

THE WRITER'S TOOLBOX

By Susan Regier

*10+1 Invaluable Tools
for Every Writer*

Hello!

I am a writer. I've always been a writer!

I started taking writing courses back in the '80s (by correspondence—that's snail mail) and published my first children's mystery story in Lighthouse Magazine soon after. I went on to publish many works, including fiction and nonfiction, for both children and adults before opening my copywriting business in 1997.



Over the years, I've worked with start-ups and national brands to write their marketing messages and website content. I also taught creative writing for beginners and advanced levels at our local college for several years. Today, I continue to write copy, marketing content, and fiction—and I ghostwrite for those who remain nameless. I lead writer's retreats in my home and teach private students virtually in my creative writing program.

Over the years, technology has changed and made it easier to write. I no longer have to type every word on my old blue Remington, ensuring that I don't have more than five corrections on a page—the computer era was obviously a huge blessing. And I don't have to write longhand in pencil, but I still prefer to—with my special Blackwing 602s.

So, my writer's toolbox has changed over the years, and I wanted to share my top 10 tools with you. If you're a "writer who writes," then you'll want to check these out.

Susan Regier



1

Scrivener

The go-to app for writers of all kinds, used every day by best-selling novelists, screenwriters, nonfiction writers, students, academics, and more. Scrivener won't tell you how to write—it simply provides everything you need to start writing and keep writing.

scrivener.com

2

reMarkable

A tablet that replaces your notebooks and printouts with a digital device that feels just like writing on paper.

Converts your handwriting to typed text. No distractions. More focus.

remarkable.com

3

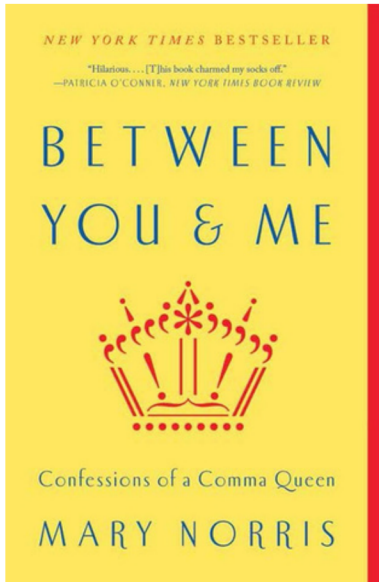
Blackwing 602 Pencils

Many writers prefer writing in longhand with a good pencil. The iconic Blackwing 602 was the pencil of choice for John Steinbeck, Chuck Jones, and countless others. It features a firm and smooth graphite core that helps deliver its promise of “Half the Pressure, Twice the Speed.”

blackwing602.com



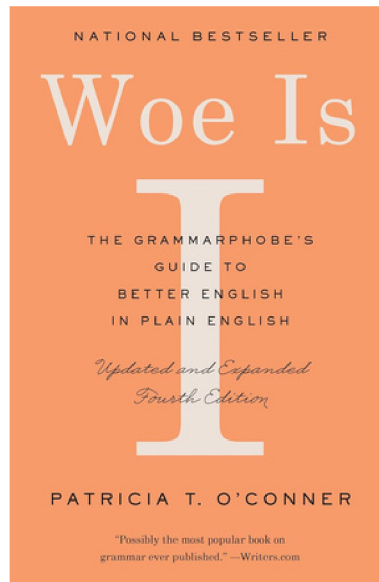
4



Mary Norris has spent more than three decades working in The New Yorker's copy department. In this book, she brings her vast experience, good cheer, and irreverence, to help the rest of us in a boisterous language book as full of life as it is of practical advice.

[https://
tinyurl.com/33udx2rn](https://tinyurl.com/33udx2rn)

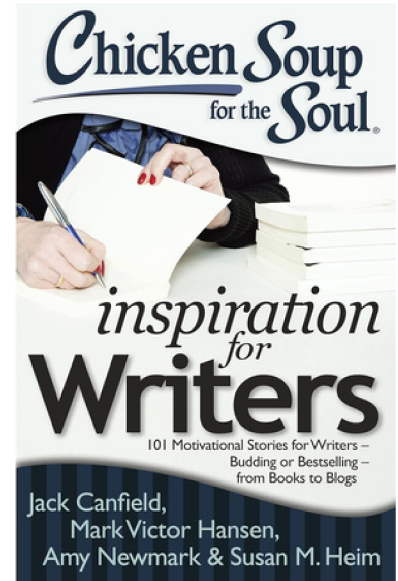
5



This is a revised and updated edition of the iconic grammar guide for the 21st century. I also own the 1996 edition—it's been a constant writing companion for decades.

[https://
tinyurl.com/2j3vuxx9](https://tinyurl.com/2j3vuxx9)

6



From budding bloggers to bestselling novelists, your fellow writers share their best advice, writing tips, time management strategies, and personal ups and downs in the business of writing. These stories will motivate you, entertain you, and keep those words flowing!

[https://
tinyurl.com/ydw29ku3](https://tinyurl.com/ydw29ku3)



7

Notta

Excellent audio and video transcriptions powered by AI. Use Notta to automatically transcribe and summarize your meetings, interviews, and recorded notes into text.

<https://www.notta.ai/en>

8

Headline Analyzer

This free tool helps you write better titles. It quickly tells you the emotional marketing value of your headlines so you can rewrite them to improve them.

You'll discover which emotion impacts your readers:

intelligence, empathetic, or spiritual.

<https://www.aminstitute.com/headline>





9

Canva

A free online graphic design platform that provides tools to enhance your written content for creating beautiful social media graphics, presentations, posters, infographics, résumés, and more. Use the whiteboard feature to get your ideas flowing.

<https://www.canva.com>

10

Grammarly

Ensure everything you write comes across the way you intend. Eliminate grammar and spelling errors and detect plagiarism.

<https://www.grammarly.com>

PROOFREAD



SPELLING



GRAMMAR



ACCURACY

11

BONUS: Writing Resources & Contests

Many resources are available to help you improve your writing. Here are a few of my favourites.

CBC Writing Contests: <https://www.cbc.ca/books/canadawrites>

Creative Writing Program: <https://writeagreatstory.com>

Literary Market Place: <https://literarymarketplace.com>

NaNoWriMo: <https://nanowrimo.org>

Power Thesaurus: <https://www.powerthesaurus.org>

Soulful Writer's Retreat for Women: <https://soulfulwritersretreat.com>

The Measure of Things: <https://www.themeasureofthings.com>

Writer's Digest: <https://www.writersdigest.com>

Writer's Market: <https://writersmarket.com>

Let's talk...

If you're ready for a new perspective and want to discuss your options, let's talk. Give me a call or send me an email or text and we can schedule a time to chat. I'd love to hear from you!

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