

Walter Jon found this wonderful [article](#) in the Guardian where writers talk about techniques that work, and things that don't. Check it out.

I'll immodestly add my own list:

Write every day. This is a job.

Do something physical each day. Your brain will work better.

Torture your characters and give them flaws.

Find a few virtues in your bad guys(s) grey is interesting.

If you're not sure about a section read it aloud.

Know where you're going before you start.

Once a story is ended -- END IT and then run for the credits. Don't drag out the conclusion.

Use dialogue tags -- John said, Susan said. Please don't have John ejaculate when he speaks.

