

**Strategies to Overcome Writer's Block:
Give Yourself Permission to Write Garbage**

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GPCWC July 27 2018



There are three steps to producing writing that communicates: shape your idea, put it on the page, and make sure it's effective. Writer's block occurs when you try to do more than one step at a time. This practical class will separate the parts of the writing process and give you a list of specific actions to take when blocked so you can finish your project—fast and well!

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These pages comprise the handout for this lecture. If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to get in touch with me—I'd love to hear from you!

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WORKSHEET 1



1. My working title is _____.
2. My book genre is _____.
3. I will publish ()print book ()e-book ()both.
4. My book will have about _____ words.
5. My book will have about _____ manuscript pages.
6. *Divide item 4 by 1000 (# words in my book/1000).* I will need about _____ hours to write my book.
7. *Divide item 5 by 4 (# manuscript pages in my book/4).* I will need about _____ hours to write my book.

(items 6 and 7 should be identical)

8. Double item 6 or item 7. I will need about _____ hours total to create my book, which includes planning, writing, and editing.
9. Here are some ways I can find time to write:
 - _____.
 - _____.
 - _____.
 - _____.
 - _____.

10. I can find _____ hours to write each week.

- I can find _____ hours to write on Monday.
- I can find _____ hours to write on Tuesday.
- I can find _____ hours to write on Wednesday.
- I can find _____ hours to write on Thursday.
- I can find _____ hours to write on Friday.
- I can find _____ hours to write on Saturday.
- I can find _____ hours to write on Sunday.

11. I estimate it will take me _____ hours (item 8) to create my book.

12. I estimate I will have _____ hours (item 10) per week to create.

13. *~Divide total hours by hours/week. Round up.* Therefore I estimate it will take me _____ weeks to create my book.

14. I will start my book on _____.

15. I will finish my book on _____.

LOGS

DAILY LOG

DATE	TIME START	TIME STOP	WORDS	TOTAL WORDS	WORDS/HOUR

WEEKLY LOG

WEEK OF	TOTAL WORDS	TOTAL TIME WRITING	AVG WORDS/DAY	AVG WORDS/HOUR

Certificate of Intent

Book Title: _____
I am committing _____ hours per week to work on my book and will keep records of my progress.

Start Date _____
Finish Date _____

May God help me to keep this contract to the best of my ability so that I may write to His
Glory.

Name

Date



Certificates

WORKSHEET 2

1. Here are some reasons why my reader will benefit from reading my book:

- _____.
- _____.
- _____.
- _____.
- _____.

2. Here is my logline of 20-25 words that describes the essence of my book:

_____.

NONFICTION

3. Study your logline. List the 4-8 or so main topics of your book.

4. For each main topic, list the 3-5 or so subtopics.

5. For each subtopic, list the 3-5 or so points.

6. My book will have about _____ words (Worksheet 1 #4) and _____ pages (Worksheet 1 #5).

7. *Divide total pages by #topics. I will have about _____ pages for each topic. Divide this number by #subtopics. I will have about _____ pages for each subtopic. Divide this number by number of points. I will have about _____ pages for each point.*

8. Map book using Freemind and/or other tools.

FICTION

9. My book will have about _____ words (Worksheet 1 #4) and _____ pages (Worksheet 1 #5).

10. My book will have about _____ scenes. *Divide total words by #scenes. Each scene will have about _____ words.*

11. Study your logline. Using the list of story points and the Snowflake method, or other tools, list out the structure of your book.

TOOLS

Freemind:

Download:

<http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Download>

User Guide:

[http://freemind.sourceforge.net/FreeMind%20User%20Guide%20by%20Shailaja%20Kumar%20\(manual\).pdf](http://freemind.sourceforge.net/FreeMind%20User%20Guide%20by%20Shailaja%20Kumar%20(manual).pdf)

Tutorial:

Youtube tutorial at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=grut_2cardM

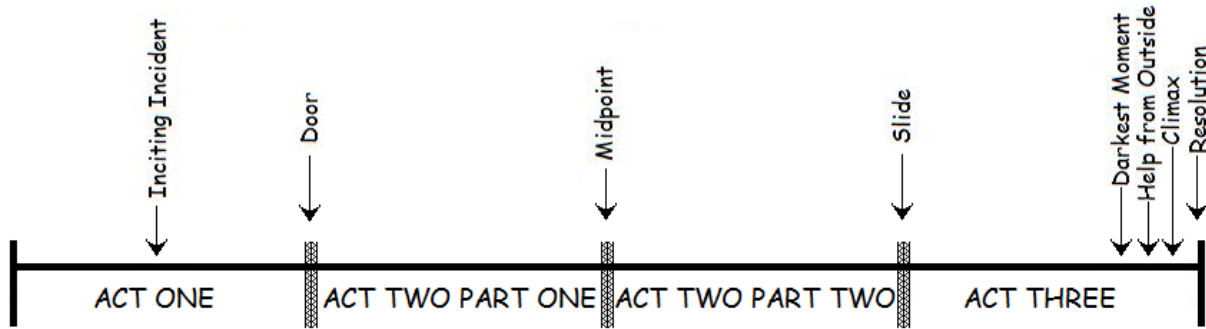
Snowflake:

Download:

<https://www.advancedfictionwriting.com/articles/snowflake-method/>

check out Randy's site - he has many good resources and information

STORY TEMPLATE



See my book *The Story Template* for more explanation.

POINT OF VIEW

POV can be first or third person, light, or deep penetration. When telling your story stay with only one character's inner reactions per scene.

See my Book *POV: Fiction's Powerful Emotional Bonding* for more explanation.

SCENE AND SEQUEL

Story can be described in two units: Outer Action (Scene) and Inner Response (Sequel). The Scene outline that you can paste at the top of your scene is:

POV:

Goal:

Conflict:

Disaster:

The Sequel outline that you can paste at the top of your sequel is:

POV:

Emotion:

Thought:

Decision:

Action:

See my book *How to Develop Story Tension* for more explanation.