

52 Weekly Copywriting Tips

One copywriting tip for every week of the year, crafted with Yorkshire charm. Stick this on your wall, desk or fridge and take one a week to sharpen your skills and keep your words working harder.

- **I. Write like you talk:** Forget trying to sound clever; just be clear and conversational. Your reader's a human, not a robot.
- 2. Use short, punchy sentences: Long sentences bore and confuse. Snappy ones keep attention where it belongs.
- **3. Start strong ... hook them early:** The first line should grab them by the collar. If it's weak, they're gone.
- **4. Focus on benefits, not features:** People don't buy products; they buy what those products *do* for them.
- **5. Use active voice, not passive:** 'We write great copy' sounds better than 'Great copy is written by us'.
- 6. Be specific, not vague: 'Fast delivery' is OK; 'Delivered in 24 hours' is better.
- 7. Cut the fluff ... less is more: If a word doesn't earn its keep, turf it out.
- 8. Write for one person, not the crowd: Imagine your ideal reader and write just for them.
- **9. Use power words sparingly:** Words like 'free', 'guaranteed', and 'exclusive' work best when they're not overused.
- **10. Don't bury your message ... front load it:** Say the important stuff first; don't make readers dig for it.
- 11. Test your headlines ... they matter most: A dull headline is a dead end. Test until it clicks.
- **12. Avoid jargon unless your reader uses it too:** Jargon alienates most people. Keep it simple unless you're writing for specialists.
- 13. Always include a clear call to action: Don't assume they'll know what to do next. Tell them.
- 14. Use subheadings to break up text: They help skim readers navigate and draw them back in.
- **15. Write, then rewrite ... editing is everything:** Your first draft's just clay. Shaping it's where the magic happens.
- 16. Read it out loud ... if it sounds odd, it is: The ear catches clunkiness the eye misses.

- 17. Don't be clever at the cost of clarity: If it takes a second read to get it, rewrite it.
- **18. Numbers add trust ... use them where possible:** '92% satisfied customers' beats 'lots of happy clients'.
- 19. Use stories to make a point stick: People remember stories far better than statements.
- 20. White space helps the eyes ... use it: A cramped layout makes even good writing unreadable.
- 21. Keep paragraphs short ... 2 to 3 lines max: Big blocks of text are off-putting; chunk it up.
- 22. Don't try to say everything at once: One message at a time is plenty; less scatter, more clarity.
- 23. Use rhythm ... vary your sentence lengths: It keeps the writing flowing. Like a good song.
- 24. Highlight key phrases with bold or italics: Helps skimmers get the gist.
- 25. Limit exclamation marks ... one is plenty: Earn enthusiasm with words, not punctuation.
- **26. Always spellcheck ... but don't just rely on it:** A spellchecker won't spot the wrong word spelled right.
- **27. A/B test when you can ... even subject lines:** Small tweaks can make big differences. Test, learn, tweak again.
- 28. If it's boring to write, it's boring to read: If you're bored, so's your reader. Mix it up.
- 29. Focus on what the reader *gets*: They care about their needs, not your features.
- 30. Don't start with 'we' ... start with 'you': 'You' speaks to the reader; 'we' talks about yourself.
- 31. Headlines should promise a benefit: Why should they read on? Make it clear right away.
- **32. Never assume your reader knows the context:** Always give just enough background to guide them.
- 33. Emotion beats logic in most buying decisions: Feelings move people to action more than facts.
- **34.** Use testimonials to support claims: Real words from real people build real trust.
- 35. Avoid filler words ... be ruthless: If it doesn't add, it subtracts.
- **36. Think mobile ... short lines and scannable content:** Most reading is on phones; make it easy to scan.
- **37.** Use questions to engage the reader: They draw people in, especially when they echo their own thoughts.
- 38. Don't overwrite ... trust the reader's intelligence: Don't spoon-feed; respect their brain.
- 39. Avoid clichés like the plague!: Find fresher ways to say what you mean.
- 40. Every word must earn its place: Tight copy beats wordy waffle every time.

- **41. Highlight urgency or scarcity if it's genuine:** Deadlines and limited spots can nudge action ... if they're real.
- 42. Proof is powerful ... stats, quotes, or stories: Show, don't just tell.
- 43. Make it visual ... think layout and flow: Design helps words do their job.
- **44.** Always write with a goal in mind: Know what the copy should *do* before you start.
- 45. Make your CTA impossible to miss: Bold, clear, and right where they'll see it.
- **46. Break long content into digestible chunks:** People scan ... give them natural pauses.
- 47. Match tone to audience ... always: Friendly? Formal? Sassy? Whatever suits them best.
- 48. Don't just write ... rewrite with purpose: Refining is writing. It's where your words get sharp.
- 49. Less 'I', more 'you': Talk to the reader about *them*, not yourself.
- **50. Your first draft is just the starting point:** Perfection's in the polishing.
- 51. Write sober, edit sharp ... always: Write freely, edit like a Yorkshireman ... no nonsense.
- **52. Keep learning** ... **great copywriters never stop:** New tricks keep your pen sharp.

For more tips, training, or Yorkshire-crafted copy, visit www.yorkshirewriters.com or email info@yorkshirewriters.com.