

Goal Setting for Writing

How does a good writer make a plan to achieve their writing goals?

Set the goals

Make plans

Carry out the plan

Check progress

Change goals and plans as needed

Goals are most effective when...

they are specific, proximal, include a plan, and success is monitored.

Tip 1: Choosing Goals



Goals to Be Accomplished

Include goals set by the teacher and students' own goals for writing.

Example:

Teacher's goal is to....
My goal is to....



Goals for What to Say

Focus on writing type, mode of writing, specific features of a genre, or specific feature of text.

Example:

Write a letter about....



Goals for How to Write

Focus on planning, revising, or the writing environment.

Example:

Make an outline
Ask for feedback
Set time to write

Tip 2: Making Plans

These are the action plans that writers put into place to meet their goals.

Plans should be written next to each goal.



1

How will a goal be met?

If a writer's goal is "Get the information I need before writing", an action plan might be (1) locate information about what I don't know from an Encyclopedia, journal article, website, and one book.

2

When and where will the plan be put into action?

A writer may plan to go to the library with their collaborator on Tuesday after school to locate information from an Encyclopedia, journal article, website, and one book.

3

Practice Reflection

Writers should share their thinking with peers/teacher about why each plan will work. Ask what else you might do to be sure to meet your goal.

Tip 3: Carrying Out Plans

Remember to use the plan

by revisiting it each day when working on the writing assignment.

Check off each step

in a plan once it is completed.

Provide a visible sign of progress

on the writing assignment.



Action plans for writing goals are not useful if writers don't use them.

Tip 4: Checking



Feedback....

is essential to track progress on goals.
influences writers to trying new strategies
helps reset difficulty level of writing goals
establishes new goals once earlier ones are met

Tip 5: Changing Goals and Plans



- Check progress toward goal attainment.
- Keep written record of changes made to goals and plans.

The instructional procedures described in this infographic are effective and essential to goal setting. Monitor how these procedures work with your writers in your classroom.