



## Structured Writing

vs.

## Freestyle Writing

There's more than one way to write your genealogy stories. The point is to WRITE! Here are two approaches to writing. Decide which works best for you.

**Structured writing** involves planning, most often outlining what you want to write about.

The structure of an \_\_\_\_\_ helps you clarify what you're writing about so you're not struggling to get the words out. Essentially, an outline helps you

- Get \_\_\_\_\_ on the topic you're writing about
- Write stories in a \_\_\_\_\_ way so readers can follow you
- Weed out \_\_\_\_\_ material and research facts
- Know where to \_\_\_\_\_ and where to end
- Include all \_\_\_\_\_ information you know of at the time
- See what \_\_\_\_\_

Starting your genealogy writing project with a simple outline helps keep your writing from being all over the place, which is ineffective in getting your point across.

If you prefer to free write without an outline, that's fine too.

**Freestyle writing** is basically writing what comes to you with no outline, no plan, and no \_\_\_\_\_.

Either approach will help you get to the \_\_\_\_\_; you just have to use the option that works best for you.

So if you're the kind of person who

- Draws a \_\_\_\_\_ as soon as you get ready to write
- Hates \_\_\_\_\_ and planning
- Struggle to write short sentences that \_\_\_\_\_ brief parts of your research

. . . then maybe freestyle writing is best for you.

Next time you sit down to write your assignment for The Genealogist's Writing Room, think about your preferred writing style. Neither one is wrong. It's all about what works best for you.

Knowing your natural writing \_\_\_\_\_ will help you get more writing done and really enjoy it, so that writing isn't a burden and a struggle.

Outlining resources:

[Scrivener](#)

[Write a book super fast](#)

[MindNode](#)



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