

Digital Workbook

Mini Guide to Help You Get Your Message Out

How to Write an Article Fast

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Purpose of This Workbook

You're here because you have words that need writing, but no time to write them. The purpose of this workbook is to save you time and help you to get your message out, fast!

Inside you will find exercises to help you identify your audience, problem, and core message. Once you have these three pillars, you have completed the most important part of the process!

Next, you can use the five-part article structure to quickly draft an article yourself, or hand this completed guide over and hire me to write the finished article for you.

Goal: This Mini Guide is designed to help you design your message quickly and get your article done.

Who is this for: Busy professionals like you with great ideas and expert knowledge but no time to write.

Purpose: Clear the brain fog and organize your message for self-drafting an article or hiring a ghostwriter.

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Welcome!

You are busy. You have great ideas and expert knowledge, but getting those words out of your head feels like another full-time job.

This Mini Guide is designed to get your article done—fast. Whether you write it yourself or hire a ghostwriter (like me!), you'll use this workbook to achieve clarity, target your audience, and outline your message in less than an hour.

In addition to laying out the basics (audience, message, goal), this workbook will show you how to use the 5-Part Article Structure to assemble a content outline and solve the problem of writing an article quickly.

The 5-Part Article Structure is the core content outline to solve the problem of writing an article quickly and clearly.

- 1. The Hook
- 2. The Promise
- 3. The Three Main Points (3 sections)
- 4. The Wrap-Up
- 5. The Call to Action (CTA)

Ready?

Let's skip the struggle.

Chapter 1: Who and Why

Your Audience, Message, and Goal

You wouldn't go to a new city without an app on your phone to navigate. That's how it feels trying to write an article without a plan. It's going to take a lot of time, you'll make a lot of wrong turns, and you will probably get lost!

Start with a clear plan (a map) to save you hours of time and frustration.

Key Takeaway: Knowing what obstacles are ahead allows us to take the best (and easiest) path.

Most people fail to write an article because they start writing before knowing these two things:

- 1. Who they're talking to (audience or client avatar)
- 2. Why they're talking to them (message and goal)

Your first exercise is to zoom into who you are talking to, and why.

Exercise 1: Who Are You Talking To

Your Audience

Imagine your article could only be read by *one person*. Who is that ideal reader? When you nail down that one person, you know your audience.

Write down as much about them as you can.

Example Audience: A busy mental health professional (psychiatrist, psychologist, coach, therapist) knows they need to publish content to build authority and provide more value to their clients, they want to attain that next level in their practice, but they feel overwhelmed by the writing process itself.

Your Audience:					

Exercise 2: Why Are You Talking To Them

Your Message and Goal

Your audience's need, that one person's problem, is the foundation for your message. The goal is the next step they need to achieve the goal (which solves their problem).

- (1) What is the *problem* that your audience faces that you are here to solve?
- (2) What is the **next step** you want your reader to take?
- (3) What is the goal they will achieve after taking this step?

Answering these questions defines your article's core content.

First, think about **the problem** that your audience has. What is their pain point? What keeps them up at night? What do you passionately want to solve for them?

Example Problem: Normally confident in their work, a busy mental health professional sits down to create an article, book, course, or guide. They try to write and get discouraged, run out of time, or spend countless hours pushing themselves to get the words on paper; just to hate what they wrote and never publish it. Or even worse, they publish and no one interacts with it. Now all that time is wasted and they feel like they failed. The ROI isn't there for the amount of struggle and time the process consumes. They count up how much they cost themselves financially in wasted hours. If they had used that time seeing clients they would have a return. They give up on writing and adding value to their practice, forget their goals of publishing a book, never design that course stuck in their head; and feel bad because of this.

(1) Your Audience's Problem:					

Example Message: The hardest part of writing is figuring out what you are trying to say, narrowing down the topic, and putting together a plan for your audience to take action. A simple 5-step framework can solve that problem. Once you get your idea on paper, you can polish it yourself and publish, or save yourself time by hiring a ghostwriter to do the final writing for you.
(2) Your Message:
Last, your <i>goal</i> is what you provide your audience. This is how they will benefit from you solving their problem. What is their desired outcome? What transformation will they experience?
Example Goal: To provide my 5-part article structure in a mini guide to help busy professionals quickly map out their next article in under an hour, which gives them the material needed to write an article or hire a ghostwriter like me.
(3) Your Goal:

Next, you must understand the **message** you want to offer to your audience. What is the most important action or thought you want that person to have when they finish reading? What is the

actionable step you want them to take next? This tells them how to achieve the goal.

Chapter 2: Map Your Message

Your message map ensures your article isn't just words on a page, but a direct, targeted conversation. It means you've locked in your audience and are prepared to speak their language. What is their education level? What are their pain points? What will they achieve by reading your article? What do you want them to do?

(Sneak Peek: When you finish this part, you'll have the complete basis for your article.)

Exercise 1: The Target
Goal: Zoom In On Your Reader (Audience)
If your article is for everyone, it's for no one. Who are you trying to help or inform? What is their experience level?
Audience Level : Beginner / Intermediate / Expert
What is their one biggest pain point right now? (What problem is keeping them up at night?)
What result are they hoping to achieve? (What is their dream outcome?)
Write down one thing your reader MUST know about your article before they start reading:

Exercise 2: What Is the ONE Goal?

An article can't do everything. What single action or thought do you want your reader to have after reading your finished piece?			
What action do you want your audience to take? Write it here or circle one below.			
Learn Something New / Feel Inspired / Buy Something / Click a Link / Change Their Mind			
What is the specific Call to Action (CTA) you desire? (Example: "Schedule a call," "Sign up for the newsletter," "Implement this tip.")			
If the article is a success, the reader will feel/do:			
Congratulations! Now you have the solid foundation you need to write the first draft without getting lost!			

Chapter 3: The Core Concept

Now that you know who you're talking to and why, it's time to build the engine of your article: the main idea and the three points that prove it.

Exercise 1:The Big Idea

Every great article has one single takeaway. If your reader only remembers one thing, what should it be?

Write down the single, most important idea or conclusion your article offers:			
Why is	this Big Idea true? List 3 main reasons, facts, or supporting arguments:		
1.			
2.			
3.			

Exercise 2: Voice & Personality (The Ghostwriting Key)

This is the most critical part if you want to write consistent articles yourself, or hire a ghostwrtiter like me to write it in your style. Your voice is your brand! Describe the tone you want the finished article to have. Write it here or circle below: Witty / Formal / Casual / Urgent / Empathetic / Sarcastic / Inspiring / No-Nonsense If your writing voice were a person, who would it be? (Example: A friendly professor, a witty mentor, a straight-talking expert, a successful friend.) Words/Phrases you LOVE and want to see often: (List 3-5 keywords, idioms, or common phrases you use) Words/Phrases you HATE and want to avoid: (List 3-5 words that sound like filler or don't match your brand)

Chapter 4: From Map to Manuscript

Now that you have your audience, message, goal, voice, and your message mapped; you have two choices. You can hire a ghostwriter like me and have your completed article delivered, or, you can use the 5-Part Article Structure I've provided for you in the following section to write your own article.

Option 1: Hire Me to Draft it For You

The information you've gathered in this workbook chapters 1-3 is everything we need to write a basic article or post series in your unique voice. You've got the basic plan mapped out and this will provide me with the perfect blueprint.

Option 2: Draft it Yourself

Use this outline to move immediately into the drafting phase. You already have your audience, goal, main idea, and supporting points locked in. The 5-Part Article Structure outline you'll learn next serves as your assembly instructions to draft your own article.

The 5-Part Article Structure

Time to assemble your article! Skip this step if you are planning on hiring a ghostwriter like me.

Start writing a rough article now. You can go back and clean it up when you edit. Do not edit as you write your first draft!

Write down each of these steps as you go, and when you get done you will have an outline framework for your completed article!

The Five Parts

- 1. **The Hook** (From a strong sentence to about a paragraph long)
 Purpose: Start with your reader's biggest pain point to make them feel seen and understood immediately.
- 2. **The Promise** (1 paragraph)

Purpose: Tell the reader what they'll learn or achieve by reading. Use your "Big Idea" from Chapter 3.

3. The Three Main Points (3 sections)

Purpose: This is the main content. Take your 3 supporting arguments from Chapter 3 and turn each into its own section with a heading and 2-4 sentences explaining the point.

4.	The Wrap-Up (1-2 paragraph conclusion)
	Purpose: Remind the reader of the transformation. Summarize the shift from their initia
	pain point to the solution provided.
5.	The Call to Action (1 paragraph)

Purpose: Use the specific, clear, and direct action you wrote in Chapter 2 (e.g., "Schedule a call," "Sign up for the newsletter," "Implement this tip").

Part 1: The Hook (From a strong sentence to a paragraph long)

Start with your reader's biggest pain point from Chapter 2. Make them feel seen and understood immediately.

Example Hook: "You have a brilliant idea that could help thousands of people. But every time you sit down to write, you stare at a blank page for 30 minutes and accomplish nothing."

you sit down to write, you stare at a blank page for 50 minutes and accomplish nothing.
Your Hook:
Part 2: The Promise (1 paragraph)
Tell them what they'll learn or achieve by reading. Use your "Big Idea" from Chapter 3.
Example Promise: "In the next 5 minutes, you'll discover the exact framework that helps busy experts turn their knowledge into finished articles—without wasting your time."
Your Promise:

Part 3: The Three Main Points (3 sections)

This is the meat of your article. Take each of the 3 supporting points from Chapter 3 and turn them each into their own mini-section. Use your reader's language. Keep it conversational. Each point should move them closer to that dream outcome you identified.

Point 1 Heading:	
Write 2-4 sentences explaining this point:	
Point 2 Heading:	
Write 2-4 sentences explaining this point	
Point 3 Heading:	
Write 2-4 sentences explaining this point	

Part 4: The Wrap-Up (1-2 paragraphs) Remind them of the transformation. "You came here feeling [pain point]. Now you have [solution/tool/framework]." Your Wrap-Up: Part 5: The Call to Action (1 paragraph) Use the specific CTA you wrote in Chapter 2. Make it clear, direct, and easy to do. Your Call To Action:

Rough Draft Assembly Instructions

The last step to get your rough draft is to assemble your basic article. Here is the map to completion. Go back and use your filled in answers from this workbook to complete:

- 1. Copy your Big Idea as your working title
- 2. Write your Hook using the pain point
- 3. Write your Promise using the Big Idea
- 4. Expand each of your 3 main points into 3-5 sentences
- 5. Write your wrap-up summarizing the transformation
- 6. Add your Call to Action

Pro Tip: Don't edit while you draft. Just get words on the page following this structure. You can polish it later.

Once you have this basic rough draft, go back and clean it up, check your grammar, polish your language to fit your audience, then review it against your voice and audience notes from Chapters 1-3.

Revising is the hardest part, but remember, something is better than nothing! If you publish the best article you can, that is enough to get a good start. And if you don't want to spend the time assembling and revising, hire a ghostwriter like me to do it for you.

Chapter 5: Ready to Skip the Writing Entirely?

The hardest part of writing is finishing and publishing. The most challenging part of ghostwriting is capturing a client's voice and message. By completing Chapters 1-3 of this workbook, you've already done the first steps needed to hire a ghostwriter. We have what we need to get started. You don't need to assemble or draft anything if you don't have the time and patience. Hire me, I do the hard work for you.

How We Work Together

I take your ideas and turn them into words, allowing you to publish and communicate in your own voice—without the hassle of sitting down to crunch out the words yourself.

The Process:

Voice Discovery Call

We start with a 30-minute call to ensure we're a good match and define your project's tone. This call is recorded to lock in your initial project scope.

Voice Samples

Send me samples of things you write every day (emails, notes, articles, social posts), voice memos, anything that resonates with you. This is one of the key steps that allow me to adapt my writing style to match your unique voice.

Discovery Package

I create two finished content pieces (1,500-2,000 words total) based on our initial findings—complete, high-quality work that acts as proof of concept for our partnership.

Scaling Up

If we are a good match, we move forward based on your needs: article series, thought leadership pieces, email campaigns, sales materials, white papers, or even a full book.

Typical Project Investment

START HERE: Voice & Content Discovery Package

Estimated Project Investment \$1,500

This isn't just a starter package. It's proof that we are compatible and gives us a starting point to jump on a bigger project easily.

What's included:

- 30-minute Voice Discovery Call We'll discuss your brand, tone, and goals to ensure we're the right fit. If we are not compatible, your invoice is cancelled, you owe nothing.
- Two Custom Content Pieces I'll write 1,500-2,000 words total across two different formats based on your completed workbook (article + email sequence, social post, or sales page excerpt)
- Voice Capture Document A style guide I create from our work together that ensures consistency across all future projects
- Revisions on the discovery pieces We refine a reasonable amount of times to make sure it sounds exactly like you

This package proves we can work together before you commit to larger projects, and gives you versatile material to start publishing now.

After the Discovery Package, here's an example of what ongoing work looks like:

- Single Articles (800-1,200 words): \$500-\$1,200
- Long-form Content (2,000+ words): \$1,800-\$3,500
- Monthly Retainers (4-8 pieces): \$3,500-\$12,000
- Book Projects: Custom quote based on scope

Rates reflect the level of voice work, research, and strategic positioning required for professional thought leadership content, and are a basis for your decision to invest. Each client's needs are different and the final package is tailored to your specific needs. These prices are basic guidelines to help you plan your investment in your digital and print products.

Let's Get Your Words Written

You didn't build your expertise to spend hours struggling with writing that fails. I will turn your ideas into published content that sounds exactly like you. All you have to do is put your name on it and publish.

It's not cheating, it's interpretation. I interpret your thoughts and ideas into written work that you share as your own, because it is.

Reach out if you have a goal in mind.

Deb Murphy

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Office: 501-238-1593 Call or Text Anytime, my office number is silenced when I am unavailable. My policy is to make it easy for you to send me messages when you have the thought, whether it's 2 pm or 2 am. That's part of what makes our partnership better, it's how we get your thoughts out of your head and into the world immediately.