

Free *Right*



the online free writing tool

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English 149, Prof. Liu, Fall 2014

What is Free Writing?

- A writing exercise
- Continuous, uninterrupted writing, usually for a set time
- No editing
 - prevents simultaneous editing and producing
- Minimize self-consciousness
 - prevents editing of “unacceptable” thoughts and feelings and strengthen one’s writing (Elbow)

Benefits of Free Writing

- A warmup exercise
 - May help generate useful ideas/starting points for projects or organizing one's thoughts (Reynolds)
- Alleviates writer's block
- Boosts general creativity
- Further develops written voice
 - helps one "write boldly" (Romano) ; "hitch your unconscious mind to your writing arm" (Brandes)

Why is Free *Right* better?

- Displays two words at a time to reduce self-editing
- What is written cannot be edited or revised
- Text is hidden to reduce self-consciousness
- Timer feature improves potential of routine use

Try it out

1. Visit the Free *Right* team page
2. Click the download link
3. Double click on “3 Minute Free Right.html”

Testing Procedure

- Pre-survey
- 3 minute, 7 minute, and 15 minute timer
- Post-survey

- Anonymous and confidential
- Writing prompts optional
- Testing space varied - *coffee shop/home, quiet/noisy, etc.*
- Only survey results analyzed, not produced text - *this ensured that the testers did not become self-conscious*

Results and Analysis

Pre-Survey Results

Post-Survey Results

- Everyone who took the Pre-Survey said they consider free writing to be beneficial
- Everyone who took the Post-Survey agreed that our Free *Right* tool was useful

Potential Improvements

- Interface adjustments
- Randomized prompts - multiple media types
- Ability to easily save the text that is produced
- True online availability

Works Cited

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