

One Possible Reading Like a Writer Plan

Start a mentor text collection:

1. Choose a genre you want to improve (e.g., editorials, restaurant reviews).
2. Over the next month, collect exemplary pieces in that genre from newspapers, magazines, or online publications.
3. Create a physical or digital folder to store these texts for future reference and study.

Read like a writer:

1. Select one of your collected mentor texts.
2. Read it once for content, then re-read it once or twice to analyze the craft.
3. Annotate the text, noting effective techniques, engaging language, and structural elements that make the piece successful.

Practice emulation:

1. Choose a short passage from one of your mentor texts that you find particularly compelling.
2. Write your piece on a different topic, but try to mimic the style, structure, or technique used in the mentor text.
3. Reflect on how this exercise impacts your writing process and final product.

Develop a Ritual:

1. Set aside time each week (e.g., 30 minutes every Sunday) to read like a writer.
2. Use this time to analyze new texts, revisit your mentor text collection, or practice writing inspired by your chosen mentors.