



Author Assessment Checklist

Instructions: For each question, score yourself as:

- No (1 point)
- Maybe (2 points)
- Yes (3 points)

At the end, tally your total score to see where you stand on your author journey.

Your Approach & Mindset

Question	Yes (3)	Maybe (2)	No (1)
1. Do you believe you <i>can</i> become a published author?			
2. Are you clear on <i>why</i> you want to write a book?			
3. Do you feel prepared for a long creative process?			
4. Can you accept imperfection in early drafts?			
5. Are you willing to face continued rejection or criticism?			
6. Do you have confidence in your unique voice?			
7. Are you open to learning from others and improving?			
8. Have you defined what success looks like for you?			
9. Are you committed to finishing the project?			
10. Are your writing skills well developed?			

Managing Your Time

Question	Yes (3)	Maybe (2)	No (1)
1. Do you have a regular writing schedule?			
2. Can you protect time for writing from other demands?			
3. Do you track your writing sessions or word counts?			
4. How well do you eliminate distractions?			
5. Do you set and review deadlines or milestones?			
6. Can you recover quickly from missed writing days?			
7. Do you plan your day or week around writing sessions?			
8. Are you aware of your most productive writing times?			
9. Do you balance writing with rest and other priorities?			
10. Are you satisfied with your current time management?			

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Your Writing Approach

Question	Yes (3)	Maybe (2)	No (1)
1. Do you have a structured writing process?			
2. Do you outline your story in detail?			
3. How often do you revise your work?			
4. Are you familiar with your chosen genre's conventions?			
5. Do you complete drafts before editing?			
6. How well do you maintain narrative voice and tone?			
7. Do you seek feedback during the writing process?			
8. Are you confident in your grammar and style?			
9. Do you use tools or resources to support your writing?			
10. Do you finish more than you start?			

Editing and Polishing

Question	Yes (3)	Maybe (2)	No (1)
1. Do you revise for structure as well as language?			
2. How many drafts do you usually complete?			
3. Do you read your work aloud or use other editing methods?			
4. Are you comfortable cutting sections that don't serve the story?			
5. Do you know when your manuscript is ready for feedback?			
6. Do you use beta readers or critique partners?			
7. Have you considered hiring a professional editor?			
8. Do you check for consistency, grammar and formatting?			
9. Do you enjoy the editing process or avoid it?			
10. Are you satisfied with the clarity and flow of your final work?			

Publishing Knowledge and Preparation

Question	Yes (3)	Maybe (2)	No (1)
1. Do you know the differences in self and traditional publishing?			
2. Have you researched potential publishers or platforms?			
3. Do you know what goes into a query letter or proposal?			
4. Are you prepared for marketing and promotion?			
5. Have you considered hiring a cover designer or formatter?			
6. Do you know how to price your book?			
7. Are you building an audience or author platform?			
8. Do you understand copyright and ISBN requirements?			
9. Are you ready for reader reviews, both good and bad?			
10. Do you have a launch plan or publication strategy?			

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Sustaining the Author Journey

Question	Yes (3)	Maybe (2)	No (1)
1. Do you reflect on what's working and what's not?			
2. Are you planning more than one book?			
3. Do you connect with other writers or communities?			
4. Are you investing in learning (courses, books, coaching)?			
5. Can you sustain your writing practice over time?			
6. Do you have goals beyond just publication?			
7. Are you resilient in the face of rejection?			
8. Do you celebrate small wins along the way?			
9. Are you maintaining a healthy life balance?			
10. Are you enjoying the process overall?			

How Did You Rate?

Score Guide: Total Maximum Score: 180 points

Score Range	Your Status
150–180	Congratulations ! You are well on the way to being an author. Keep going!
100–149	You need a little help along the way. Stay committed and seek guidance.
60–99	You probably need quite a lot of help. Consider support, mentoring, or coaching.

Call to Action

Does the above score match your own gut feeling? Sometimes we over (or under) value ourselves. It's not the end of the world if you score in the lower range because, with determination, we can all improve. The main thing is if you **want to**.

Wherever you are on your journey, remember: every author was once a beginner.

Keep writing, keep learning, and don't be afraid to ask for help or seek a community. Your voice matters, and your story deserves to be told.

Want help on your journey? Contact us at *The Writers Workshop* and we'll keep to keep you on your learning journey.

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