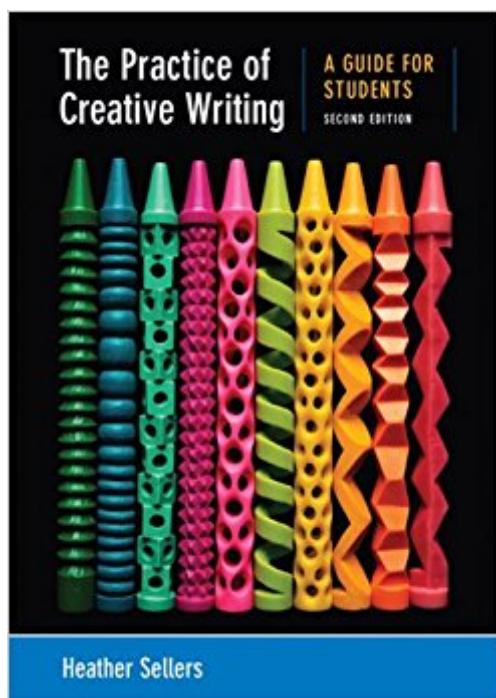


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# The Practice Of Creative Writing: A Guide For Students



## Synopsis

Designed for all students in the introductory course, *The Practice of Creative Writing* has a simple message: you can do this, and it's worthwhile to try. Heather Sellers, who writes in multiple genres herself, has developed an approach that focuses on the habits and strategies that produce good writing in any genre: Images; Energy; Tension; Pattern; Insight; and Revision. She teaches students how to focus, to generate lots of writing, and to get to the good stuff — the powerful imagery and the stories they really want to tell. She provides opportunities to be playful and to experiment at the same time she teaches students the importance of discipline and craft. This new edition gives students even more support and encouragement, with earlier attention to structure — because students struggle with this strategy — and with expanded coverage of revision and a wider range of genres they can use as generative tools.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As someone that enjoys writing book reviews and sharing thoughts with other possible readers, I find it a responsibility to share my thoughts toward works that I feel extremely passionate about. With this text book, I find it very passion-driven. The techniques used to demonstrate improved writing techniques of any style (short story, memoir, fiction, poetry, etc) are paramount to any writer seeking success. I rented this book through the Student book rental program. I attend the University of Southern New Hampshire as a Creative Writing Major. With a class aimed toward improving my writing skills, it is absolutely paramount for me to have a text book that is not only "reader-friendly", but also explains the very basics of how other successful writers become

published successes; and, how to harness their styles by avoiding forms of writing that can make a very decent, powerful piece of writing become repetitive, dreary, or simply repetitive in language. This book provides insights into what specific dynamics of writing that are effective, followed by excerpts from successful writers and how the author uses that particular technique for a specific type of writing. Example: My car came to a sudden halt as the stop sign came into view. This book offers a way to turn a simple sentence into one that carries much more depth, passion, and of course meaning: my heart thudded in my chest as I pushed the accelerator to the floor. My car screamed in protest as I pushed it far past its limitation. I knew I didn't stand a chance of making it on time, but I had to try. Suddenly, I moved my right foot to the brake, slamming it as hard as I could. Beneath the overgrown branches of an old oak tree, stood a rusty old stop sign. Its presence merely a reminder that I shouldn't even try. As the sun began to reflect on its jagged edges, the push in me resurfaced. Once again, I slammed in the accelerator, driven by both stubbornness and determination." This adds a lot to a story, but if this book were not required as part of my class, I would be reading it independently. I give it an A+ even though my class isn't finished with it yet because it's done so much for me and 25 other students. I have no doubt that it could be the very thing you're looking for if you're hoping to be published one day, or simply seeking self-fulfillment by improving your own writing. I hope this review helps. It's already helped so many others!

Rented to use for a second semester college creative writing class, then the instructor decided to teach without a text. Reading on my own and gaining a great deal of good information.

#### College text

Ms. Sellers speaks to creative writers or those practicing in a way that puts you at ease but also doesn't let up on you. She seems to know how beginners feel and explains away some bad habits as really fears in disguise. There are plenty of examples to read along with the lesson she is presenting. I do believe that by the end of the book and class I will be a much better writer with a better understanding of myself and my craft.

A terrific book for students learning to write at any age. Wonderful short essays, stories; showing the craft of structure, plot, point of view-all of it. So much information and easily structured. Highly recommend it be in a writer's tool chest.

A great resource for beginning writers. Presents various types of writing and a range of styles.

Enjoyed it and found it very helpful.

GREAT book used in my Intro to Creative Writing course.

This is a book which gives you practical advice on creative writing and accompanies this advice with clear examples. It is an encouraging and extremely helpful book.

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