American Writers & Artists Institute

Knowing the Difference Between "Activity" and "Action" Will Help You Achieve Your Goals Faster By Bob Lucchesi

Yesterday, I spoke of *The Seinfeld Method* and not breaking the chain. And, how using this technique can help you realize your goals.

Today you're going to learn how to determine what task is important enough to do every day to warrant that all-important **X** on your calendar and move you toward achieving your goal.

But first, you have to understand the difference between activity and action ...

They may sound alike, but they're distinctly different.

An *activity* is when you're busy doing something, but that task will never produce an outcome by itself.

Action, on the other hand, is an act that will get you a result.

Do you remember what Jerry did to mark an X on his calendar?

That's right, he wrote a joke. That's an action. It moved him toward his goal of being a better comedian.

Let's look at some more examples ...

Activities could include ...

- Group site discussions
- Reading blogs
- Reading emails
- Doing research
- Brainstorming ideas



While these activities are important because they help you prepare, strategize and learn ... the activity – by itself – will never produce an outcome.

Yet, actions like ...

- Writing
- Reading and doing the exercises in The Accelerated Program
- Contacting clients
- Building a website

... will produce specific, tangible results.

If you write every day, soon you'll have a book, a script, a piece of copy, or a product of your own ...

If you contact clients, you'll gain more clients ...

If you build pieces of a website, soon you'll have a complete website ...

You get the picture.

These are the types of tasks you want to do every day, and *only* these are *worthy* of that big **X** on your calendar. Because only these actions will help you achieve your goal.

While activities are helpful and can make you *feel* like you're busy getting things done and working toward accomplishing your goal ... they can actually be sneaky forms of procrastination.

Sometimes you need to do the activity ... like brainstorm, research and read blogs ... because it helps you gain information.

But the fastest way to achieve your goals – bar none – is to take action.

It's the difference between thinking you're getting something done and actually getting something done!

Go ahead and brainstorm a list of *actions* you can take to keep your chain of **X**s going on your calendar.

Then, let me know what you came up with in the comments, and how it's going to help you achieve your goal.

Tomorrow, I'll continue by sharing a big secret about what paralyzes us writers from taking action.

It held up my screenwriting career for a while ...

But I'm happy to report Jerry Seinfeld's method has a solution to solve that problem as well.

Remember an Activity will never produce a final result. Action will.

So, take Action!

Published: February 24, 2015

Related Content:

- How The Seinfeld Method Can Help You Achieve Your Goals
- Achieve Your Goals Easily by Focusing on the Process, Not the Goal
- The Very Best Way to Grab and Hold a Reader's Attention
- Fastest Way to Build Your Writing Muscles for Speed and Quality
- More by Bob Lucchesi
- More from The Writer's Life

4 Responses to "Knowing the Difference Between "Activity" and "Action" Will Help You Achieve Your Goals Faster"

As I go through the Accelerated program, the below listed points, which are likely to increase, are my every day action plans:

a)Practice web writing and how to write persuasively.

b)Read every day and do my exercises in the Accelerated Program.

c)Write introducing myself as a copy writer to companies or business and organizations to land clients to me.

d)Start building a website to practice excellent web writing.

e) Network with other copy writers.

Thanks.

Breakthrough2971 - over a year ago

I'm starting the write the pages for my website.

I need to learn about permaculture since it plays a role in my website I have a lot of notes for the different pages for my website The "X" factor for me is to write everyday.

finally, i want to add that ACTION could also mean result oriented ACTIVITY...

my line of action include writing remarkable resume and cover-letters having good writing samples to my writing credit having access to contact of prospective clients

Inspire – over a year ago

finally, i want to add that ACTION could also mean result oriented ACTIVITY...

my line of action include writing remarkable resume and cover-letters having good writing samples to my writing credit having access to contact of prospective clients write the most succinct, and persuasive call to action page...

Inspire – over a year ago

Copyright © American Writers & Artists Institute(www.awai.com)

American Writers & Artists Institute 220 George Bush Blvd, Suite D Delray Beach, FL 33444 (561) 278-5557 or (866) 879-2924