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Qualities of a good writer

Please note this. Even if their work is published through a publishing house, they’d like to see the following they have. 7. Organization: A well organized piece of writing is not only clear, it’s presented in a way that is logical and aesthetically pleasing. The reader needs to ask for more at the end of the write-up, not heave a sigh of relief. A writer should be able to articulate why a piece of writing succeeds or fails, and a writer should also be able to recognize the qualities in a piece of writing even when it doesn’t appeal to their personal taste. She had patience and had complete faith in her work. A writer has to face a lot of rejection before getting published for the first time. I know some writers aren’t concerned with quality. Now they can sell their books by themselves. How can you assess or improve your own work if you can’t tell the difference between mediocre and better writing in others’ work? These weren’t places that existed. 4. And they end on a memorable note. These qualities are essential for an effective writer because they spotlight a certain devotion and openness-both of which are necessary to achieve writing greatness. How readers react to your work will fully determine your success as a writer. They are loved for writing well; they are talked about for writing well; they are quoted for writing well. A lazy writer will use “lovely” to describe a lady, a car, a dress, a baby, a voice, a house, and a handwriting. It is quiet and free from distractions. Language (word choice): We writers can never underestimate or fail to appreciate our most valuable tools: words. Many assume that once a known writer picks up a pen or hits the keyboard, wonderful writing springs out ceaselessly. 8. They are now growing rapidly and independent from book publishing houses for generating sales. A writer must have a vast knowledge of book promotion and marketing as well as social media promotion, especially if they are a self-publisher. Finally, a good writer is made, not created! Therefore, everyone can be a good writer. These skills are especially necessary when writers are reviewing or critiquing other writers’ work and when revising, editing, and proofreading their own work. For a piece of writing to be considered well crafted, it has to contain clearly identifiable ideas and themes. 2. Achebe wrote it when nobody knew him. Why You Need to Know the Difference Between Good and Bad Writing To write well, a writer must be able to recognize quality in a piece of writing. These are some of the characteristics of a great writer and in my view, even if you are just starting out, every writer will possess some of these qualities. A clear sentence is no accident. They pay attention to details. In summary: good writers write to express, not to impress. This is how a writer survives in this competitive world. They create their own style. Focused writing sticks with the plot or core idea without running off on too many tangents and a good writer makes that happen. Most times, the more educated we are, the less impactful our writing becomes, because we tend to write more to prove that we are “too much” than to be understood. All rights reserved. He just wrote passionately about something that touched him deeply. They always read with a more deep purpose. Can the reader visualize your poem? So if you are passionate about reading then you can make your way to become a great writer. Before boredom sets in, good writers end their writing. They take their time to check both the correctness of every word or phrase and the appropriateness of every expression in the write-up. 9. Whilst sleep deprivation is not of itself a must for a great writer, great writers can create their best works when in the zone. You can tell non-linear stories or place your thesis at the end of an essay and get away with it as long as your scenes or ideas are well ordered. Does your story come complete with themes? There are set characteristics of a good writer which revolves around some common practices. Good writers send words on errands. It is usually a difficult task, but I have tried to aggregate some of the qualities that will make one a good writer. Can you read a book and dislike it but acknowledge that the writing was good? A piece of writing should not be bland and colourless. However, putting old ideas together in new ways and creating remixes of the best that literature has to offer is a skill worth developing. Does she come away with a fresh perspective and new ideas? This, in turn, has given rise to many Self-Published authors. I want to add an honorable mention for originality. Good writing includes precise and accurate word choices and well crafted sentences. As normal people may get frustrated. Is perfection possible? What the good writer does is to unconsciously regurgitate all the writings and styles of the good writers he or she has read over the years. When they are focused and the idea is at their forefront of their mind. Of course, it’s not mandatory that you have the same set of characteristics to call yourself a Writer. And even if you have these qualities you will completely understand the statement “What makes someone a good writer?” A good writer must have the following qualities: Writers have a unique quality of maintaining discipline. 6. The ability to create something amazing distinguishes great writers from mediocre once. In good writing, everything makes sense and readers don’t get lost or have to reread passages to figure out what’s going on. Most writers are sleep deprived. But being open to new things, feedback and ideas can prove very important if coming from readers, reviews, editorial staff, proof readers, etc. 11. 5. Good writers use words to create mind pictures. Readers care. Though I know a lot about writing, I can’t claim to be expert so have made it my mission to learn from others. Feel it. When we strive for perfection, we achieve excellence. Very few sentences come out right the first time, or even the third time. Would you add or remove any characteristics of good writing from this list? This is because good writers do not want to spread bad grammar all over the world. Whenever I teach people the art of writing, they want to know what skills or qualities they need to possess to write well. So if you are disciplined then you definitely possess one of the characteristics required to be a great writer. Share your thoughts by leaving a comment, and keep writing. By striving for perfection, we mean that good writers are never happy with their work. Comment below to share your views and ideas. Excellence is praised and rewarded by the world. Multi-talented is the most common characteristic of a writer as they are also indulging in other activities of book marketing, editing, and being present in book launches. This may take days, weeks, months or years, depending on the type of writing involved. In any piece of writing, the voice should be consistent and identifiable. This is the most amazing characteristic a writer possesses. Good writers give the necessary information. Do you worry about whether your own writing is any good? Language is the channel through which literature is communicated. Some of them are able to write for 1-2 days continuously without sleeping. Good writers avoid clichés or trite and worn-out expressions. Are there other characteristics of a writer that I have missed? But she didn’t lose hope. If you find that writing is hard, it’s hard because it is hard.” Everybody can write, but not everybody can write in a way that will excite and interest the reader to read from the beginning to the end and take positive action, as expected by the writer. Use of clichés shows a writer that is not creative, a writer that is lazy, a writer that does not like to think. Zinnser throws more light on this issue thus: “Writing is hard work. He was not a professor of literature then, he was just a university student at Ibadan. No. Our duty is to continue to strive to be perfect. A writer can easily connect the dots. But there are some characteristics which you should definitely have like being imaginative, patient, attention to detail, etc as these are mostly found in every writer I have worked with or studied. Apart from that, there will be times when you have absolutely nothing to add to your manuscript. Good writers entertain while educating. They try to understand the author’s plot and mentality behind those writing. It’s your unique way of stringing words together, formulating ideas, and relating scenes or images to the reader. Voice: This is what sets you apart from all other writers. In this era of the Internet when the attention span of people is short, and there are hundreds of materials demanding the attention of the reader, a writer has to do something different to get the attention of the reader and retain it. She created a whole world with her imagination. Writers are not praised or given prizes for finishing first; they are praised or given prizes for writing well. The more educated we are, the better literary critics we become but the less good writers we become. When you read the works of a great writer, you will learn correct grammar. The result was that Things Fall Apart became a global classic. Or do you actually possess the characteristics of a writer. This entertainment may include the use of humour, fable, satire, irony, etc. Good writers are unique – that makes people want to read them. Opinions on the matter vary widely. Where do you stand? Ideas and themes: Is the topic of your paper relevant? This is why it’s so important for writers to be dedicated readers! Writing is also an art form and therefore subject to personal taste. He did not write to dazzle or prove that he was well-read. They have a love relationship with their dictionary – regularly confirming the meaning and usage of words. Like Friedrich Nietzsche says, good writers “would rather be understood than admired.” The most popular African book on fiction is Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe. Grammar and style: Many writers would wish this one away, but for a piece of writing to be considered good (let alone great), it has to follow the rules of grammar (and break those rules only when there’s a good reason). They have this superpower to take you to an imaginative place and can provide every detailed description of such place. Make sure you keep a grammar book and style guide handy. It is very difficult to know whether you are a good writer or a bad one. This attention to detail not only makes them fantastic editors who can spot the smallest grammatical error during a read-through, but it adds a special touch to their writing, too. Good writers are not in a hurry to post or publish their works. It is all the readings that inspire a writer to write. However, we can cull together a general list of the characteristics of good writing (in no particular order): Clarity and focus: In good writing, everything makes sense and readers don’t get lost or have to reread passages to figure out what’s going on. Thought-provoking or emotionally inspiring: Perhaps the most important quality of good writing is how the reader responds to it. The message here is good writers don’t disrupt that even for sleep! As a writer, you will have to have lots of patience. Good writers make their readers to visualise what they are reading. The better your writing, the better your chances for securing a readership and building a career. Agree? For them, it is their daily rituals that separates them from the common writers. They avoid those expressions that people use regularly like “political quagmire,” “all and sundry,” “pay lip service to,” “met his Waterloo,” “easier said than done,” “neither here nor there,” “think outside the box”, etc. Good writers do not have the it-doesn’t-matter mentality. No descriptive detail gets left behind. A writer can explain every idea clearly because they pay attention to every detail. Mind pictures are great tools good writers use to enthral readers. Pretty important, if you ask me. Have you ever read a book and loved the story but felt that the writing was weak? But there are times when writers became so devoted to their work that they forgot everything, even sleeping. Note that wherever you see the department of English in a tertiary institution, you also see literature. The Characteristics of Good Writing So, what constitutes good writing? This is what separates their stories from others. Every good writer is a good reader. The same thing goes for Hausa and Hausa literature, Yoruba and Yoruba literature, Igbo and Igbo literature, etc. You may also like to Read: Why you should write a book. In today’s do-it-yourself and get-it-done-fast world, quality plays second fiddle to quantity. J.K. Rowling was rejected many times before publishing the Harry Potter series. The reason why Harry Potter became a huge success was because the author was thinking outside the box. As I’ve spent the last six years doing this, I learned a lot along the way. And self-published authors and writers are more multi-talented than those who always rely on traditional publishing. 3. And for some writers night time is the perfect time to write. There is a reason for every piece of writing. There are certain characteristics of a good writer which they will always have irrespective of the niche they are in. Or days when you realize the end is far away and the only thing preventing you from finishing is white space. Though you should take proper sleep and by just staying awake you can’t create a masterpiece. A good writer is an avid reader. This material, and other digital content on this website, may not be reproduced, published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed in whole or in part without prior express written permission from PUNCH. Writers are open to new ideas and changes because it enables them to improve their writing, though it can bruise their ego. A good writer must have good research skills. There are some write-ups you read and complain: “Is this not the last paragraph?” A good writer does not wait for the reader to get to that state before ending the write-up. Creativity is a trait every good writer has. However, this is a personal choice that must be backed up with action. This mindset makes people assume that anyhow something is done is okay. And that’s why great writers always think outside the box. And the main thing is that you can understand it. 1. If this happens frequently to you, read my article on overcoming writer’s block which may help. This is because they have to evaluate, write and re-write the same piece of content over and over again. I learned a lot from successful writers and there are few things which draw the line between successful writers and the unsuccessful ones. While passing the information across, a good writer ensures that the reader is taken through some unforgettable journey. But when everybody starts using it, try to avoid it as much as possible. It happens, but it doesn’t happen often. 10. It helps them understand the nuts and bolts of writing. Good writers are passionate about the correctness of grammar. They are the ones who can improve the manuscript quality which in turn will improve sales. Contact: What’s the difference between bad and good writing? Example: “Tears streamed down her face” is more exciting than “tears flowed down her face”. According to popular writer, editor and literary critic, William Zinsser, “Good writing doesn’t come naturally, though most people seem to think it does.” This is one point about writing that many people do not realise. In fiction, the story must be believable (even if it’s impossible), and in nonfiction, accurate research can make or break a writer. Who cares if your books are full of typos, bad grammar, and poor logic as long as you have published lots and made a bunch of money? Also (and this is critical), while it’s possible to make it big by writing badly, it’s not likely. How important is it for a writer to be able to discern the difference between good writing and bad writing? Does he close the cover with tears in his eyes or a sense of victory? Focused writing sticks with the plot or core idea without running off on too many tangents. But a good writer will say “a charming lady”, “a sleek car”, “a stylish dress”, “a cute baby”, “an angelic voice”, “an exquisite house”, and “an artistic handwriting.” These words create better mind images than using “lovely” for all of them. There will be different traits that make good fiction versus good poetry or good nonfiction. And while you can still make a million with a bunch of badly written books and a stellar marketing scheme, your work won’t be taken seriously. Bad grammar is a turn-off in communication. A good writer should know the subject of discussion deeply, have a thorough understanding of the target audience, write relevant, quality content that has a logical flow of events and still grabs the audience’s attention. Remember this in moments of despair. If you hate to read, please don’t bother to dream about being a good writer. Our writing, therefore, loses some originality and natural connection with the reader. And in those days, it is only when you are patient that you can finish your manuscript. Good writing does not just happen overnight. But you can definitely claim your title as “Author” if you exhibit the same behavior as other successful writers do. And this requires great discipline. They keep fine-tuning it, looking for more appropriate words and expressions to use in every sentence. A personal figure voice generates more sales than a brand voice, which always seems monotonous demanding only sales. Good writers strive for perfection. They choose words that convey their thoughts best. And nowadays the writers have to do Live videos on Facebook as well as on Instagram to reach more of an audience. — Twitter @BrandAzuka Copyright PUNCH. 12. Good writers task themselves to bring out new ideas or present old or common things in new and exciting ways. By unconsciously combining an amalgam of styles, good writers create a unique style that interests their readers. A good writer ensures that the reader gets all the necessary information in as few words as possible. Style is also important in ensuring that a piece of writing is clear and consistent. Agents, publishers, and reviewers also care. Do you rate other people’s writing? This works against good writing. Think about the author like J.K. Rowling (Harry Potter) with amazing fiction novel. Everything has been done before, so originality is somewhat arbitrary. Such picturesque expressions create more impact. When a cliché comes out newly, it is exciting. Some days you may experience writer’s block. Credibility or believability: Nothing says bad writing like getting the facts wrong or misrepresenting oneself.

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