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Overcome Writer's Block

Writer's block can be caused by fear or anything else that makes it difficult to write. The fact is that good writing is hard to do, but a rough first draft can easily turn into a polished final draft. The key to overcoming writer's block is knowing what to do when it happens.

- 1** Read the quote below and write a reflection about what this nonsensical verse means to you. Use a separate sheet of paper if you run out of room.

**“Twas brillig, and the slithy toves did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves, and the mome raths outgrabe.” (Lewis Carroll)**

- Was this verse difficult to respond to? Why or why not?

- What methods did you use to write this personal response?

- 2** Now try this one...

“Making financial choices can feel like being in stormy waters in a rocky harbor.”

- Was this verse difficult to respond to? Why or why not?

- What methods did you use to write this personal response?

- Were there any differences between writing the first and second responses? What was different?

Information Is Power

Be organized:

- Sit down with your parents to discuss finances.
- Apply for local and national scholarships.
- Keep your parents advised of financial aid application deadlines.
- Make an appointment with your school guidance counselor and collect financial aid applications.
- Show several people drafts of your application essay.

TIPS: Do the research: Look online at sites such as www.collegeboard.com and www.fastweb.com for financial aid and scholarship listings; arrange overnight visits; attend classes at colleges you are interested in. For questions to test your financial smarts, log on to: www.Students.UseCreditWisely.com.