Best Practices Before Starting HaitiHub:
(Advice For Group Admins)

1) **Let your teammates know what they should expect** if they commit to doing the HaitiHub Modules:

● A 2-month commitment (on average)

● 28 hours total of self-study guided by the Module exercises (this means 2 evenings of study per week)

● Meeting once or maybe twice physically with your teammates

● Going from Creole beginner to functionally conversant

2) Make sure to ask your teammates not only: "Do you want to do this?" but ask them specifically "Can you do this starting on [date] given the rest of your schedule at work/home/church/etc ? **Will you have enough time and energy to add this to your commitments?"**

This is really important. The most successful HaitiHub Groups have been composed all of people who had both the interest AND time to commit to learning Creole. The Groups that have lost momentum end up not finishing because members are too busy with other things. There's nothing wrong with that – people are busy! But you want to make sure you're starting your first HaitiHub group with people who are not only motivated but AVAILABLE!

3) Agree with your entire group on a **Start Date** and a **pace**. We recommend a two-month pace but this can be modified to be longer or shorter.

4) If it's at all possible, **have a time and physical place available for everyone to do the modules together**. (We have found that the social aspect helps with momentum and accountability. Conference rooms seem to work, as do church basements. For example, if people know that every Wednesday evening they can come to the office with their laptops to do review a Module if they want, this will help the sense of team and group accomplishment.)

5) **All together, start with Module 1**. Send out a very clear email that says, "Ready…Everyone go – start studying on your own and get ready for our first in-person meeting on [date]!"

6) As the Group Admin, feel free to **communicate regularly with your HaitiHub Rep**. We're here for you whether you have a language question, group logistics question, technology issue, or anything at all!

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Best Practices For Independent Learning:

(Advice for All Learners)

1) **Commit to a schedule.** Whether you tell yourself "One module per week," or "Three modules per week," or "Half the modules done before my next trip to Haiti," committing to a specific timeline with a concrete goal will make you MUCH more likely to stick with the program.

2) **Clear the space in your day for at least 1 uninterrupted hour to go through each module.** If you are at home, tell everyone "Hey, 8-9pm is my time for learning Creole!" Tell your husband, wife, whomever – "Leave me alone!"

If you are learning Creole at work, schedule a meeting with HaitiHub so your colleagues know you are not available.

If you don't mark out the time in the day, we've seen that progress just tends not to happen.

3) **Take advantage of the weekends** to review the Modules and to shoot for All-Star status – all perfect scores on the Module Quizzes.

4) **Get the HaitiHub vocabulary memorized down cold.** It took us a VERY long time to decide which 12 words to give you in each Module. 12 words is not a lot. We chose the most important words and sequenced them in a way that enables you to start speaking immediately. Master the HaitiHub set before exposing yourself to lots of random vocabulary from songs, articles, or other Creole programs.

5) **Make yourself accountable.** Plane tickets and a departure date tend to be the most effective accountability tool. You can also ask a friend to quiz you each week. You can tell your Creole-speaking friends that you're learning the language. Or you can simply commit to something and write it down.