

## **Writing for Publication- A Sure Guide for the Academic Writing**

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### **Background of the book**

#### **The general structure of the book**

Apart from Acknowledgement and write up on Introducing Academic's Support Kit, the book contains contents like Further Reading and Index

The book entitled **Writing for Publication** is an authoritative guide that deals with a number of important issues about academic writing and its publication. It also discusses intellectual property rights regarding publications of books and research papers. This informative and guiding book also considers writing refereed journal articles, books and book chapters in detail as well as other, less common, forms of publication for academics. The main aim of this book is to clarify the process and to help interested authors to become a confident, competent, successful and published writer. This book is published by SAGE Publications in January 2007 with ISBN: 978184920366 as it is entitled as Writing for Publication Series: The Academic's Support Kit. This book is authored by Debbie Epstein; Jane Kenway; Rebecca Boden. The book consists of 6 chapters and each one of it has provided valuable guidance regarding academic writing and the process of its Publication in various forms.

### **About the Authors**

Debbie Epstein works at the nexus of sociology and cultural studies and my research interests comprise childhood and youth studies, particularly sexuality, gender and race in education and in popular culture, and the cultural politics of education. Overall, my focus is on the dominant and how it is held in place, though this often involves investigating the experiences of those in subordinated, marginalised and/or stigmatised groups. He is especially concerned with how children negotiate these 'differences that make a difference' and their agency in the context of institutional settings such as schools and families.

#### **Research interests of the author**

1. Education policy particularly in relation to globalization and socio-cultural change
2. Socio-cultural studies of diverse youthful identities and education
3. Education, media and consumer cultures
4. Elite Schools around the world and the formation of transnational elites

#### **Fields of Research (FOR)**

1. Higher Education
2. Gender, Sexuality and Education
3. Education Policy
4. Sociology of Education

### **Chapter wise review of the book**

#### **The first chapter of the book entitled who should Use this Book and How?**

Gives a clear cut idea about the objectives of this book as the author has mentioned that the book will help those who are interested in the business of writing and developing their writing skill further. This book can also be described as a guide to tackle the complex processes involved in the publication of research in a variety of formats. This book intends to help

1. A research student who has yet to write for publication.
2. Someone who has had an academic job for a while, but who has not yet got going with writing and publishing their research.
3. Someone in their first academic job (with or without a research degree) who needs to acquire writing and publication skills.
4. A more experienced academic who is mentoring someone in one or more of these categories.

**In the second chapter entitled The Business of Writing the book addresses the** significance of reading for an academic writer. The chapter very effectively clarifies that reading is important in developing good research skills. It shows that one has to develop good reading skills, he or she wants to be a good researcher or academic writer. The chapter also offers following hints for effective reading with all required explanation

1. Read actively,
2. not passively
3. Read widely
4. Be a style guru

The chapter also advises that In reading actively, don't just concentrate on the academic content and argument but develop a keen critical eye, or rather ear, for the different genres of academic writing. The chapter further explains the key role of taking notes in academic or research oriented writing. It gives some useful suggestions as

Keep systematic notes. Avoid, at all costs, extensive detail and exact copying of whole paragraphs. Everyone has their own system of note taking and you have to do what suits you best. After giving useful tips for developing reading habits the chapter also explains how to start writing an academic or research paper. It discusses various psychological issues involved in the process of

writing. Then it clarifies that Writing does get easier with practice, but it is always hard work and even the most experienced of writers have bad days in which they write one paragraph. Then the chapter focuses on the question When do one starts writing as it also explains the importance of writing skill in the process of research as it very truly mentions that writing is a learned skill and an activity that is integral to the research process. The process of writing is much more complex, messy and creative. Afterwards the author also gives some important heads and suggestions for writing the draft of academic for research paper or book. It discusses how to plan the academic writing and also the importance of planning in the writing of academic work. In the discussion of the point of the architecture of writing the author suggest following elements should be included in the academic writing

1. A question, or questions, being addressed.
2. An overarching argument that contains different strands and themes.
3. Evidence to support the argument, which may consist of empirical data collected from archives or fieldwork, or it might consist of the writings of others. Most likely, it will include both.

The book also offers its best and most basic advice on structure structure of writing which is suggest us that

1. Say what you are going to say.
2. Say it.
3. Say what you've said.

The author as yours that if these three simple stages, academic writer will have a clear structure or architecture to his or her writing Then the writer of this book discusses how Academics write about their research in a number of quite distinctive genres. The author explains in more detail how to publish work in some of the most common forms. Some of the main forms are:

1. Dissertations and theses, Academic journal articles, Book chapters in collections, Books for academic audiences, often called research monographs, Books about research findings for practitioners and policy makers, Popular books based on research but written for non-academic audiences, Professional journal articles.
2. Reports for specific organizations and/or government departments, Newspaper or other popular press pieces, Conference and seminar papers and posters.

The author argues that as academics need to write for different audiences, using different genres, one can find that the same ideas or piece of research can and should be re-presented in many different formats.

The book has also discussed about the writing by sole author and writing by it very rightly or used that writing something entirely on your own as a sole author can be a lonely activity. However, it is

one that you need to be expert and experienced in because:

1. Regulations, such as when you are writing a thesis, may require it.
2. You may need to demonstrate your competence beyond doubt for promotion/appointment purposes.
3. Most important, there will be things that you want to say that are very particular to you and you need to give voice to. The book father says that writing with others can be immensely rewarding, creative and generative. It shows that how Collaborative writing is often an integral and natural part of collaborative research. It further discusses how there is no 'right' way of actually doing collaborative writing. The book suggests that one has to devise a way of working together that suits all the authors. Then this chapter also highlights how there are a number of potential pitfalls in collaborative writing. In the last part of this chapter the writer has given some handy hints for successful writing. The chapter has also shared a few quick tips to help you become successful academic writers.

**Chapter 3 entitled as The Business of Publishing** talked about the business of writing and how to go about it. In this third chapter the book deals with a range of generic issues around the real business of publishing. The chapter argues that there is no golden rule on what the best publishing strategy is. The most important thing is that we must have a strategy and that it fits our needs, work and subject areas. The writer father discusses that a good way of ensuring that you have a viable publishing strategy and that you are mindful of the intended impact of your published work, is to have a personal publishing plan. In some institutions you may be required to produce this periodically for the delectation and scrutiny of some manager or mentor. However, the most important reason for having a plan is for your own benefit, and if you do have to produce one for others you will at least be in the fortunate position of not having to do it just for someone else. Then the chapter has discussed some hints on how to plan for publication. The chapter father highlights the concept of Authorship. It explains how one of the most enduring problems in publishing is the issue of authorship, by which we mean who gets named as an author in the published output and the order of the names on the published piece. This chapter has also given some suggestions to deal with the problem of authorship. It suggests that the best way of tackling any problems with attributing authorship is to have clear, early and explicit agreements with your co-authors and fellow researchers. Then it deals with another important topic in relations with authorship and it is that of conventions of numbering of author and

acknowledgement. Further the chapter discusses the title of the book chapter. A matter of entitlement: titles as totems in academic texts. Basically you need a good title for your work and, sadly, some people can think of them and others can't. If you're in the latter category, get help and advice. The chapter also discusses how Titles fulfill a number of important functions. In the next part of this chapter, the writer has thrown light on the

Rewards and benefits of writing and publishing. He argues that it is extremely unlikely to gain any significant direct financial return from publishing your research. However, publishing brings its own distinct rewards. The chapter narrates various benefits of academic writing activities such as personal satisfaction, fulfillment of promotion criteria, development of profile, associating yourself with the process of research, professional development and good standing in your professional community.

In the last part of the chapter the author has discussed the importance and role of IPR (otherwise known as Intellectual Property Rights) in publishing books as research articles. The chapter has analyzed and has shown that how there are four main types of IPR: patents (for inventions); trademarks (for brand identity); designs (for product appearance); and copyright (for material such as literary and artistic outputs, music, films, sound recordings, broadcasts, software and multimedia). Writing and publishing activities are concerned only with copyright issues. Then the author has also highlighted other important points like legal and academic implications of economic copyright, assistance and guidance from author's societies around the world.

**Chapter 4 entitled as Publishing Articles in Academic Journals**, the writer has highlighted some of the complexities and details of how to write journal articles and get them published in refereed academic journals.

He has discussed the meaning of 'academic journals'? The author has also talked about difference between professional and academic journal and Various misconceptions about journals. Then the author has asked very relevant questions like Why publish in academic journals? What can I publish? Why publish in academic journals? Then the writer has thrown light on the concept of good publishable papers. After discussing it the writer turn towards the most important question and that is how do I get paper published? In the answer of this question the writer has highlighted seven stages of paper Publication and the chapter has explained the same with appropriate diagrams. It informs the reader about following stages of Publication

1. Research and writing
2. Presenting your work
3. Targeting a journal

4. Preparing for submission
5. The reviewing process
6. Acceptance or rejection
7. Proofs and copyright

**Chapter 5 entitled as Publishing Books and in Books** talks about publishing books and in books. For this the writer has advised us that we first define our subject then discuss why we might choose this publishing form and set out the practicalities of how to go about it.

In this chapter the writer also talks about two specific sorts of books: research mono-graphs and edited collections The chapter discusses the relative merits of research monographs and edited collections. This chapter also discusses the most important stage of book publication. Under this important topic the writer has explained various concepts like Publishers, proposals and contracts. The writer has highlighted the nature of each of these concepts and its nature as follows Contracts are binding legal agreements between the author and the publisher.

They set out the terms on which the book will be released. These terms should include matters such as: Editing, proofreading, binding cover page, selling strategies

**The last and Chapter no 6 entitled Other Sorts of Publishing** deals with the other sorts of publishing that one can do as an academic. We look briefly in turn at textbooks and a whole range of alternatives to journals and research books. the chapter has discussed various other types of books and their nature with their important features. Under this the writer has mentioned Textbooks and other writing for students, Dictionaries, encyclopedia's, reference books and annotated bibliographies, Reference guides, Annotated bibliographies, Books for Beginners. In the final section of this chapter the writer focuses on the changing nature of publishing and what does this mean for scholarly practices?

#### **Overall analysis of the book**

This book is written in very simple and effective language. It is reader friendly and the book has explained various complicated and technical concepts in a very simple language. The tone and style of the book is conversational.

#### **Conclusion**

To conclude we can certainly say that this book can serve as a sure guide for the business of writing and publishing which is regarded as complicated, demanding and problematic activity. The book has shared very practical wisdom regarding academic writing and it finally shows that even though academic writing and its Publication is highly complicated activity still, it provides academics with a real and enduring sense of achievement and satisfaction. This informative book is very useful for budding writers who are desirous

to contribute in the field of academic writing and Research activity.

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