

JANUARY 2021, ISSUE 16

# PROVISIONAL PEN MONTHLY

The official e-newsletter of Provisional Pen Writing Services



## HERE WE ARE

It's the start of a new year, so this month is about moving forward. That doesn't mean we forget the extraordinary pain of a public health crisis we're still dealing with; it means that, despite the pain and fear we're experiencing, we don't stop. Working. Creating. Sharing our lives from a safe distance.

Read on to find out how Provisional Pen can help you brainstorm ideas for your next project, how to make writing from home work for you, and how hope can inspire you to create anew.

Keep on writing!

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# News @ *Provisional Pen* WRITING SERVICES

## **BRAINSTORM WITH US**

In the hectic rush of everyday life, it can be hard to find a dedicated listener for your writing ideas. Of course, your family and friends want to support you, but they're often just as busy as you are. Conversations typically focus on day-to-day concerns, which can mean you only get to discuss your future projects briefly. When you're taking on the challenge of something as complicated as a memoir, novel, or written collection, that's simply not enough.

Want to get in-depth with developing your writing project ideas? We'd love to help you brainstorm. Provisional Pen is dedicated to helping you further your writing project from initial thoughts to words on the page. With Writing Consultation Services, you can work with us on an individual basis without leaving home.

Please visit our  
[Writing Consultation](#)  
page  
or  
[contact us](#)  
to learn more!



# WRITING TIP OF THE MONTH

## WRITE AT HOME

Although the portability of writing is still an awesome quality, now is the time to settle in at home to write. Between the wintry weather and social distancing, spending long, leisurely stretches of time out and about isn't such a viable option at the moment. So, how can you adjust your writing routine to keep the creativity flowing at home?

### **If you sipped a coffee shop beverage or two while writing, bring the coffee shop (or at least the coffee) home.**

While your local coffee shop is usually a great place to get some work done, the current pandemic necessitates keeping visits brief. So, why not pop in for some carryout beverages? That way, you can still support one of your favorite businesses and maintain an aspect of your usual writing routine.

### **If you wrote during your commute, try "commuting" from home.**

Definitely not the same as the real thing, but creativity can help here. Think about your typical pre-pandemic commute: did you take a bus, train, taxi? What was that environment like? Crowded? Noisy? Involving conversation with a stranger?

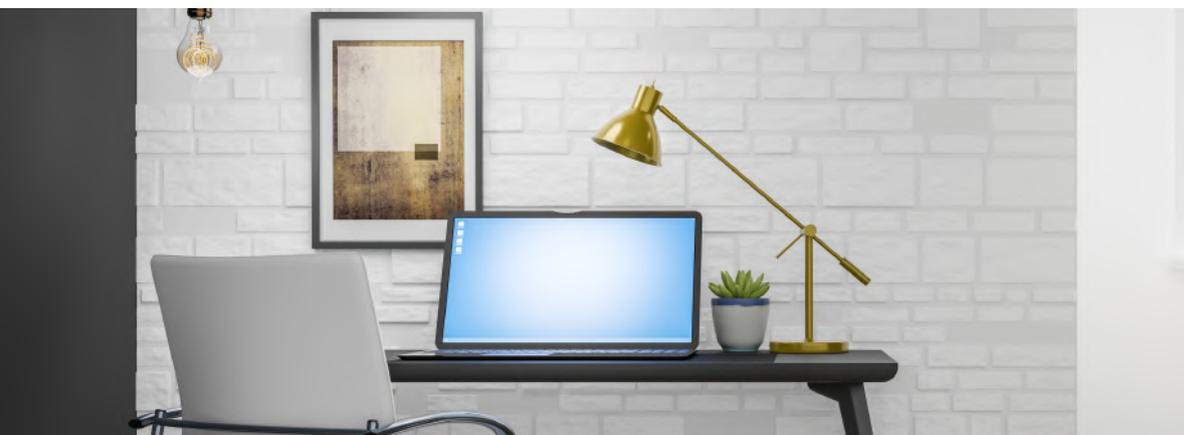
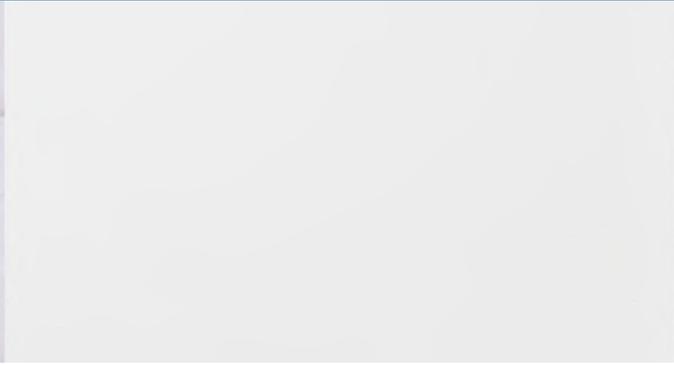
How did you write in that setting? By embracing the cacophony or tuning it out via earplugs or headphones? See if you can create this type of environment at home and respond to it in the same way. Sure, it's unlikely you'll strike up a conversation with a stranger at home, but you could always turn on the TV or a podcast for background noise.

### **If you wrote in an inspirational setting, recreate it at home.**

Quiet outdoor settings are still an option if you're willing to brave the cold. But, if you'd like to spend more time working without the fear of frostbite, why not bring nature in with some houseplants or another outdoorsy object?

If your old stomping grounds were indoors, your best bet is to redecorate your home workspace a bit. Browse online for affordable artwork and décor that remind you of your old writing place, or reconfigure what you already own. Better yet, if you're a maker, create your own inspirational décor. Don't forget to activate other senses, too. Aromatherapy and music can both work wonders in transporting you to another environment.

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[Check out "Designing Inspiration" for more tips!](#)



# MONTHLY WRITING INSPIRATION

## DARE TO HOPE AGAIN

Last year, hope was difficult to muster, let alone hold on to. And, unfortunately, we're not in a pandemic-free place yet. But, at least now we know more about how to stay safe while researchers and medical professionals work on getting COVID-19 under control.

So, what can we do with our somewhat restricted lives in the meantime? Plenty. Many people have taken up new hobbies or devoted more time to their old interests. We're looking at you, fellow writers.

Get those words out of your head and onto the page. And, when you're ready, start looking ahead to post-pandemic life. Dare to dream about the first outing you will go on, the time you will spend with loved ones. In person! Write about your plans, both exciting and ordinary. Allow yourself to hope again.



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