STAYING PRODUCTIVE

"Writing is a deliberate act; one has to make up one's mind to do it." ~James Britton

Allow Success—or, Just Do It!

Remember that getting something down, regardless of what it is, can jump-start your overall writing process.

♦ Permit yourself to engage in the process; don't dwell on the product
♦ Write in small increments of time, regularly and at a convenient time of day
♦ Prepare your workspace, work there consistently, and keep it free of distractions
♦ Identify and respect your rituals for writing (e.g. when and where do you write best?)
♦ Plan daily goals
♦ Give yourself time to reflect
♦ Engage in conversations with others
♦ Keep a writing log for questions and tangential thoughts

Persevere—or, Go With the Flow

Getting hung up on perfection is a sure-fire way to get writer's block.

♦ Allow mistakes
♦ Accept small successes
♦ Move to new subtopics when stumped
Avoid Avoidance

It might seem like your writing time is also a great time to clean your house, but it isn't!

✦ Don't get sidetracked
✦ Don't accept new writing tasks
✦ Don't allow failure

Writing Really is so Easy—Yeah, Sure!

Then why doesn't everyone do it? Just remember, momentum is key.

"Writing is easy. All you do is stare at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead." ~Gene Fowler

By Anne Maxham, Ph.D.
Director of Writing, Antioch University