



Ways to Come Up With Article Ideas By: Lizzie Danner

All writers have been at this point where they just cannot, for the life of them, come up with an idea. They could literally search online for different ideas and yet, still not come up with an article. That is exactly what I did; I was looking through my computer trying to come up with a topic, and then it hit me. Why not just write an article about how to come up with ideas for an article?

First things first, make sure to check the news/scroll through social media before anything else because there can be many things that can spark a lightbulb in your mind. It is quite easy to write about things that you know a lot about, like classes that you take or topics that you talk about a lot. Whichever event you choose to talk about, just make sure that it is actually newsworthy and that people will read it. But, always use plenty of reliable sources and always have someone edit or fact check your work to make sure that everything is actually accurate.

But if current events don't interest you, there is always inspiration elsewhere. The biggest suggestion I can give that helps me a lot is to look into old essays and papers that you had written before, and if you find a good one, then you can rewrite it or revamp it a little bit. Also, search through any notes or messages in your phone that may give inspiration, but this doesn't mean that you can write about your private conversations or thoughts. Don't be afraid to look at inspiration on other websites that post articles (just give them credit for anything you may use) because those can lead to other ideas that are related.

Don't be afraid to involve other people such as profiles or conducting interviews for written pieces, of course have them fact checked too. Also, listen to what everyone is talking about in class or on social media. News spreads fast and many people will want to read about it if that is what everyone is talking about. Taking a walk to look at the scenery and advertisements around you in shopping areas or schools can help give inspiration, even if it is something that is completely random. Even just plain old relaxing can help something come to mind.

The final thing is to write down random words including objects, people, or places onto little slips. Then, put them in a bucket or bag and close your eyes and pick one. Do a little research about the word on the paper you chose and write about it. You can do the same with shows and movie names to write reviews, just make sure it is a popular show or movie so that people want to read the article.

Coming up with ideas to write does not have to be a chore and does not have to take all day. Writer's block can be a pain, especially if you have deadlines that need to be met. Sometimes, the best idea will happen at the most random times, it only takes a little bit of searching in your mind to find something to write about.