

Directions for Setting Your Daily Word Count Goal

This week, we're going to set a daily word count goal for writing your novel. You'll do this in four steps. By the end, you'll know how many words you should aim to write each day and have a clearer idea of how long it might take you to complete your novel. Ready to get started?

Step 1: How Many Words Are in a Novel?

1. **Research Word Counts:** Find out how many words are typically in a novel, a Young Adult (YA) novel, and your favorite book.
 - *Tip:* A typical YA novel is often around 50,000-80,000 words, but it can vary!
2. **Choose Your Goal:** Based on what you find, pick a rough target word count for your novel.

Step 2: How Many Words Do I Write in Fifteen Minutes?

1. **Set a Timer:** Write for exactly 15 minutes without stopping.
2. **Calculate Your Word Count:** At the end of 15 minutes, count how many words you wrote.
 - *Formula:* If you wrote 200 words in 15 minutes, then you're writing about 800 words per hour.
 - This will give you a sense of how quickly you write.

Step 3: How Many Words Will I Write Each Week During AI Writers Guild?

1. **Look at Your Schedule:** Plan how many days you'll write each week during AI Writers Guild.
 - *Example Schedule:* If you plan to write four days per week for 30 minutes each session, that's two hours of writing per week.
2. **Calculate Your Weekly Words:** Multiply your hourly word count by the number of hours you'll write each week.
 - *Example:* If you write 800 words per hour and write two hours per week, you'll write about 1,600 words each week.

Step 4: What's My Total Novel Word Count and Daily Goal?

1. **Estimate Your Novel Length:** Based on your goal from Step 1, decide how many words you want to write for your novel.
2. **Calculate How Long It Will Take:** Divide your novel's total word count by your weekly word count to see how many weeks it'll take to finish.
 - *Example:* If your novel is 50,000 words and you write 1,600 words per week, it'll take about 31 weeks.
3. **Set Your Daily Goal:** Divide your weekly word count by the number of days you'll write each week to get your daily word count goal.

- *Example:* If you plan to write four days a week and aim for 1,600 words per week, your daily goal would be about 400 words.

Now you have a daily word count goal to keep you on track. With this plan, you'll be able to see your progress and have a clearer path to finishing your novel. Happy writing, Trailblazers!

Mood Assignment for Trailblazers

Hey, Trailblazers! This assignment will help you understand how to create different moods in your writing. Here's a step-by-step guide to using mood to set the tone for your story's opening.

Mood is the “flavor” of your story—it’s the overall vibe or feeling that pulls readers into your world. Through carefully chosen words, you can make them feel excited, tense, joyful, or even nostalgic. Think of it as setting the emotional atmosphere for every scene!

Step 1: Upload Your Character Questionnaire into ChatGPT

- This will give ChatGPT all the details about your main character’s traits, personality, and motivations. Make sure you’ve completed your character questionnaire with all the important info.

Step 2: Upload Your World Questionnaire into ChatGPT

- This is where you tell ChatGPT about the setting—everything from the historical time period to the sights, sounds, and culture of your world.

Step 3: Describe the First Chapter Using the Hero’s Journey Structure

- Provide ChatGPT with a summary of your first chapter, based on the hero’s journey structure you’ve outlined. This will help ChatGPT understand the starting point of your character’s story and the initial tone.

Step 4: Set a Mood for ChatGPT to Write the Opening Paragraph

- Choose a mood from the list below to inspire your writing. This mood will guide how ChatGPT introduces your story in the first 200 words. Here are some mood options to consider:
 - Nostalgic
 - Adventurous
 - Suspenseful
 - Optimistic
 - Mysterious
 - Somber
 - Whimsical
 - Joyful
 - Tense
 - Reflective
 - Playful
 - Melancholic
 - Peaceful

- Brooding
- Hopeful
- Once you've picked a mood, ask ChatGPT to write the first 200 words of your story's first chapter using that mood.

Step 5: Write Your Own Paragraph in a Different Mood

- After reading ChatGPT's paragraph, take note of the mood it created. Highlight specific words and phrases that helped create this mood.
- Now, it's your turn! Write your own 200-word introduction in a different mood. Focus on using descriptive words and phrases that create the new mood.

Example:

- *ChatGPT's Mood:* Suspenseful – Words like “shadows,” “hidden,” and “heartbeat” created tension and mystery.
- *Your Mood:* Joyful – Use words like “bright,” “laughter,” or “sunlit” to show a lighthearted and happy tone.

By exploring different moods, you'll gain control over the tone of your writing and see how word choice shapes your reader's experience. Take your time and enjoy the process of setting the perfect mood!