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How to Write an Article

By Luther Powell

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The first step in writing an article is finding a topic or subject, something to write about. This might seem to be a huge task, but it does not need to be. There are many different avenues to finding a topic. The ability to use them will help you overcome your fear and enable you to start developing ideas for writing the article.

One avenue to finding a topic is to brainstorm. I used this method when I taught Sophomore creative writing classes in high school. It requires you to think of as many topics as possible, concentrating on compiling a list of ideas as quickly as possible. Write these ideas down as you think of them. You can judge the (quality) of them later.

Now that you have a list of topics, you will want to go over them and choose the one you want to write about. Once you have chosen the topic, your next step is to outline. This gives you an opportunity to record, organize, and evaluate your topic before the actual writing. For example, you may start by choosing the general subject "ezines." As you outline your article, you will need to find a part of the general subject to write about. For example, from "ezines," you might choose one of the following:

What is an ezine?

How to publish an ezine

Ezine Ads

Ezine subscribers

Once you have chosen a specific topic on which to write, you should decide on the reason or purpose for writing. A purpose for writing an article usually falls into

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one of four groups: to describe something, to tell a story about something, to explain something, or to persuade your readers to do something. For example, let us say you chose to write about ezine subscribers. Your purpose for writing the article may be one of the following:

How to obtain subscribers for your ezine.
How to keep subscribers once you have them.

With your purpose in mind, you should write a sentence that states your main idea. When you are ready to start writing your article, you may use this sentence as the topic sentence. In addition, the sentence will help you to organize your

thoughts and ideas. In writing about ezine subscribers, you might write one of the following topic sentences.

The subscribers are the life blood of an ezine.
An ezine and its subscriber base are two parts of a single whole.

You must also consider your reader. During the outlining stage, you should keep in mind who your readers are and what are their interests. Why would they be interested in your article? Not everyone is interested in ezines and subscribers. You must target your article to those who are interested. Who are they? Ezine publishers, those who are considering publishing an ezine, and those who have considered publishing, but have dropped the idea and need a little encouragement.

After you have chosen a topic, stated your purpose, and determined your audience, it is time to start outlining your article. This will help you to see exactly what you want to develop in your article and what details are needed to support each main idea. Don't worry about it looking like a final polished work. Just outline your article as follows:

Introduction

The relationship of ezines and subscribers

The importance of subscribers

Purpose

What the article will provide for the reader

Methods

How to obtain more subscribers

Free Ads in other ezines

Paid ads in other ezines

Ezine Directories

Announcement lists

Pay for subscribers services

Subscribers for ads

Ad Swaps
Writing articles
Summary

Now that you have your outline, you are ready to begin writing. Don't let that frighten you. Just write using your topic sentence to begin the first paragraph and continue from there. When you need more information on a subject, use your search service on the internet and you will find all you need. Just keep writing. Don't worry about the quality. You can take care of that during the editing period. If necessary, add links to where information may be found, e.g., ezine directors.

With your first draft finished, it is time for editing. Go over every sentence to make sure it is complete and coherent. Edit every paragraph to make sure it ties in with your outline. Do a complete edit and rewrite as necessary. Check for misspelled words.

Now rewrite your complete article and proofread it carefully. If necessary, let someone else read it. When you are satisfied with the final product, pat yourself on the back. You are on your way to becoming a professional.

Luther Powell (Papalou) is the publisher of "A Poor Man's Newsletter." It contains tips and articles on various writing and marketing techniques. You may subscribe to it at: [Papalou@bellsouth.net?subject=Subscribe](mailto: Papalou@bellsouth.net?subject=Subscribe)

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How to write an Article?

By Lakshmi Menon

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Most of us know that writing an article is the best and the cheapest way to get targeted customers to your website. But how do we go about it?

You may be thinking, "I'm not a writer. I don't have the required talent. I've not written anything in the past."

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One thing you must understand is you need not be a professional writer to write an informative article consisting of about 300–500 words. All that is required is your knowledge about the given topic which you want to write. This knowledge can be attained through your own experience and reading through other articles.

The best thing to do is just browse through the articles in various ezines. Pick up the topic of interest to you and start reading as many articles as possible preferably at a stretch. You will be amazed to know that you too can produce such simple articles.

The next question which may pop up in your mind is "Already so many people have written articles on this topic and how can I write about such a topic again?"

Don't get disappointed on this issue. Please remember each one's article is a unique piece when they write it in their own words.

If you have any doubt, give it a try. Give a topic to 10 people and ask them to write an article on that topic. You won't believe until you see them, all of them will be a unique piece.

You will be surprised to see that when you write your thoughts on the paper and publish it as an article there will be lot of readers. The only thing you have to be careful is that your article is informative and easy to understand for a common man. Once you start writing you will notice your depth of knowledge on the subject and your hidden talent of writing.

If you can write an "How to" article you can be a successful writer. Millions of people will be browsing through the net for the "How to" articles.

Try writing your own experience when you faced a problem how did you solve it. That information might of help for many others.

Just keep writing.

Lakshmi Menon is the owner of <http://www.net4homeincome.com/>



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