

Designing a Writing Plan

How to Publish an Academic Article Workshops

The Society for History Education – The History Teacher

You Need a Plan

- 1) Select something you've already started writing.
- 2) Decide where you plan to do this work.
- 3) Set up a schedule with a deadline to submit the article.
- 4) Anticipate obstacles.
- 5) Document how you spend your time.

1) Start with something you've already worked on.

- Most people have something that they've already written
 - Academics - essay for a class, conference paper, thesis/dissertation chapter
 - Teachers – professional development project, lesson plan, action research plan, essay you wrote in credential or MA program
- How to choose?
 - Good places to start
 - revise/resubmit
 - professor ever recommended that you publish a paper you wrote
 - pick the piece that you think will take the least amount of work to get ready for publication

2) Decide where you plan to do this work.

- Pick a writing site.
- Which location has worked best for you when writing?
- You need a place where you can work daily.
- Figure out a regular writing site and a backup site.

3) Set up a schedule with a deadline.

- You need a daily writing schedule.
- Write it on a calendar.
- Do this weekly.
- Long blocks of time aren't necessary.
- Start with 15 minutes a day and see how it feels.
- Writing daily works.
 - You don't need huge chunks of time to publish an article.
- Give yourself a firm deadline to finish the article.

4) Anticipate obstacles.

- The key to following through on your article is to plan for dealing with interruptions and obstacles.
 - Kids, teaching, cleaning the house, need to read more, don't know how to start, I'm not good at this
- Think about solutions now, so you have a plan when these issues crop up.

5) Document how you spent your time.

- Each week, review the writing schedule that you planned.
- Consider what you accomplished and what you can improve.
- Do this weekly.