

Contents

Preface

Acknowledgements

Introduction: Beyond reason and vanity	xi
	xiii
1 Introduction: Beyond reason and vanity	1
1 Why write for academic journals?	10
What is academic writing?	11
Can it be learned?	12
Is it innate?	13
Reasons for writing	14
Reasons for publishing	15
Internal and external drivers	15
Career implications	17
Research profile	19
What is 'research'?	19
Reasons for not writing	23
'I haven't done any research'	24
Intellectual capacity	25
Turgid writing	26
Narrow range	27
Pre-peer review	28
Guilt, fear and anxiety	29
Procrastination	31
The writing self	32
Team and collaborative writing	33
Barriers to writing	34
An integrative strategy	35
Checklist	36
Further reading	36
2 Targeting a journal	37
'That's interesting!'	38
Getting to know the journals	39

Judging journals	42
Choosing a journal	43
Peer reviewed or professional?	43
Instructions for authors	45
Journal resources for authors	45
Websites for authors	46
Journals that 'count'	46
Analysing a journal	47
Working out what is acceptable	52
Becoming a scholar of the journal	53
Analysing abstracts	54
Defining genre	60
Joining the conversation	61
Cloning or creativity?	63
Mediating	64
Personal negotiations	64
Contacting the editor	65
Editors' responses	67
Wait time	67
Checklist	68
Further reading	68
 3 Finding time to write	 69
Incremental writing	71
'Binge' or 'snack'?	72
A writing plan	73
Goal setting	76
30-minute slots	80
Monitoring progress	80
Creating a place for writing in your life	81
Becoming a regular writer	82
From process to programme	83
Checklist	85
Further reading	85
 4 Finding a topic and developing an argument	 86
Finding a topic	87
Conference presentations	90
Thesis	92
Freewriting	93
Generative writing	100
Writing to prompts	101
The writing 'sandwich'	103

Finding readers: critic, mentor, buddy and others	110
Finding a voice	111
Finding an argument	111
Formulating a hypothesis	112
Constructing an argument	113
The quality question	114
Calibrating your topic	115
Writing a working title	115
Checklist	116
Further reading	116
5 Outlining	117
Level 3 outlining	122
Allocating word lengths	126
Writing an abstract – Brown's 8 questions	126
Outlining a paper – Murray's 10 prompts	132
Calibrating your outline	133
Checklist	134
Further reading	134
6 Drafting	135
What constitutes good writing in journals?	136
Shaping sections	143
Streamlining	144
Turning headings into prompts	144
Internal critique	152
Checklist	153
Further reading	153
7 Revising the draft	154
Foregrounding generic aspects of academic style	155
Revising the outline	159
Revising drafts	160
Generative writing	162
Using the writers' group	163
The critical friend and the 'tame' subject expert	163
Revision processes	164
Iterative processes	164
Developing a concise style	165
Grammar	166
Polishing	167
The final revision	168

Checklist	168
Further reading	168
8 Dialogue and feedback	169
A writers' group	170
Writers' retreat	175
Dialogue	183
More freewriting and generative writing	184
Checklist	185
Further reading	185
9 Responding to reviewers' feedback	186
The 'grim reader'	187
Examples of reviewers' comments	189
Destructive feedback	193
What to do with hostile reviews	195
Contradictory comments	196
Rejection	196
Resubmission	199
Responding to feedback from editors and reviewers	200
What now?	201
Acceptance	202
Proofs	204
Offprints	205
Marketing your writing	206
What next?	208
Recycling and 'salami slicing'	209
Writing a book	210
Developing a programme for writing	211
Checklist	212
Further reading	212
<i>Bibliography</i>	213
<i>Index</i>	219