



Writing Prompts

Select one to five of the below prompts to write about during the 5Day - 5K Challenge. You can write about one topic for the entire challenge, or write about a different topic each day. Remember, the goal is to write at least 1,000 words for each of the five days, to end the challenge with at least 5,000 words. You can do this!

Write about . . .

A disaster your ancestors survived

Finding an enslaved ancestor on a slave inventory

An ancestor who fought in a war

The town where your ancestors lived

A plague or illness that claimed the lives of your ancestors

Meeting a DNA cousin for the first time

Your first trip to the archives

How you became interested in genealogy research

The role education played in your family's history

The role church played in your family's history

A famous person in your lineage

A scoundrel, murderer, thief in your lineage

Women in your family who held non-traditional jobs

Recurring jobs held by ancestors or relatives from one generation to the next

An ancestor who owned land

An enslaved ancestor who escaped slavery

5Day - 5K



An ancestor who was also an enslaver/slave owner

The first white or European ancestor you identified

Challenges using DNA to identify your white ancestors

Discovering an enslaved ancestor who participated in an uprising or massacre

An African American or mixed-race ancestor who passed for white

Your conversation with your oldest living relative

A photograph you discovered of an ancestor

A family story you've discovered to be untrue

Your journey to join a lineage society

An unusual experience you had at a cemetery while researching your ancestors

Finding your first (or most important) genealogy research document

An ancestor who invented something

An ancestor who became wealthy

An ancestor who was lynched or murdered

An ancestor who died mysteriously

An African American ancestor who held a high position in town

Migration journeys of your ancestors

An ancestor who owned a business

An ancestor who learned to read while enslaved

An African American ancestor who sued a white person

5Day - 5K



Writing Schedule

Email your completed writing schedule by September 15th to: genealogistswritingroom@writeyourlife.net

DAYS	Writing Schedule/Times	Total Words	Total Hours
Saturday			
Sunday			
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Total			

5Day - 5K



Writing Schedule Example

DAYS	Writing Schedule/Times	Total Words	Total Hours
Saturday	8 am - 10:30 am	1,042	4.5
	4 pm - 6 pm		
Sunday	3pm - 6pm	1,200	3
Monday	6 am - 7 am	925	2.5
	8 pm - 9:30 pm		
Tuesday	6 am - 7:15 am	1,467	3.25
	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm		
Wednesday	6 am - 7 am	1,198	2.5
	7 pm - 9:30 pm		
Total		5,832 words	15 hrs 45 mins