

Chapter 1 : Write | Define Write at www.nxgvision.com

Writing usually isn't a lucrative career, but it has been very fulfilling for me. He teaches creative writing at the university. Few people nowadays care about the art of letter writing.

Mesoamerican writing systems A stone slab with 3,000-year-old writing, the Cascajal Block, was discovered in the Mexican state of Veracruz, and is an example of the oldest script in the Western Hemisphere, preceding the oldest Zapotec writing dated to about 900 BC. The earliest inscriptions which are identifiably Maya date to the 3rd century BC, and writing was in continuous use until shortly after the arrival of the Spanish conquistadores in the 16th century AD. Maya writing used logograms complemented by a set of syllabic glyphs: Iron Age writing [edit] Cippus Perusinus, Etruscan writing near Perugia, Italy, the precursor of the Latin alphabet The sculpture depicts a scene where three soothsayers are interpreting to King Suddhodana the dream of Queen Maya, mother of Gautama Buddha. Below them is seated a scribe recording the interpretation. This is possibly the earliest available pictorial record of the art of writing in India. From Nagarjunakonda, 2nd century CE. The Phoenician alphabet is simply the Proto-Canaanite alphabet as it was continued into the Iron Age conventionally taken from a cut-off date of 1000 BC. This alphabet gave rise to the Aramaic and Greek alphabets. These in turn led to the writing systems used throughout regions ranging from Western Asia to Africa and Europe. For its part the Greek alphabet introduced for the first time explicit symbols for vowel sounds. The Brahmic family of India is believed by some scholars to have derived from the Aramaic alphabet as well. Several varieties of the Greek alphabet developed. The other variation, known as Eastern Greek, was used in present-day Turkey and by the Athenians, and eventually the rest of the world that spoke Greek adopted this variation. After first writing right to left, like the Phoenicians, the Greeks eventually chose to write from left to right. Greek is in turn the source for all the modern scripts of Europe. The most widespread descendant of Greek is the Latin script, named for the Latins, a central Italian people who came to dominate Europe with the rise of Rome. The Romans learned writing in about the 5th century BC from the Etruscan civilization, who used one of a number of Italic scripts derived from the western Greeks. Due to the cultural dominance of the Roman state, the other Italic scripts have not survived in any great quantity, and the Etruscan language is mostly lost. Latin, never one of the primary literary languages, rapidly declined in importance except within the Church of Rome. The primary literary languages were Greek and Persian, though other languages such as Syriac and Coptic were important too. The rise of Islam in the 7th century led to the rapid rise of Arabic as a major literary language in the region. Arabic script was adopted as the primary script of the Persian language and the Turkish language. This script also heavily influenced the development of the cursive scripts of Greek, the Slavic languages, Latin, and other languages [citation needed]. The Arabic language also served to spread the Hindu-Arabic numeral system throughout Europe. Renaissance and the modern era [edit] By the 14th century a rebirth, or renaissance, had emerged in Western Europe, leading to a temporary revival of the importance of Greek, and a slow revival of Latin as a significant literary language. A similar though smaller emergence occurred in Eastern Europe, especially in Russia. At the same time Arabic and Persian began a slow decline in importance as the Islamic Golden Age ended. The revival of literary development in Western Europe led to many innovations in the Latin alphabet and the diversification of the alphabet to codify the phonologies of the various languages. The nature of writing has been constantly evolving, particularly due to the development of new technologies over the centuries. The pen, the printing press, the computer and the mobile phone are all technological developments which have altered what is written, and the medium through which the written word is produced. Particularly with the advent of digital technologies, namely the computer and the mobile phone, characters can be formed by the press of a button, rather than making a physical motion with the hand. The nature of the written word has recently evolved to include an informal, colloquial written style, in which an everyday conversation can occur through writing rather than speaking. Written communication can also be delivered with minimal time delay e-mail, SMS, and in some cases, with an imperceptible time delay instant messaging. Writing is a preservable means of communication. Some people regard the growth of multimedia literacy as the first step towards a postliterate

society. Writing material There is no very definite statement as to the material which was in most common use for the purposes of writing at the start of the early writing systems. In the latter case there is this peculiarity, that plaster sic , lime or gypsum was used along with stone, a combination of materials which is illustrated by comparison of the practice of the Egyptian engravers, who, having first carefully smoothed the stone, filled up the faulty places with gypsum or cement, in order to obtain a perfectly uniform surface on which to execute their engravings. To the engraving of gems there is reference also, such as with seals or signets. The tablets of the Chaldeans are among the most remarkable of their remains. Wooden tablets are found pictured on the monuments; but the material which was in common use, even from very ancient times, was the papyrus. This reed, found chiefly in Lower Egypt, had various economic means for writing, the pith was taken out, and divided by a pointed instrument into the thin pieces of which it is composed; it was then flattened by pressure, and the strips glued together, other strips being placed at right angles to them, so that a roll of any length might be manufactured. Writing seems to have become more widespread with the invention of papyrus in Egypt. That this material was in use in Egypt from a very early period is evidenced by still existing papyrus of the earliest Theban dynasties. As the papyrus, being in great demand, and exported to all parts of the world, became very costly, other materials were often used instead of it, among which is mentioned leather, a few leather mills of an early period having been found in the tombs. With the invention of wood-pulp paper , the cost of writing material began a steady decline.

Chapter 2 : What Is Writing? | Writing | EnglishClub

A writer may write for personal enjoyment or use, or for an audience of one person or more. The audience may be known (targeted) or unknown. Taking notes for study purposes is an example of writing for one's self.

Descriptive passages in fiction Example: The iPhone 6 is unexpectedly light. While size of its screen is bigger than those of the iPhones that came before, it is thinner, and its smooth, rounded body is made of aluminum, stainless steel, and glass. This is an example because it describes aspects of the phone. It includes details such as the size, weight, and material. So you just brought home a shiny new smartphone with a smooth glass screen the size of your palm. The first thing you will want to do when purchasing a new cell is buy a case. Cracking your screen is an awful feeling, and protection is inexpensive when you compare it to the costs of a new phone.

Persuasive Persuasive writing tries to bring other people around to your point of view. Unlike expository writing, persuasive writing contains the opinions and biases of the author. It is often used in letters of complaint, advertisements or commercials, affiliate marketing pitches, cover letters, and newspaper opinion and editorial pieces. Persuasive writing is equipped with reasons, arguments, and justifications. In persuasive writing, the author takes a stand and asks you to agree with his or her point of view. It often asks for readers to do something about the situation this is called a call-to-action. Opinion and editorial newspaper pieces. Reviews of books, music, movie, restaurants, etc. Although it is expensive to host the Olympics, if done right, they can provide real jobs and economic growth. This city should consider placing a bid to host the Olympics. According to legend, the Olympics were founded by Hercules. Now almost countries participate in the Games, with over two million people attending. So cities from Boston to Hamburg begin considering their bid to be a host city more than 10 years in advance. All of these statements are facts.

Narrative A narrative tells a story. There will usually be characters and dialogue. The author will create different characters and tell you what happens to them sometimes the author writes from the point of view of one of the characters—this is known as first person narration. Novels, short stories, novellas, poetry, and biographies can all fall in the narrative writing style. Simply, narrative writing answers the question: A person tells a story or event. Has characters and dialogue. Has definite and logical beginnings, intervals, and endings. Often has situations like actions, motivational events, and disputes or conflicts with their eventual solutions.

Writing is a medium of human communication that represents language and emotion with signs and symbols. In most languages, writing is a complement to speech or spoken language.

All themes What is writing? Humans seem to have long felt the need to express themselves. Cave paintings from thousands of years ago show the habitat and experiences of the earliest humans. But as humans began to live in larger and larger settlements and communities the need to record and manage information, rather than just express it, grew. Origins of writing The origins of writing are largely unclear. Writing systems were created independently all over the world. The earliest we know of were developed in the Middle East around 5,000 years ago. It has been suggested that some of these systems may have influenced others, but this has not been proved. These forms of writing look completely different, follow different rules and are often read in completely different ways. But they all perform the same basic function. They are all a visual means of recording language. Knowledge of some early scripts invented in certain regions was picked up by peoples living in surrounding areas. They would then adopt and adapt them to their own needs and language. Chinese, for example, was adopted in Japan and Korea, though it had to be altered to apply to the languages spoken there. Recording information Methods of recording information have varied over time and place. Not all sophisticated societies have developed writing systems and not all methods of recording information require writing. The Inca empire of South America was at its height in the sixteenth century AD and held power over a huge area that stretched from modern Ecuador and Peru, to areas of Bolivia and Chile. It was a complex civilisation, but did not develop a writing system. Instead information was stored using quipu. These were groups of strings of different colours that were knotted to register census statistics, economic records and taxation. It has also been suggested that quipu recorded mythology and history. They were read by the quipu-masters who tied the knots. In some parts of Peru and Bolivia, similar recording devices are still used. The power of writing Today, the scripts we use bear little resemblance to each other if we look at them on a page. Arabic looks nothing like the Latin alphabet, for example, but as systems of recording information, neither of them requires the author to be with us, or a very good memory, if we want to understand the message recorded in them. If we can read the script we can understand the message. Writing is therefore among the most powerful tools we have. Some ancient peoples considered it so important and so powerful that they believed it was invented by gods, deities or mythical heroes. Some ancient Egyptians, for example, believed that writing was the creation of the god Thoth.

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The writing context requires writers to have a sense of the reader's expectations and an awareness of conventions for a particular piece of writing. The context of the piece further determines the appropriate tone, level of vocabulary, kind and placement of evidence, genre, and sometimes even punctuation.

College courses demand many different kinds of writing that employ a variety of strategies for different audiences. You may be required to write long essays or short answers in response to examination questions. You may be asked to keep a journal, write a lab report, and document the process you use to perform research. You may be called upon to create a design document, write a business report or plan, and report on the results of research. These are only some of the many types of writing you may engage in throughout your college career. College writing, also called academic writing, is assigned to teach you the critical thinking and writing skills needed to communicate in courses and in the workplace. To acquire and practice these skills, you are asked to write many different types of assignments under different circumstances. Sometimes your instructor will assign a topic and define the audience; sometimes you will have to define and limit the topic and audience yourself. In any case, college writing teaches you about the series of decisions you must make as you forge the link between your information and your audience. For example, you must decide what sources of information you will use, how you will interpret this information, how you will organize your ideas, and what words and strategies you will use to explain your ideas. Your college writing experience will teach you about the writing process and about writing for particular disciplines, such as those in the liberal arts and business management specializations. College writing offers you the opportunity to learn many different strategies for approaching writing tasks so that you may communicate how much you know and understand about a subject to a particular audience, usually your classmates or your instructor. The expository nature of college writing, with its emphasis on the knowledge you gain in your college courses and through research, makes such writing different from your previous writing and perhaps more challenging. Instructors may expect your essays to contain more research, show more awareness of differing points of view, and even reflect more sophisticated expository techniques, such as argument and persuasion. The main sources of the content of your college writing will be assigned textbook readings, library books and articles, your experience, and even field studies you might have designed. You will often use the skills you learn in college writing throughout your career. The purpose of college writing is to teach critical thinking skills. College writing is expository writing. Expository writing focuses on information and the manipulation of that information. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without prior written permission of the copyright holder. All links to external sites were verified at the time of publication. UMUC is not responsible for the validity or integrity of information located at external sites.

Chapter 5 : Write | Definition of Write by Merriam-Webster

What is writing? Writing is a method of representing language in visual or tactile form. Writing systems use sets of symbols to represent the sounds of speech, and may also have symbols for such things as punctuation and numerals.

By definition, the modern practice of history begins with written records. Evidence of human culture without writing is the realm of prehistory. Mesopotamia[edit] While neolithic writing is a current research topic, conventional history assumes that the writing process first evolved from economic necessity in the ancient Near East. Writing most likely began as a consequence of political expansion in ancient cultures, which needed reliable means for transmitting information, maintaining financial accounts, keeping historical records, and similar activities. Around the 4th millennium BC, the complexity of trade and administration outgrew the power of memory, and writing became a more dependable method of recording and presenting transactions in a permanent form. Louvre Museum Archaeologist Denise Schmandt-Besserat determined the link between previously uncategorized clay "tokens", the oldest of which have been found in the Zagros region of Iran, and the first known writing, Mesopotamian cuneiform. Later they began placing these tokens inside large, hollow clay containers bulla, or globular envelopes which were then sealed. They next dispensed with the tokens, relying solely on symbols for the tokens, drawn on clay surfaces. To avoid making a picture for each instance of the same object for example: In this way the Sumerians added "a system for enumerating objects to their incipient system of symbols". By the end of the 4th millennium BC, [11] the Mesopotamians were using a triangular-shaped stylus pressed into soft clay to record numbers. This system was gradually augmented with using a sharp stylus to indicate what was being counted by means of pictographs. Round-stylus and sharp-stylus writing was gradually replaced by writing using a wedge-shaped stylus hence the term cuneiform , at first only for logograms , but by the 29th century BC also for phonetic elements. Around BC, cuneiform began to represent syllables of spoken Sumerian. About that time, Mesopotamian cuneiform became a general purpose writing system for logograms, syllables, and numbers. Scripts similar in appearance to this writing system include those for Ugaritic and Old Persian. The last cuneiform scripts in Akkadian discovered thus far date from the 1st century AD. Elamite scripts[edit] Over the centuries, three distinct Elamite scripts developed. Proto-Elamite is the oldest known writing system from Iran. In use only for a brief time c. The Proto-Elamite script is thought to have developed from early cuneiform proto-cuneiform. The Proto-Elamite script consists of more than 1, signs and is thought to be partly logographic. Linear Elamite is a writing system attested in a few monumental inscriptions in Iran. It was used for a very brief period during the last quarter of the 3rd millennium BC. It is often claimed that Linear Elamite is a syllabic writing system derived from Proto-Elamite, although this cannot be proven since Linear-Elamite has not been deciphered. Several scholars have attempted to decipher the script, most notably Walther Hinz and Piero Meriggi. The Elamite cuneiform script was used from about to BC, and was adapted from the Akkadian cuneiform. The Elamite cuneiform script consisted of about symbols, far fewer than most other cuneiform scripts. Cretan and Greek scripts[edit] Further information: Linear B , the writing system of the Mycenaean Greeks , [12] has been deciphered while Linear A has yet to be deciphered. The sequence and the geographical spread of the three overlapping, but distinct writing systems can be summarized as follows: Oracle bone script and Bronzeware script The earliest surviving examples of writing in Chinaâ€”inscriptions on so-called " oracle bones ", tortoise plastrons and ox scapulae used for divinationâ€”date from around BC in the late Shang dynasty. A small number of bronze inscriptions from the same period have also survived. The earliest known hieroglyphic inscriptions are the Narmer Palette , dating to c. The hieroglyphic script was logographic with phonetic adjuncts that included an effective alphabet. Writing was very important in maintaining the Egyptian empire, and literacy was concentrated among an educated elite of scribes. Only people from certain backgrounds were allowed to train to become scribes, in the service of temple, pharaonic, and military authorities. This site was also home to a temple of Hathor, the "Mistress of turquoise". A later, two line inscription has also been found at Wadi el-Hol in Central Egypt. Based on hieroglyphic prototypes, but also including entirely new symbols, each sign apparently stood for a consonant rather than a word: It was not until the 12th to 9th centuries, however, that

the alphabet took hold and became widely used. Indus script Indus script refers to short strings of symbols associated with the Indus Valley Civilization which spanned modern-day Pakistan and North India used between 2600 and 1900 BC. In spite of many attempts at decipherments and claims, it is as yet undeciphered. The script is written from right to left, [18] and sometimes follows a boustrophedonic style. Since the number of principal signs is about 400, [19] midway between typical logographic and syllabic scripts, many scholars accept the script to be logo-syllabic [20] typically syllabic scripts have about 50 signs whereas logographic scripts have a very large number of principal signs. Several scholars maintain that structural analysis indicates that an agglutinative language underlies the script. Central Asia[edit] In 1907, archaeologists discovered that there was a civilization in Central Asia that used writing c. 500 BC. An excavation near Ashgabat, the capital of Turkmenistan, revealed an inscription on a piece of stone that was used as a stamp seal. The Phoenician writing system was adapted from the Proto-Canaanite script sometime before the 14th century BC, which in turn borrowed principles of representing phonetic information from Hieratic, Cuneiform and Egyptian hieroglyphs. This writing system was an odd sort of syllabary in which only consonants are represented. This script was adapted by the Greeks, who adapted certain consonantal signs to represent their vowels. The Cumae alphabet, a variant of the early Greek alphabet, gave rise to the Etruscan alphabet and its own descendants, such as the Latin alphabet and Runes. Other descendants from the Greek alphabet include Cyrillic, used to write Bulgarian, Russian and Serbian, among others. The Phoenician system was also adapted into the Aramaic script, from which the Hebrew and the Arabic scripts are descended. The Tifinagh script Berber languages is descended from the Libyco-Berber script, which is assumed to be of Phoenician origin. Mesoamerica[edit] A stone slab with 3,000-year-old writing, known as the Cascajal Block, was discovered in the Mexican state of Veracruz and is an example of the oldest script in the Western Hemisphere, preceding the oldest Zapotec writing by approximately 500 years. Of several pre-Columbian scripts in Mesoamerica, the one that appears to have been best developed, and the only one to be deciphered, is the Maya script. The earliest inscription identified as Maya dates to the 3rd century BC. South America[edit] The Incas had no known script. Their quipu system of recording information—based on knots tied along one or many linked cords—was apparently used for inventory and accountancy purposes and could not encode textual information. One of the slabs contains 4 groups of pictographs divided by lines. The origin and the timing of the writings are disputed, because there are no precise evidence in situ, the slabs cannot be carbon dated, because of the bad treatment of the Cluj museum. There are indirect carbon dates found on a skeleton discovered near the slabs, that certifies the 1000 BC period. Modern importance[edit] In the 21st century, writing has become an important part of daily life as technology has connected individuals from across the globe through systems such as e-mail and social media. Literacy has grown in importance as a factor for success in the modern world. In the United States, the ability to read and write are necessary for most jobs, and multiple programs are in place to aid both children and adults in improving their literacy skills. For example, the emergence of the writing center and community-wide literacy councils aim to help students and community members sharpen their writing skills. These resources, and many more, span across different age groups in order to offer each individual a better understanding of their language and how to express themselves via writing in order to perhaps improve their socioeconomic status. Other parts of the world have seen an increase in writing abilities as a result of programs such as the World Literacy Foundation and International Literacy Foundation, as well as a general push for increased global communication.

Chapter 6 : History of writing - Wikipedia

Quotations "Writing, at its best, is a lonely life" [Ernest Hemingway speech, accepting the Nobel Prize for Literature] "I think writing does come out of a deep well of loneliness and a desire to fill some kind of gap" [Jay McInerney].

Chapter 7 : What is writing?

What Makes Writing So Important? Writing is the primary basis upon which your work, your learning, and your intellect

will be judgedâ€”in college, in the workplace, and in the community. Writing expresses who you are as a person.

Chapter 8 : Writing | Definition of Writing by Merriam-Webster

"Writing is not necessarily something to be ashamed of, but do it in private and wash your hands afterwards." (Robert Heinlein, science fiction writer) "Writing is utter solitude, the descent into the cold abyss of oneself."

Chapter 9 : What is College Writing?

to produce as author or composer: to write a sonnet; to write a symphony. to trace significant characters on, or mark or cover with writing. to cause to be apparent or unmistakable: Honesty is written on his face.