



BONUS CONTENT

NaNoWriMo & Other writing Marathons

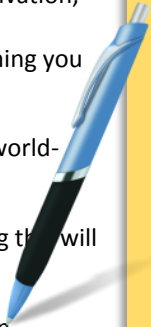


1. Register at the NaNoWriMo website October

2. Novel/Project Read



- Some kind of idea** of what you're going to write – story idea, genre, and reader expectations.
- A **plot outline** of some type (including start hooks, inciting incidents, mid-points, an idea of the climax, and other tension points).
- Main characters** – protagonist and antagonist at least, some thoughts about names, back story, motivation, archetypes. Profiles, images, questionnaires, charts – anything you consider a help.
- Setting** – places, time, some world-building.
- Possible **research** - if not doing this will stop writing
- Pre-writing work** such as brainstorming, character profiles, mind-mapping, index-carding, scene outlines, setting profiles.



5. Reporting

Collect statistics daily

1. Note wordcount*
2. Note mood

*Plan for days of less writing

Update NaNoWriMo profile with wordcount

Make your Progress Public with some of these options:

1. Blog wordcount widgets
2. Blog status update posts
3. Facebook updates
4. Twitter updates
5. Daily emails with writing buddies



6. Incentives

Collect the Event Badges & Award Certificates

Focus on the prizes and sponsor gifts

Reward yourself – Setup daily, weekly and end of challenge prizes for yourself.

Don't let these become a distraction or excuse from writing

4. Support Ready

- Non-judgemental writing companion** – a pet normally does the trick, but pot plants can substitute.
- Friends and Family** on-board – agree distraction-free writing times, and nature of allowable emergencies.
- NaNoWriMo Forums, Challenges, Writing Buddies, Wordsprints, Muncipal Meetups & Games



3. Environment Ready

- A place to write** away from distractions – bat cave, closet, library, studio, spare bedroom, pacific island resort, local dingy cafe table in the corner next to the toilets, bed (just me?).
- Shut out distractions (shut the door, turn off emails, Internet, phones etc).
- A plot outline of some type (including start hooks, inciting incidents, mid-points, an idea of the climax, and other tension points).
- Writing equipment** – computer, laptop, tablet, old-school notebooks, pens, index cards, sticky notes, cork boards, walls, file folders
- Select main **writing software**. Try out before November 1st. Helpful features - text editor (rich text), structure base ie some organisation capabilities into chapters or scenes, word count feature, auto-save, spell-check .



- Marathon or NaNo **spreadsheet tracking sheet** ready – if you like that sort of thing.
- Support consumables** – coffee or tea making facilities, bowls of your treats of choice (or excess Halloween treats) such as M&M's, chocolates, fruit, peanuts, etc.
- Others** – support apps like timers wordcount widgets for your blog.

