

University of Bejaia

Faculty of exact sciences

Department of computer science

Module : Technical English

Level : Master one

How to write an article

An article is usually an independent piece of prose found in newspapers or magazines. It is usually non-fiction and informative in nature. The name of the writer is always mentioned with the article.

Format:

- **Title** : Eye-catching
- **Introduction** : Put the topic in perspective : Catch the reader's attention
- **Exposition of topic** : Merits/demerits, causes-results, effects, etc
- **Winding up** : Your comments, opinion, criticism, etc
- **Conclusion** : A hope, warning, an appeal or a call for action
- **Name of the writer** : It can be placed just after the heading or at the end of the article

Points to remember:

The purpose of writing the article should be clear.

- The title can be a single word, a phrase or even a sentence, which is catchy.
- The body of the article follows a structured approach.
- Think of the kind of readers expected to read the article and then attempt to write it.
- The vocabulary and grammar has to be specific to the topic and use of difficult and bombastic language should be avoided.
- The visual/verbal input should be used to the optimum and interpreted as per the needs of the article.
- The points, quotations, etc in the article have to be planned out.
- Quotations should be added only when absolutely essential. Do not overdo the use of quotations.

Sample article:

You are Make. Your brother is six years old and you want to gift him a set of books. Write an article in about 150 words, under the title 'The Lasting Value of Books'.

The Lasting Value of Books

Books are our constant companions. They are great sources of knowledge and entertainment. Books can open up the unknown world to us and familiarize us with the unfamiliar. It is fascinating to read about various things that one has never seen or heard about. Books are the tools with which we can explore the vast world around us.

Thus, it is very essential to make a child understand the importance of books. One can motivate a child to read books by describing various adventures in books and presenting the child with books instead of toys. A child soon tires of toys, which are only a source of momentary attraction. But once the reading habit is inculcated in a child, it will automatically grow and develop. It is a habit that reaps rich rewards for a lifetime.

Books have stood the test of time and last forever. They never grow old or change like fashions or toys. Their real importance is understood only in retrospection and so have a lasting impact on readers. Thus, we should give a child gifts that last and endure.

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