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# Write

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*If you want to engage your reader, tell a story because stories are much more memorable than theoretical abstractions. Focus on a telling incident, rather than a long, chronological narrative. After sharing with your reader the essential, compelling details of the incident, you can then explain what the incident reveals about you at the time of its occurrence as well as what you have gleaned from it since.*

—Janet Jakusz Favero (personal communication, July 6, 2009),  
*Upper School Learning Specialist, Writing Lab Coordinator, and  
Learning Department Cochair, The Key School, Annapolis, Maryland*

## CHAPTER DESCRIPTION

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In this chapter, you are encouraged to write the story you know better than anyone else since you have lived it as a teacher and researcher throughout the research process. Some friendly writing advice is offered about the writing process including making time to write with an established and regular routine, writing from Day 1, participating in a research and writing community, sharing your work with critical friends, and believing that you have an important story to tell. Guidelines are offered for crafting the findings and discussion sections of your final research report. The chapter focuses on the methodological component of self-study research of knowledge generated through writing.

◆ Reading this chapter will provide an opportunity for you to learn about habits for writing, techniques for structuring and formatting the writing of your research, and the importance of critical friend support and critique in that process.

As a doctoral student, I was part of a doctoral support group affectionately known as *The Greta Girls* and composed of a handful of women, all of whom worked with the same advisor. We worked to balance our family and academic lives and tried to keep each other on track with both. I recall telling these colleagues how I found myself cleaning my house instead of working on writing about my project. And I don't even like to clean my house! They totally understood my procrastination and offered their empathy.