

## Lightning Writing Challenge meetings

At our January meetings, we enjoy a special time of creativity.

1. **Seven starter phrases** are kept secret until presented at the meeting.
2. We skip the usual mini-training series and keynote speaker, so after introductions of visitors and announcements, the **seven starter phrases** are displayed on the front wall screen and 2 overhead, computer monitors.
3. Members and visitors have a few minutes to ponder and select favorites that fire their creative imaginations.
4. After jotting down their favorites, everyone grabs some of the ample goodies and coffee or teas provided by our OCACW Hospitality Team.
5. Then we all scatter around the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting rooms that surround The Heights; claiming couches, bistro tables, stage steps, or a variety of other tables and chairs throughout The Heights and nearby rooms.
6. Our 45 minutes of thinking and scribbling (or typing on laptops) always seems to end too soon, but that gives us ideas to continue writing about later.
7. As the little “recess bell” is rung around the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, everyone returns the grab more goodies and a comfy chair or couch in The Heights.
8. Many people bravely share their writing drafts: essays, thoughts, poems, short stories, even some novel ideas begin from one of the **seven starter phrases**.
9. In the spirit of enjoying our God-given creativity, we applaud everyone’s attempts – however incomplete in the allotted 45 minutes.

If you enjoy a challenge, or just need a little spark to get your creativity flowing again; try out some of our past sets of **seven starter phrases**.

- ⇒ January [Lightening Writing Challenge 2008](#)
- ⇒ January [Lightening Writing Challenge 2009](#)
- ⇒ January Lightening Writing Challenge 2010 (to be posted in Feb)
- ⇒ Watch for more here in future years ...