



Productivity & Accountability To Go

<http://bit.ly/productivitytogo>

Productivity & Accountability To Go

Books

The Art of Possibility: Transforming Professional and Personal Life by Rosamund & Benjamin Zander.

Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free Productivity by David Allen and James Fallows.

The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business by Charles Duhigg.

The Upside of Stress: Why Stress Is Good for You, and How to Get Good at It by Kelly McGonigal.

Videos

[How to make stress your friend](#) | Kelly McGonigal

[TED Talks - Productivity](#)

Apps & Tools

Calm - for mindfulness and meditation to bring more clarity	Coffitivity - recreates the ambient sounds of a cafe to boost your creativity
DropBox - file hosting service	Evernote - note taking, organizing, and archiving
Focus Booster - set a timer, record your sessions and track your productivity	Google Drive - file hosting and sharing
Q10 - minimalist writing app designed to be a zen/like space where you can concentrate on your writing	Remember the Milk - to-do list that's everywhere you are: from your phone, to the web, to your Google apps, and more
Rescue Time - personal analytics service, helps you be more productive	Week Plan - personal online weekly planner combined with a schedule organizer, an online



Networking
[net-wur-king]

Quick poll – Networking



Activity: *Make a Connection*

Make a connection for future:

- Research/writing collaborations
- Accountability partners
- Mentors/mentees
- Other?

Use this link to fill out a quick form:

<http://bit.ly/Connect2Write>

Use this link to see responses and connect:

<http://bit.ly/Connect2WriteResponses>

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Thank You!

Slides, Resource Lists,
and Networking Info:

<http://bit.ly/WritingPracticeMar23>

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