

A Guide for Rise For India Bloggers

What is RFI?

Understanding the concept behind Rise For India is the first step towards understanding the kind of articles that can be published on our website. RFI is a citizen driven opinion based media website, which provides a platform to people especially the youth to come forward and share their opinion on critical issues with our readers.

Whenever we watch a news or witness an incident in front of us, we instantly form an opinion based on our thought process, and it is this opinion that we want you to share with our readers.

Apart from this, we at RFI also carry out various campaigns and series of articles from time to time to influence positive change in our society. The details of articles needed for such campaigns or series will be sent to you individually based on the requirement of that particular campaign or series of articles.

Topic Selection

We consider topic selection to be the most important part for writing a quality article. Make sure you select a topic that resonates with your core interests or influences/motivates you to wear your thinking hat and write a thought provoking article.

Here are some keys to topic selection that we believe can help you in making the right decision:

- Never choose a general topic. For example, if you want to write about women empowerment, try narrowing it down to a particular case or incident. Don't write it like an essay. Pin point your issue and then start.
- Don't ever choose a topic that you know nothing about. That will narrow down your ability to churn out a quality article that interests your readers. Also, it will provide you less opportunity as a writer to explore various angles because of your ignorance about the topic.

- Go through the news and current affairs. Writing an article around the news that people are concerned about gives you more room as a writer to make your work reach a wider audience. In addition to that, it also aids you in channelizing your thoughts in a proper direction.

Say, if you are writing about child labour, find out recent news about it, and try connecting your article with that news and by placing a firm opinion about what you feel about it. We expect our writers to be creative in their research and exploration of different angles of a topic. This won't only allow you to grow as a writer, but will also help you in influencing change on a larger scale by reaching a wider audience, and also by providing something of value to all of them.

- Be bold. Try exploring new topic ideas. Ideas which may not have been discussed thoroughly in the past or topics which people hesitate to talk about. Don't worry if your thoughts don't align with the popular opinion on that topic. Be free to express yourself.
- Always think of providing value to the readers. It is of utmost importance. Try thinking from a reader's perspective.

Most common misconception that we have witnessed in the past is people often tend to relate blogging with somewhat similar to essay writing. Both are poles apart. If you don't have something new to offer on a topic that has been extensively discussed in the past, please refrain from writing on that topic. After all, what value does it provide to the reader?


The best way to overcome this problem is to question yourself, "Would you read this article if it was written by someone else and it happened to pop up on your Facebook newsfeed?"

How to write?

- RFI is all about sharing your opinion and perspective.
- Being interactive is a crucial part of blog writing. You have to maintain the interest of the reader throughout the article. Being interactive means, writing as if you are telling a story and talking to the reader. You can bring in your own personal life

experiences and other examples to justify your points and make the article more interesting. Do not make it sound like a dull research paper.

- Use short paragraphs in your article. Breaking your article in different parts is a good way to keep your readers glued to your article. We strongly urge our writers to not use big paragraphs.
- Be open to all kinds of thoughts and ideas, even if they initially seem weird. If a particular topic or news has to be covered, there is no one particular way to it. Try to think outside the box, and explore the various angles of every topic. Exercise your creative muscles.
- Pick a focal point for your article. Don't deviate from the focal topic that you have chosen. For example, if you are writing about child marriages in Rajasthan, then don't also try incorporating about child labour or other children related problems in the same article. Stick to the topic that you are writing about. If you want to write about other aspect of it, save that topic for another article. And if you feel there is not enough to write on just one aspect of it or a singular topic in that domain, research properly, or leave that topic.
- Don't be afraid to take risks. If 10 websites support a particular case, it does not mean you have to do it too. You can take a stand against it, but you should always have valid arguments to justify whatever you write. Don't just make assumptions. Exploring all dimensions is very important if you want your article to stand out. People are only going to read your article if you have something new to offer and you provide some value to them, or else they won't.
- Facts are always important. Facts and figures play a vital role in giving legitimacy and authenticity to the article. Whenever you bring in any statistical fact or you quote a person, make sure you mention the source of that information by giving a link to it.
- Don't be repetitive with your content and do not use fluffy content in your article. Writing the same point or opinion in different ways in the article does not make sense. Readers expect a decent quality of write-up from RFI and we expect your article to meet those expectations.
- Personal stories and interviews are always encouraged by us. Feel to share them without any inhibition. But please Do Not Write Fiction Stories or Interviews. We

publish only real personal stories and interviews, and we will do a check to ensure that it r write-up meets this expectation.

- Before sending the article, make sure that you proofread it properly to eliminate all the mistakes.

What to do after you submit your write-up?

- Try replying to all the comments which you get on the article. It increases the reach of the article and also helps in your own personal branding as a writer.
- Be courteous. Reply politely even if someone disagrees with you, and explain your point with humility.
- Share your article, and ask your friends to do it too.

Though the above mentioned points are not hard and fast rules for an article to be published on RFI, they are a good guiding reference for you to understand what we expect from your end. Apart from these guiding points, it would also be a nice idea to go through your article on our website once they have been published to note down the changes that our editorial team has made in your article, if any.

At the end of the day, its all about providing something of value to the loyal readers of RFI and meeting their expectation, and developing your own abilities as a writer. We do believe that you will be successful in doing so, and will become an integral part of our team in the future.

For any other queries, please feel free to reach our editor at editor@riseforindia.com or +918884781566.