

Useful links for writers

This is a work in progress and will be updated after each issue of the Mensa Professional Writers Sig. Feel free to share. The latest version will always be at <https://dholton.com/links.pdf>

Useful Tools

[Code Compare](#)- A free application for Windows that shows the differences between two text files.

[Programmer's Notepad](#). A free text editor for Windows. It includes a word count.

[Jutoh](#). A paid for program (about £35) that runs on Windows, Mac and Linux that creates eBooks in .mobi or .epub.

[FreeFileSync](#). A free utility that runs on Windows, Mac or Linux. It simplifies backing up files by doing a sync between two folders, only copying the differences.

[Calibre](#). Manage eBooks on Windows, Linux or Mac with this open source program. It lets you convert eBook files between different formats and copy on/off devices.

[FileZilla](#). Useful utility for copying files between computers and servers.

[Free and Open-Source image editors list](#). On Wikipedia.

[Mind Mapping software](#). This is Mind Mate, an open source project with Windows installers.

[Snagit and Camtasia](#). These are commercial screen grab and video recording and editing software.

Free images

<https://unsplash.com> – Very nice free photos.

<https://pixabay.com/> - Over 4.1 million free and commercial (stock).

Hired Services

[Fiveerr](#). An American site that provides services like Business copywriting, Articles & Blog posts, Proofreading & Editing, Graphics, Book Covers, CVs & Cover letters, Creative writing, Translation, Transcription, Press releases and Language translation.

Anyone can buy services from this site or sign up and offer services.

Backup Services

[Dropbox](#). Costing around £8 a month this gives you 2 TB (Terabytes) of remote storage. Just copy files into a Dropbox and they get whisked away. Handy for syncing data between computers on a network and also lets you easily produce download links for files too big to email.

[BackBlaze](#). Cheaper than Dropbox (\$7 a month) and provides unlimited storage.

Writing Jobs

<https://becomeawritertoday.com/writing-jobs/> - This has 21 links to websites offering writing gigs and jobs. It gives pros and cons for each site.

<https://uk.indeed.com/Remote-Writer-jobs>—a normal job search site with adverts for remote writing jobs. The last couple of years has seen a big growth in remote job opportunities. If you see any job or job search site that asks for money, please ignore it.

<https://hotghostwriter.com/pages/fiction-writing-job>— HotGhostWriter is hiring remote freelance ebook writers who would like to keep their calendar full of exciting fiction writing projects.

[ProBlogger](#). An Australian website but the writing jobs are all over and many are freelance or remote. Typically, 80-100 jobs on offer though some especially for blogs seem to be a race to the bottom in rates e.g. \$0.03 a word is typical.

[FreedomWithWriting](#). This offers a very wide range of writing opportunities. You can sign up to a free email.

Writing Competitions

[Almond Press](#) – Competitions list by week.

[NeonBooks](#) big list. UK Writing competitions.

Writer's HQ. A list of writing competitions and submission opportunities.

Other Services

[Perlego](#) – Access a vast library of non-fiction books. Costs £9 a month. Read online or on a smartphone app.

[Quillbot](#) – They provide grammar correction, paraphrasing, summarising services with free and paid tier.

Interesting Websites related to Writing

[Common misconceptions about publishing](#). This is a set of articles by the science fiction author Charles Stross. It provides a lot of insight in to the physical book industry. All of it was written before eBooks were really a big thing.

[TV Tropes](#). This is a fabulous resource that cuts a path through pop culture. If you like writing, gaming, film, art, animation, print media, comic books, tv, theatre and even wrestling you'll like this. Warning, it's a very wide and deep rabbit hole.

[How much is your story worth?](#) Want to sell a photo, video or your story to U.K. newspapers and magazines? This website lets you do that.

[Ingermanson.com](#). By the author of the Snowflake method eBook. Created a free Fiction newsletter that you can sign up to.

[Advanced Fiction Writing](#). A website about writing. Also links to an e-zine with 16 years of monthly archives.

[Pricing your work](#). By a British online seller of paper, envelopes etc.

[Greeting Cards on Etsy](#). Etsy is the market leader in online marketplaces where anyone can sell craft items. This link goes to greeting cards. Change the search to funny greeting cards

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to see funnies.

[Substack.com](https://www.substack.com) and [Medium.com](https://www.medium.com) – Two different websites that let you publish.

[Google Technical Writing Courses](#). This collection of courses and learning resources aims to improve your technical documentation. Learn how to plan and author technical documents. You can also learn about the role of technical writers at Google.

[WordPress.com](https://www.wordpress.com) – Blog hosting platform with free and paid tiers.

Listicle websites

[Cracked.com](https://www.cracked.com). Probably the best site for lists. They pay \$100.

[WhatCulture.com](https://www.whatculture.com) Another list site.

Sponsorship Websites (new)

[Kickstarter.com](https://www.kickstarter.com)

[Patreon.com](https://www.patreon.com)

Other websites

[Reedsy](#) 10 Day Email Courses – Free courses that last ten days. Each day during a course you receive an email that's roughly an A4 document in size on the particular topic. Courses cover Design (One course), Distribution (2 courses), Editing (5 Courses), Marketing (16 courses), Publishing (11 courses) and of course Writing (18 courses).

[WordStream.com](https://www.wordstream.com) Free keyword tool for SEO.

[Writing Subreddit](#). A community of 2.5 million writers etc. Completely free to join and use. Warning, it can be a real timewasting rabbit hole!

Other writing related Subreddits.

- [r/writingprompts](#) (User submitted prompts)
- [r/books](#) (The best writers are readers)
- [r/nanowrimo](#) (Month long novel challenge with good resources for anytime)
- [r/fantasywriters](#) (Self-explanatory)
- [r/writerresearch](#) (It has been trying to get off the ground and has been a bit stagnant of late.)
- [r/destructivereaders](#) (Not for the faint of heart, but I have learned from reading others stories and seeing the criticism)
- [r/fantasy](#) (For fantasy readers and writers.)
- [r/characterforge](#) (How to build a character)
- [r/worldbuilding](#) (User created worlds for fiction, gaming, and fun. Some very in-depth stuff)
- [r/writerchat](#) (Talk to some fellow writers)
- [r/blogging](#) (all about blogs if you are into that kind of thing)
- [r/logophilia](#) (words of all kinds, and many you will never see again, but fun to peruse)

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[· r/writingopportunities](#) (calls for submissions)

[· r/freelance](#) (all about freelance work; writing and others)

[· r/freelancewriters](#) (freelance writing; about and opportunities)

Greeting Card Publishers

List of UK publishers (Over three pages).

[Page One.](#)

[Page Two](#)

[Page Three](#)

List of U.S. Publishers

[List](#)

If you think there are web sites that should be here, please email me via the big Orange Contact button on <https://dmbolton.com>