

How to write a good article in ten steps

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So, you've decided to write an article, but where do you begin?

There are a number of things to think about. Here is a list of ten tips to get you started:

- 1 Know your audience** – Are you writing for people your age? Are you writing a blog or submitting an article for a newspaper or magazine? It is important to know who the readers will be so you can adapt your writing style to suit.
- 2 Research** – Do you have all the information you need and is it accurate? Put yourself in the readers shoes, what is it they want to know?
- 3 Identify your angle** – The news angle, or hook, is basically the theme of your article. Think about what makes it an interesting story and focus on that.
- 4 The Five Ws and How** – Who, what, when, where, why and how. Known as the five Ws, your article should include as many of these as possible. Go through this list and ask yourself questions like- Who is involved? What has happened? Where did it take place?
- 5 Structure** - The inverted pyramid is used to help guide an article so that it flows. The most important details are always at the top. Any story can be told in six paragraphs so the key information should be in the first three followed by the quotes and background information in the last three.
- 6 Reel them in** - Try to capture their attention with an interesting opening line that is short and punchy.
- 7 Easy to read**- Don't overcomplicate things, keep the paragraphs short and simple. You want everyone to be able to understand what you are writing. A good way of doing this is to imagine you are telling your story to your friends.
- 8 Always read your work**- Make sure you read over what you have written and check your spelling. Makes sure the article has a structure and the paragraphs flow.
- 9 Photos** - Do you have a good photo to go with your article? This can help get your article noticed when submitting it to be published. If you are writing a blog, consider including appealing photos or short videos to make it more engaging.
- 10 Deadlines**- If you are submitting an article for a magazine or newspaper, make sure you know their deadlines. If you are publishing your own blog, think about when and how often you are going to post so your readers get used to knowing when they will receive new content from you.

