

Keep on writing

It's a myth that all great writers were born that way. Writing stories, like any skill, is something you get better at the more you do it.

Here are some tips to help you polish your skills.

Ask people to read your stories and tell you what they think of them — good AND bad.

Go for walks and tell yourself stories about what you see.

Write a blog about something you're passionate about.

Keep a diary. Write in it when you feel happy. Write in it when you feel sad. Write in it when you're not sure how you feel. Write down your secrets (and hide them, obviously). Write down all the funny things you hear.

Write a sequel to a story you've enjoyed reading. What happens next to the characters?

Write sequels to your own stories, or turn them into plays.

Keep a notebook with you wherever you go so you can write whenever an idea comes to you. If you have a spare moment, take out your notebook and write the first thing that comes into your head.

Talk to people you've never talked to before at school.

Write long emails to your friends and family.

Ask friends and relatives to tell you about their lives. Can you find beginnings of new stories in there somewhere?

Whenever you see a word you don't understand, look it up in a dictionary and then use it in your writing.

Draw pictures of your thoughts.



Write for your school magazine or newspaper. If you don't have one, maybe you could start one?



Read a lot and write book reviews.

