On Leisure Writing
By Leah Pease
Writing Center Staff

Most people in college normally do not write unless it is necessary, such as writing a paper for a class. Throughout my own college career, I have run into a good amount of people who do not participate in any type of leisure writing. By leisure writing, I mean journaling or writing poetry or even short stories.

What most people don’t know is that leisure writing can actually help someone become more successful. BusinessInsider.com posted an article on July 25, 2014, titled “An Entrepreneur Explains How Writing On Sundays Makes Him More Successful” that discusses five different reasons why leisure writing can make someone more successful. Leisure writing can:

1. Cultivate your authentic self.
2. Reaffirm your intentions.
3. Inspire and influence others.
4. Reduce your stress.

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“Just write every day of your life. Read intensely. Then see what happens. Most of my friends who are put on that diet have very pleasant careers.”

-Ray Bradbury
Student Spotlight: Ruby De La Peña

Ruby De La Peña is an honor student that transferred from Calhoun Community College in the fall of 2013. Ruby is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Alumni Association. She has received many awards including: Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship, Phi Theta Kappa Alumni Award of Appreciation, Athens State Phi Theta Kappa Alumni Scholarship, Athens State Golf Scholarship, Who’s Who Among Universities & Colleges, and the Athens State University Provost’s list for fall 2013 and spring 2014.

Ruby is an Elementary Education Major who is minoring in English Language Learners. After graduation Ruby wants to continue her education by getting a Master’s degree, and she would love to be a principal someday.

What challenges do you face when writing?

I have a hard time getting my thoughts together on paper. When it comes to writing papers, I don’t have a lot to say. I like to make my point without adding many details, and because of this my papers are very brief.

What kind of assignments has The Writing Center helped you with?

The Writing Center has helped me with research papers, article summaries, and field experience reflection papers.

What has been your experience with The Writing Center?

I have had a great experience with the writing center. It is hard for me to turn a paper in only to receive an hour’s worth of revisions to be done, but as heartbreaking as it is, it is worth it. I credit The Writing Center for the praise I receive on my graded papers. The Writing Center tutors, through their suggestions, have made me a better writer. I have noticed that each time I turn my papers into the writing center, I receive less comments for improvement, this tells me that I am learning from my mistakes, and that The Writing Center is a beneficial resource for me to use when I am writing a paper.

Create discipline.

Here are a few websites I have put together that can help with your daily, Sunday, or any day of the week writing:

OhLife.com—is a website that sends you a daily e-mail asking how your day was, and simply asks you to reply with a daily recount of your day or anything for that matter. OhLife will record it on their website in your own account, which you can then return to look at your reply at any time.

First50.wordpress.com—is a blog devoted to daily creative writing with at least 50 words of your own story in the comments of each prompt the blog owner, Virginia DeBolt, posts.

Sixwordmemoirs.com—is a website that challenges you to write your own memoir on a daily basis in only six words. Can you describe who you are in only six words?

Squidoo.com—is a create-your-own-page type of website that encourages your own creativity, whatever it is that you create, to be shared with the rest of the Squidoo community.

Don’t be afraid to write about anything on a daily basis, for it will help you in the long run. If you need help with any type of writing, the Writing Center is happy to help!

Fall 2014 Tutor Hours:

Monday: 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Wednesday: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Thursday: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed

[See the other side of this newsletter for a feature about writing for fun!]