

October 26, 2012 Freelance Friday #EFAChat
Topic: The Scary Side of Editorial Freelancing
22 contributors, 257 tweets (20 retweets, 170 @replies), 3 links

@EFAFreelancers: Hello and welcome to the EFA's Freelance Friday! It's 3pm.
Today's topic is: The Scary Side of Freelancing! Pls introduce yourself. #EFAchat

@SharonGibson3: Any way to get a foot in the door with regard to assignments?
Many clients want experience w freelancing. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Nearly 4 yrs full-time FL, copyediting, proofreading & writing,
mostly in social science/edu/healthcare. Deadlines are my lifeline! #efachat

@SharonGibson3: I have skills and background in copy editing, research and
reporting, but only freelancing w news stories. #EFAchat

@virtuallori:@EFAFreelancers Hello, everyone! Lori Paximadis, freelance editor/PM
from Cleveland, Ohio. #efachat

@CCCopyEditor: Kristine from snowy Pocatello. I've been freelance editing for about
10 years now, mostly in scholarly nonfiction and business. #efachat

@EInspirations: April Michelle Davis. Freelance editor, indexer, and proofreader for
the past 11.5 years. Montpelier, Virginia #EFAChat

@shawphd: I do scholarly editing and indexing, with writing and research on the
side. Hello! #EFAchat

@tora_estep: I'm Tora Estep, freelance editor and writer in Northern Virginia. I've
been meaning to join the chat for a while! #EFAchat

@SharonGibson3: Houston, TX, here. Background in journalism and hoping to get off
the ground in freelancing. #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: Good to see you all! It's @mmb064 hosting today. 15 years
freelance copyediting/proofreading. In Central PA. #EFAchat

@TaraMQ: @EFAFreelancers hi everyone! Newbie freelance editor/writer here.
Looking forward to chatting with everyone. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: @SharonGibson3, did you want to do more writing freelance, or
break/branch out in editing? #efachat

@SharonGibson3: I am really interested in editing. #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: @SharonGibson3 I found my first real freelance assignment 15 years ago in the Want Ads of our local paper. No kidding. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @SharonGibson3 EFA has a new Houston chapter. It'll be a great resource for you. I'm also the EFA chapter development chair. #efachat

@rooftopcopy: Hi, all. Newbie moonlighting FL in VA; lawyer by day. #Efachat

@SharonGibson3: I have worked as a freelance reporter in the past, but I am really interesting in offering my skills in copy editing. #EFAchat

@nanograham: @EFAFreelancers @SharonGibson3 Impressive. Nancy Graham here. Assorted clients, freelance, always by word of mouth. #EFAchat

@SharonGibson3: Great to hear that Houston has a chapter now. Where can I connect? #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: There's a bevy of societies, articles & contacts in @KOKEdit's Copyeditors Knowledge Base: <http://t.co/6VI5nimV> #efachat

@rooftopcopy: @tora_estep, where in NoVa are you? I'm in Fredericksburg. Nice to meet you! #Efachat

@EFAFreelancers: @SharonGibson3: I would suggest starting with those you've freelanced for. Ask if they have any CE work you could take on. #EFAchat

@LoPhoenix: I am in Phila area and trying to break into freelancing FT. If one has time, is doing freebies a good way to build portfolio? #EFAchat

@nanograham: @SharonGibson3 Pick an org you admire and volunteer a bit? #EFAchat

@nanograham: @SharonGibson3 I learned proofreading by volunteering at a paper I liked back in the 80s. #EFAchat

@tora_estep: Been an editor for 10+ years, but new to freelancing. My main problem has been the stop-start nature of the work. Frustrating. #EFAchat

@SharonGibson3: I've freelanced in Milwaukee. New to Houston. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @SharonGibson3 The EFA website has a shiny new chapter page for Houston. <http://t.co/cKKjObmb> #efachat

@SharonGibson3: Thanks! #EFAchat

@nanograham: @tora_estep Agreed...and that's the scary part of freelancing. #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep When I have a lull in work, I focus really heavily on marketing. #EFAchat

@LoriLynnRenner: @tora_estep I've been thinking about taking a medical transcription course to fill in the holes. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Sometimes asking if the publisher has a standard test is a way. Doing well on that + background can trump track record for some. #efachat

@luluchadora: Hello from Chapel Hill, NC. My editing/writing runs the gamut from trade to scholarly. I love it #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @LoPhoenix Doing pro bono editing can be a great way to build your resume at the beginning, since resumes don't specify payment =] #efachat

@rooftopcopy: Given chat so far, I'd say starting out is a scary side of freelancing! :) #Efachat

@SharonGibson3: @nanograham That sounds like a plan, volunteering. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Scary to have two or three midstream projects that all might restart at the same time. Happy for the work but not the timing! #efachat

@tora_estep: @nanograham Definitely! #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @nanograham If you have several projects, in theory they should be at different stages, so you have income coming at various times. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: Feast or famine cycles are a scary part of #freelancing. Building a client base and an emergency fund helps! #efachat

@shawphd: @tora_estep *nods head* Scheduling is also a challenge. Time frames from publishers are too vague; I worry about double-booking. #EFAchat

@luluchadora: Done with meetings just in time for #EFAchat today! Feel free to drop in, fellow editors.

@EFAFreelancers: I see @luluchadora has joined us. A shout-out to her for suggesting our chat topic today! #EFAchat

@shawphd: @EInspirations @tora_estep Great idea! #EFAchat

@SharonGibson3: @jamesfraleigh Thanks. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @shawphd Why are your publisher time frames vague? They should be clear from the start. Don't hesitate to clarify them. #efachat

@nanograham: @EInspirations True. In my case I do a variety of things, editing being one. At present, no clients...time to hustle. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Always scares me a little to say no when booked up, but it would be worse to overbook & do a subpar job on all of the jobs. #efachat

@luluchadora: My pleasure! :) RT@efafreelancers: I see @luluchadora has joined us. A shout-out to her for suggesting our chat topic today! #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @nanograham Yes, now is the time to work hard on the marketing, not to clean the house because you have "free" time. #EFAchat

@tora_estep: @EInspirations Good idea! I've been doing that, but I struggle with finding potential clients. What activities do you focus on? #EFAchat

@nanograham: @EInspirations @tora_estep Can you say more about how you do marketing? #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @jamesfraleigh Last month was the first time in... forever... that I had to turn down work to avoid overbooking. Good and bad! #efachat

@luluchadora: @jamesfraleigh Yes. It took me years to feel comfortable turning down projects, but the work/my sanity are so much better for it. #EFAchat

@tora_estep: @shawphd Absolutely. It has truly been feast or famine. Summer was surprisingly crazy, but now fall is slow. Totally unexpected. #EFAchat

@luluchadora: @nanograham The holidays are coming — good time to start planning personal greetings/thank-yous to clients/potential clients. #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep I have a monthly newsletter, a weekly blog, social media, snail mail, cold calls, warm calls, anything I can think of #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Finding the proper contact at a publishing house, website, etc. is usu the first step when I make a marketing list. #efachat

@BookwormBigApple: @EFAFreelancers I'm new to the scene too. Do you find that you need to have a certificate, or do you think experience is sufficient #efachat

@nanograham: @luluchadora @nanograham Yes, good idea, Lindsey. #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @nanograham job boards, Twitter chats, writing articles, writing and publishing booklets, teaching my editing courses #EFAChat

@luluchadora: @tora_estep Last year, mine included a coupon if clients booked projects w/i a certain time frame. Great results, & a win-win. #EFAChat

@shawphd: @CCCopyEditor "it will be in November or December" but not which days until they arrive. Due dates are clear on arrival. [2/2] #EFAChat

@mmb064: It's taken me years to figure out what types of clients/deadlines work best for me. Helps me prioritize when I need to say no. #EFAChat

@tora_estep: @EInspirations Wow! Impressive. #EFAChat

@CCCopyEditor: If you specialize, it's good to do targeted online searches for potential clients, e.g., lists of scholarly presses. #efachat

@shawphd: @CCCopyEditor Also, unlike my editing projects, indexing doesn't lend itself to juggling more than one project at a time. #EFAChat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep oh, and speak at conferences. It's kind of random, just a lot of it #EFAChat

@CCCopyEditor: @BookwormBigApple I've never needed any formal editing training to succeed, but if you're starting out it might be helpful. #efachat

@tora_estep: @luluchadora Great idea! #EFAChat

@shawphd: @luluchadora @nanograham Great idea! #EFAChat

@mmb064: @BookwormBigApple Experience and good work/meeting deadlines has worked well for me. #EFAChat

@luluchadora: Diversifying my client base across several industries/mediums has definitely taken some of the scary out of what I do. #EFAChat

@CCCopyEditor: @shawphd Yes, indexing is a different beast. I find I can juggle about 3 editing projects before I start to get stressed. #efachat

@EInspirations: @shawphd I've had more than 1 indexing project at once. I can only write one index at a time, but I can edit at the same time. #EFAChat

@shawphd: @CCCopyEditor Chatting up people at the book fairs for conferences is also productive. #EFAChat

@virtuallori: MT@luluchadora: Diversifying client base across several industries/mediums has taken some of the scary out of what I do. #efachat

@CCCopyEditor: @luluchadora I've diversified a little too, and it helps with the scary as well as providing amusing variety. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: I've sometimes checked the Acknowledgments of books I wish I'd edited to see who the publishing staff was, for possible contact. #efachat

@shawphd: @EInspirations Yes. I'm hoping to add more editing projects for that reason. :) #EFAchat

@nanograham: @CCCopyEditor @BookwormBigApple I did one of the online EFA courses just to see and it confirmed for me that I'm a good editor. #EFAchat

@tora_estep: @jamesfraleigh Oh I love that idea! #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @shawphd I meant edit another index while I am writing one, so I am working on two indexes at once. #EFAchat

@BookwormBigApple: @CCCopyEditor I've done some smaller projects without it, but wondered if it was necessary to get bigger projects from publishers #efachat

@virtuallori: @shawphd If your schedules aren't firm, you may need to adjust turnaround times to accommodate the uncertainty. #efachat

@CCCopyEditor: RT@nanograham: I did one of the online EFA courses just to see and it confirmed for me that I'm a good editor.// Great to hear! #efachat

@luluchadora: @jamesfraleigh That's a great idea. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: @luluchadora Excellent point. Biggest win of 2012 has been diversifying my client base. Makes my practice more secure. #efachat

@nanograham: @CCCopyEditor @luluchadora Diversifying income is always a good idea. An example of how you did it? #EFAchat

@BookwormBigApple: @nanograham @CCCopyEditor that's a great idea, thanks! #efachat

@tora_estep: It's funny. I know I am a good editor, but when I don't have a lot of work coming in, I certainly experience more self-doubt! #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: @tora_estep @luluchadora Thanks! One of the reasons I take a notebook to bookstores. #efachat

@virtuallori: @shawphd I'd never promise to drop everything and go full tilt on a project until it's done without knowing its arrival date. #efachat

@nanograham: @tora_estep @jamesfraleigh Me too! #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: RT@jamesfraleigh: [Check] the Acknowledgments of books... to see who the publishing staff was, for possible contact. // Brilliant. #efachat

@EInspirations: RT@tora_estep: I am a good editor, but when I dont have a lot of work coming in, I certainly experience more self-doubt! //Ditto! #EFAChat

@shawphd: @EInspirations Ah, gotcha. I find I lose focus if I do that. But maybe with more practice? #EFAchat

@SharonGibson3: Well you have to have a deadline. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @BookwormBigApple Publishers vary in their requirements. I've never come across a scholarly pub. that requires a certificate. #efachat

@EInspirations: @shawphd For the index I am editing, it helps if I have lost some focus. Then, I can be like what does that entry mean? #EFAChat

@shawphd: @virtuallori I was unclear. Project arrives: deadline clear, precise, fixed. It's WHEN the project "arrives" that's unclear. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: @CCCopyEditor Thanks! You can also dbl-check names vs company websites & LinkedIn to verify/see if they're in LI network via groups #efachat

@luluchadora: @nanograham I credit referrals in part. Word that you're the friend/family member who's a editing/writing expert gets around #EFAchat

@tora_estep: @EInspirations @shawphd LOL! I guess that helps you clarify the entry. If you don't get it, who else will? #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @nanograham I became the editing goddess for a friend's startup company. Very different than scholarly work. #efachat

@shawphd: @virtuallori So I may have a client booked for "Oct/Nov" -could be Oct 1, could be Nov 1. Tricky if 2nd Oct/Nov client contacts me. #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: @shawphd And "when" the project arrives can change, which is also scary. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Deadline, page count, fee. Scares me when I don't have one of those essential job specs. #efachat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep Yes, that's why I think the editing process goes better for an index if I take a break and work on something else. #EFAChat

@luluchadora: @nanograham Thinking of writing/editing broadly not only in terms of what you're prepared for but what you WANT to work on helps. #EFAchat

@nanograham: @luluchadora Word of mouth again...would you say that's most effective? #EFAchat

@tora_estep: Clearly there's a lot of scary in freelancing, but that keeps it interesting (when it's not panic inducing). ;) #EFAchat

@shawphd: @virtuallori So turnaround isn't problem; it's worry re: double-booking. #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @EFAFreelancers When a project is to arrive is rarely set in stone until I have it. #EFAChat

@virtuallori: @shawphd But you have to adjust for that. Rather than fixed deadline, why not 3 weeks after arrival (or whatever's appropriate)? #efachat

@EInspirations: @EFAFreelancers I plan by working extra hard on current project to make future room for the new. #EFAChat

@CCCopyEditor: Maybe instead of scary, we should say that parts of freelancing are thrilling! #efachat

@tora_estep: @EInspirations I've never done an index, not sure I could. It seems difficult. #EFAchat

@virtuallori: @shawphd Turnaround should reflect that you'll have more than one project going at a time. #efachat

@luluchadora: @jamesfraleigh Yikes! Taking on projects w/o having the fee agreed to up front is always trouble. And no deadline? Eek! #EFAchat

@nanograham: @luluchadora Absolutely. I think about this but haven't reached out enough. #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: RT@tora_estep Clearly there's a lot of scary ... but that keeps it interesting (when its not panic inducing). // Well said. #EFAchat

@TaraMQ: Any tips on transitioning a traditional resume into a functional resume? I've read the EFA doc already, very helpful. #efachat

@GeoValentine: RT@CCCopyEditor: Maybe instead of scary, we should say that parts of freelancing are thrilling! #efachat

@CCCopyEditor: @nanograham Word of mouth is very effective. So is being listed in searchable directories like EFA and LinkedIn. #efachat

@shawphd: @virtuallori Unfortunately, that's the nature of indexing. Tight deadlines, little advance notice. Hence the problem. #EFAchat

@virtuallori: @shawphd Ex: If I project will take me 40 hours, it gets a 3-week turnaround. I'll fit it in somewhere in that time period. #efachat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep I am publishing a booklet on indexing through the EFA! It will be out this year! #EFAChat

@GLHancock: I usually give myself 3 weeks from verification of downpayment, unless rush job. #efachat

@EFAFreelancers: RT@CCCopyEditor: Maybe instead of scary, we should say that parts of freelancing are thrilling! // Care to start, @CCCopyEditor? #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep Maybe my booklet can help you determine if indexing is a fit. #EFAChat

@luluchadora: @nanograham It brings me a lot of biz, but it's also worthwhile to brainstorm markets you'd like to work in, then reach out. #EFAchat

@shawphd: @virtuallori And hence the need for more editing work, which I *can* overlap with indexing work. #EFAchat

@tora_estep: @EInspirations Maybe it could! Congratulations on the book. That's very exciting. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: RT@EInspirations: I am publishing a booklet on indexing through the EFA! It will be out this year! // Excellent, can't wait! #efachat

@virtuallori: @shawphd Ah, I see. :-) #efachat

@GLHancock: Thrilling part is paying my bills! @EFAFreelancers #efachat

@shawphd: @EFAFreelancers Yes! It makes planning challenging. A good reason to get a deposit up front, too. #EFAchat

@tora_estep: @luluchadora @nanograham I like the idea of brainstorming markets. How would you find places to reach out to? #EFAchat

@tora_estep: Excuse me for asking really stupid questions. Marketing is really the part I struggle with. #EFAchat

@nanograham: @luluchadora @nanograham This has been most helpful. Good luck, all! Must sign off for an appointment. Cheers, Nancy #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: #Freelance thrillchills include the challenge of balancing multiple projects and budgeting for delayed payments. #efachat

@MonocleEd: Too late to join? Scary to me is having a couple of days with no work. #EFAChat

@EFAFreelancers: RT@tora_estep: Excuse me for asking really stupid questions. // There are no stupid questions. It's how we all learn! #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @tora_estep No stupid questions here. Everyone can learn something. #efachat

@shawphd: @virtuallori Ah, unclear. Broad time frame is known. Precise arrival and deadline are not. Until it arrives. Then both are known. #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: Welcome, @MonocleEd! Glad you could join us! #EFAchat

@shawphd: @virtuallori The problem is not completing one project on time. The problem is being unable to handle two if they overlap. #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep It was hard for me in the beginning. I had to learn that I am not marketing myself. I am marketing my business. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Not stupid at all, @tora_estep. Few word-oriented folks learn marketing @ or during fulltime pub jobs that precede freelancing. #efachat

@LoPhoenix: The scary part for me will be giving up a full-time salaried job. Did any of you juggle both while building clients? #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep It is much easier for me to talk about Editorial Inspirations than it is to talk about myself. #EFAchat

@GLHancock: Must admit profuse thanks are still a thrill! #efachat

@luluchadora: @tora_estep Decide who you want to work for and contact them. If potential clients can't take you on now, they might down the road. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: But marketing is a muscle, one that strengthens w practice and builds confidence w success. #efachat

@virtuallori: @shawphd Does client give deadline? Individuals or publishers?
#efachat

@tora_estep: @EInspirations I can understand that! It's so much harder to say you are good than your business. #EFAchat

@CCCopieditor: @tora_estep Do you have areas of experience from previous jobs or even hobbies? Those are potential marketing niches for editing. #efachat

@MonocleEd: Hard for me to accept multiple projects at same time, too @shawphd. I can't do FT hours, so if 2 come in with short deadlines, ouch #EFAchat

@rooftopcopy: @LoPhoenix That's what I'm doing now- FT job, FL at night when son sleeps! It's tough but rewarding. #Efacchat

@luluchadora: @tora_estep I've been contacted 3 yrs after sending my resume out. You'd be surprised how long some places keep info on file. #EFAchat

@MonocleEd: Agreed! Never hurts. RT@GLHancock: Must admit profuse thanks are still a thrill! #EFAchat

@tora_estep: Well, I have a food blog and am trying to break into more food writing and editing, but I am not there yet. #EFAchat

@shawphd: @virtuallori It should, but it can't. It's how indexing works. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: @LoPhoenix Two of my colleagues juggled FT work w/ FL before leaving their salaried jobs. The FT provided a stable background... #efachat

@shawphd: @virtuallori Also, my clients are authors, not publishers, and have no control over publication schedules. #EFAchat

@tora_estep: RT@jamesfraleigh: But marketing is a muscle, one that strengthens w practice and builds confidence w success. #efachat

@CCCopieditor: RT@jamesfraleigh: But marketing is a muscle, one that strengthens w practice and builds confidence w success. // Yes indeed. #efachat

@tora_estep: @jamesfraleigh I guess I need to work out more. ;) #EFAchat

@LoPhoenix ... for their FL work; they worked for their co. 1st, then branched out to other fields/got referrals. #efachat

@luluchadora: @tora_estep You should pitch some food mags/sites. Be bold! :) #EFAchat

@tora_estep: @luluchadora Wow, three years? That's encouraging. #EFAchat

@GLHancock: What's hard at first is to begin asking if I can use quotes from thanks emails for promo. #efachat

@CCCopyEditor: @MonocleEd I can accept multiple projects but only work one at a time, or work them in alternating blocks of time. Not FT either. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: @tora_estep Never too early to learn or to cross-train to another way. Even experts rebuild their marketing routines now & again! #efachat

@lastsyllablenet: @LoPhoenix Doing that now, and for another month! It's pretty hectic so far, I admit. #EFAchat

@BookwormBigApple: @EFAFreelancers has anyone here ever tried <http://t.co/Cqi6eoif?> I wonder how effective that is for getting jobs. #efachat

@tora_estep: @luluchadora I've got some ideas and plan to pitch a couple mags next week. Definitely nervous about it. #EFAchat

@EInspirations: RT@jamesfraleigh: Marketing...strengthens w practice and builds confidence w success.//And easily gets out of practice. #EFAchat

@GLHancock: Multiple projects even with staggered deadlines are sooo stressful! Scary. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: @GLHancock Asking for things in general can be scary: referrals, quotes, raises, more deadline time, extensions. But "no" ≠ death. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: @EInspirations And easily gets out of practice. & Yes indeed. As with the gym, a little each day is needed to stay in tune. #efachat

@LoriLynnRenner: @jamesfraleigh Thank you, it's good to know others have managed it. #EFAchat

@shawphd: @virtuallori Publishers, but my clients are the authors. So they have no control over the deadlines themselves. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @BookwormBigApple I have never found sites like Elance useful. I'd rather contract directly with a client when possible. #efachat

@tora_estep: I actually find I do a lot better if I have too much to do and multiple deadlines. It forces me to prioritize. #EFAchat

@lastsyllablenet: @luluchadora @tora_estep Ooh, very nice! Definitely encouraging. #EFAchat

@luluchadora: OK, time to take a manuscript to FedEx. Have a great weekend, everyone! #EFAchat

@MonocleEd: I want to expand out of scholarly into trade (fiction & non), but how to figure productivity in a whole new format? #EFAchat

@tora_estep: I think I've checked out Elance, but found the pay tended to be too low and the competition stiff for anything worthwhile. #EFAchat

@MonocleEd: RT@tora_estep: I actually find I do a lot better if I have too much to do and multiple deadlines. It forces me to prioritize. #EFAchat

@EInspirations: @tora_estep: Yes, if I don't have enough work, I actually move at a slower pace...because I can. #EFAchat

@LoriLynnRenner: @BookwormBigApple I signed up, but it seems to be based on portfolio you upload. And I wasn't sure how that applied to editing. #EFAchat

@mmb064: @BookwormBigApple I looked at elance, but found people low balled prices, so it didn't look promising. #EFAchat

@shawphd: @GLHancock I find Google calendar is really helpful for mapping out projects and due dates. #EFAchat

@mmb064: @BookwormBigApple I've found EFA Job Board / Member Directory much more useful. #EFAchat

@GLHancock: @tora_estep Bid boards are the pits! Referrals are best. #efachat

@CCCopieditor: @MonocleEd I find I am equally productive at trade and scholarly nonfiction... just different issues with each one. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: @LoriLynnRenner Thanks! I can always get a little better at it! #efachat

@tora_estep: @GLHancock I am so glad to hear that! That's been my instinct, but it's good to get confirmation. #EFAchat

@CCCopieditor: @shawphd I also use Google Calendar to track projects, as well as a simple Excel Spreadsheet (also for payment status). #efachat

@shawphd: @EInspirations @tora_estep *laughs* Yes. I actually like the crunch times, my earlier complaints notwithstanding. #EFAchat

@GLHancock: No calendar problem ... it's the stress of "owing" someone something.
@shawphd #efachat

@MonocleEd: @CCCopyEditor You mean something equally tedious takes the place
of messy citations? ;) #EFAChat

@tora_estep: RT@shawphd @EInspirations @tora_estep *laughs* Yes. I actually like
the crunch times, my earlier complaints notwithstanding. #EFAchat :)

@BookwormBigApple: @tora_estep Yes, that's what I've noticed too — the
competition — so I wondered if most people actually have any success. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: Apropos to the check I just mailed today: Scary part of freelancing =
buying yr own health insurance. #efachat

@lastsyllablenet: Hi all! Longtime editor about to start full-time freelance, in sunny,
cold West Michigan. #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @MonocleEd Messy citations trade with creative spelling and
grammar! #efachat

@tora_estep: @jamesfraleigh That would be scary! Thankfully, I have my husband's
insurance. I wouldn't have left my last job without it. #EFAchat

@HilaRatzabi: Ok just figured out that all my chats were set on PRIVATE! Wow.
Hello, #EFAchat! #efachat

@shawphd: @GLHancock Ah, gotcha. I personally find that motivating, but YMMV.
#EFAchat

@tora_estep: @lastsyllablenet Hi! Nice to meet you. #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: Welcome, @lastsyllablenet. Glad you could join us for our last
few minutes. Anything specific on your mind? #EFAchat

@shawphd: @GLHancock My challenge is treating my own deadlines, projects as
diligently as clients'. #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: @HilaRatzabi Well, we're glad you could join in, at least for a few
minutes! #EFAchat

@MonocleEd: @CCCopyEditor Yeah, I think I could get used to that, but knowing
where to draw the line btwn creative and just wrong could be hard #EFAchat

@CCCopyEditor: @HilaRatzabi If you use Tweetchat you will be OK next time — automatically adds the hashtag so you won't be invisible =] #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: @shawphd Good point. Treating one's "me" time, however spent, w respect is a key part of striking the right balance as a FL'er. #efachat

@HilaRatzabi: @CCCopyEditor Thanks! Also — my settings were set to private! Boy was I feeling paranoid! :) #efachat

@CCCopyEditor: @MonocleEd Trade nonfiction pubs have clear style guides usually, so it isn't as tricky as you might think. Fiction is trickier. #efachat

@MonocleEd: What do you all think about "incorporating" or forming LLC versus individual operating as the business? Pros/Cons? #EFAChat

@CCCopyEditor: Ooh I just remembered another thrill of #freelancing: being acknowledged in the final printing! #efachat

@PurplePenning: <waves to #EFAChat> Looking forward to the transcript! Have a *thrilling* and non-scary freelance weekend!

@lastsyllablenet: @EFAFreelancers Today, juggling client deadline and FT job. Couldn't make deadline. Best to reply gracefully or just never blow it? #EFAChat

@jamesfraleigh: @MonocleEd Advantage to filing as an individual: relatively simple taxes/paperwork. I have few if any liabilities, however; YMMV. #efachat

@GLHancock: It's the deadlines for paying bills that I find motivating. Willwork for \$. Thank you. #efachat

@HilaRatzabi: @MonocleEd I thought about that but seemed I wasn't making enough \$ for it to make sense tax-wise. At least in PA. #efachat

@tora_estep: @CCCopyEditor @MonocleEd I haven't done fiction work (I'd like to), but I suspect it depends on authenticity to the character. #EFAChat

@lastsyllablenet: @MonocleEd Starting up as sole prop. helped me take the biz seriously instead of "something I do on the side." #EFAChat

@jamesfraleigh: @CCCopyEditor Yes, being acknowledged was a thrill the first time I received one. And it was for proofreading — so easily overlooked! #efachat

@HilaRatzabi: So true! RT@GLHancock It's the deadlines for paying bills that I find motivating. Willwork for \$. Thank you. #efachat

@shawphd: @lastsyllablenet @MonocleEd For me it was getting an EIN and a separate checking account just for the business. #EFAchat

@LoriLynnRenner: @tora_estep i'm editing an MS in first person, present tense stream of consciousness and not correcting all grammatical errors =ugh #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: Only a few more minutes until our hour is done. They always go so quickly. Any last-minute thoughts? #EFAchat

@MonocleEd: @lastsyllablenet Definately working on that. Biz cards, biz Twitter acct., biz name (but just informally) have helped. #EFAChat

@CCCopyEditor: @lastsyllablenet If you'll miss a deadline, always inform the client ASAP. Be polite, clear on when you'll finish. It'll be OK. #efachat

@tora_estep: @LoriLynnRenner OMG I would probably tear my hair out! #EFAchat (although stream of consciousness when done well = fantastic)

@shawphd: @lastsyllablenet @EFAFreelancers Not missing it best, but good communication with clients is KEY. Keep them in the loop! #EFAchat

@MonocleEd: @CCCopyEditor @lastsyllablenet Agree. The few times I had to ask for extension, the contacts were very understanding. #EFAChat

@CCCopyEditor: @MonocleEd LLC etc. doesn't seem necessary to me. Nothing scary about just being a sole proprietor. #efachat

@jamesfraleigh: @CCCopyEditor @lastsyllablenet Plus sometimes the prod schedule has also slipped forward, so relatively speaking, might all sync up #efachat

@HilaRatzabi: Trick to never missing a deadline is to set fake earlier deadlines for myself (& others), for everything I do, not just editing! #efachat

@tora_estep: RT@CCCopyEditor: @lastsyllablenet If you'll miss a deadline, always inform the client. I'd add, no sob stories. Give a firm date. #efachat

@EFAFreelancers: Thank you all for joining today in a lively and "thrilling" discussion! Our time has come to a close. #EFAchat

@shawphd: @EFAFreelancers Happy freelancing, all! May projects be plentiful, and the clients reasonable, and may all bills be paid on time! #EFAchat

@HilaRatzabi: I used to work in production at an academic pub creating schedules. They always change. I learned to always be the one who's early. #efachat

@MonocleEd: @EFAFreelancers Thanks for my first #EFACHat as a participant. Pleasure to chat with you all. #EFACHat

@SharonGibson3: Thanks for all the helpful advice. This has been a productive hour. #EFAchat

@jamesfraleigh: Thanks for the chat, @EFAFreelancers and fellow tweeters! And be safe, all of you in the path of Hurricane Sandy! #efachat

@TaraMQ: @EFAFreelancers Thanks for the chat! This was my first #EFACHat and I learned a great deal. Have a great weekend!

@tora_estep: Thanks for the chat! I learned a lot, and it's always nice to "talk" to other freelancers. #EFAchat Hope I can catch the next one too!

@lastsyllablenet: @EFAFreelancers Thanks for the chat! Just what I needed today. :) #EFAchat

@JBraddockRD: RT@tora_estep: Clearly there's a lot of scary in freelancing, but that keeps it interesting (when it's not panic inducing). ;) #EFAchat

@EFAFreelancers: Feel free to keep chatting with the #EFAchat hashtag, but the transcript of today's chat will be ending here. #EFAchat