THE WRITE STYLE: FIVE WRITING STYLES EVERY PROFESSIONAL SHOULD KNOW

BY KRYSTAL HART SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY QEP LUNCHEON FEBRUARY 19, 2014

Writing is something everyone knows how to do but few people know how to do...

PRESENTATION/CLASS RULES





WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

TODAY'S GOAL: 50 Tips in 50 Minutes

FIVE STYLES EVERY PROFESSIONAL SHOULD KNOW

Business/Corporate Writing

- Email Writing
- Media Writing
- Research Writing
- Speech Writing

BUSINESS/CORPORATE WRITING

- 1. Use the inverted pyramid technique
- 2. One idea per paragraph
- 3. Main point in first sentence of paragraph
- 4. No metaphors
- 5. Do not use emoticons
- 6. Avoid jargon and abbreviations
- 7. Use simple language
- 8. Omit unnecessary words
- 9. Read it aloud
- 10.Have someone else edit it

Read "Effective Business Writing: A Guide for Those Who Write on the Job" (2nd edition) by Maryann V. Piotrowski

EMAIL WRITING

- 11. Use CC an BCC appropriately
- 12. Create a clear subject line
- 13. Identify recipients appropriately
- 14. Stick to the topic and deliver it concisely
- 15. Utilize headers and bullets
- 16. Bold key information
- 17. Enable spell check
- 18. End with a call to action
- 19. Choose an appropriate salutation
- 20. Insert a signature block

Visit <u>www.dailywritingtips.com</u> weekly and implement one tip each day

MEDIA WRITING

21. Use the pyramid method

- 22. Start with your foundational questions
- 23. Answer the 5Ws and an H
- 24. Make your lead sentence strong
- 25. Include quotes when practical
- 26. Write descriptive captions for photos
- 27. Only ONE space after the period. Period.
- 28. Limit to one page when possible
- 29. Identify a contact person, email address, and telephone number
- 30. Create a catchy heading after writing the story

Read one newspaper or industry publication each day and rewrite one of the articles you read

RESEARCH WRITING

- 31. Use the hour glass technique
- 32. Begin and end with an outline
- 33. Review recent literature
- 34. Draft an executive summary
- 35. Identify and familiarize yourself with the appropriate style guide
- 36. Be specific; use concrete language, not abstract rhetoric
- 37. Avoid awkward grammar constructions
- 38. Eliminate unnecessary details
- 39. Cite properly

40. Proofread from end (conclusion) to beginning (introduction)

Review past research/assignments and create a list of instructor comments/ peer feedback. Incorporate those comments into future research/assignments.

SPEECH WRITING

41. Use the pinwheel approach

- 42. Consider your audience
- 43. Think about your rhetorical goals
- 44. Keep it short and simple (K.I.S.S.)
- 45. Repeat key insights
- 46. Incorporate humor sparingly
- 47. Employ your creative skills
- 48. End strong
- 49. Remember your verbal and nonverbal cues
- 50. Practice

Read "The Lost Art of the Great Speech: How to Write One – How to Deliver It by Richard Dowis

TEACH THE TEACHER

What did you learn?

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Read every day
- Write every day

Continue learning through professional development networks

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU

Krystal Hart

Public Relations Manager | City of Hinesville

Freelance Writer/Communications Consultant | Sparrow Communications, Inc.

<u>khart@cityofhinesville.org</u> or <u>krystalbhart@gmail.com</u>

Find Us on Facebook and Twitter!