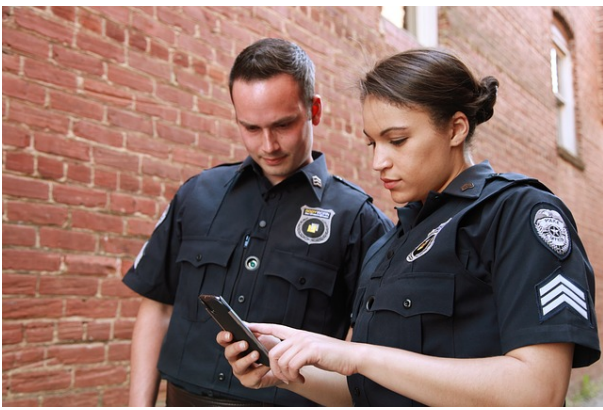


A Smart Strategy for Building Writing Ability: Takeaways from a Former New York City Police Officer

C-Span video [The Job: True Tales from the Life of a New York City Cop](#)



Ex-police officer Steve Osborne's engrossing account of his time on the job and head of a gang unit squad (although he never fired his gun), and his career-change after 20-years as a New York City cop.

Osbourne's lecture underscores an important point about writing ability. Osborn joked that as a boy his teacher feared he wouldn't amount to much because he was a solid barely average student

But Osborne always knew he wanted to be a cop like his father. and often visited the police station observing the environment ...

One of the regular duties of police work is report writing, so Osborne learned how to adapt his skill set to manage

the task. While many of his colleagues wrote lengthy reports, Osborne focused on writing detailed, factual, shorter reports. And often called as a witness in court he understood the importance of accuracy.

After leaving the force, Osborne tried writing short stories but was told to try memoir writing, but he refused... preferring to use his style of writing to communicate and lecture about police work.

References

C-Span.org/Video

The Job: True Tales from the Life of a New York City Cop

Stories from his former life as a 20-year veteran

as a New York police officer, who never fired his gun.

<http://tinyurl.com/gnk3ccv>

NPR.org/Article

After 20-years on the job as NYC police officer

<http://tinyurl.com/zwho4g6>