

WRITING PROCESS ASSESSMENT

AI for Writers: Companion Resource
Chapter 1: The End of Random AI Use

Purpose

This worksheet helps you map your current writing process across the six core systems covered in this book. The goal isn't perfection. It's visibility. By the time you finish this assessment, you'll have a clear picture of where you're strong, where the gaps are, and where AI integration will have the most impact.

How to Use This Worksheet

For each of the six systems below, answer the prompts honestly. Write what you actually do, not what you think you should be doing. If a system barely exists in your process, that's valuable information. If you're already strong in an area, name that too.

After completing all six sections, use the Summary section on the final page to identify your top priorities for AI integration.

Time required: **15 to 30 minutes**

System 1: Idea Development

How you generate, explore, and commit to book or project ideas.

Area	Your Current Process
Current approach	<i>How do you come up with ideas? Describe your process, even if it's informal.</i>
Idea validation	<i>How do you decide whether an idea is worth pursuing? Do you test it, or go on instinct?</i>
AI usage	<i>Are you using AI for brainstorming or idea exploration? If so, how? If not, what's held you back?</i>
Biggest challenge	<i>What's the hardest part of this phase for you?</i>

System 2: Market Research and Idea Refinement

How you evaluate whether your idea has a market and refine it based on what you find.

Area	Your Current Process
Current approach	<i>Do you research the market before committing to a project? What does that look like?</i>
Competitive analysis	<i>Do you look at comparable books or content? How do you identify what's already out there?</i>

AI usage	Are you using AI for market research or competitive analysis? If so, describe your process.
Biggest challenge	What's the hardest part of this phase for you?

System 3: Outlining and Structure

How you organize your ideas into a framework before you start writing.

Area	Your Current Process
Current approach	Do you outline before you write? What does your outlining process look like?
Structure method	Do you use a consistent framework, or does it change with every project?
AI usage	Are you using AI to help build outlines or structure your content? If so, how?
Biggest challenge	What's the hardest part of this phase for you?

System 4: Drafting and Writing

How you move from outline to written content, and what role (if any) AI plays in the drafting process.

Area	Your Current Process
Current approach	<i>Describe how you typically write. Do you draft linearly, jump around, batch by section?</i>
Voice consistency	<i>How do you maintain your voice across a long project? Do you have a documented voice guide?</i>
AI usage	<i>Are you using AI during the drafting process? As a writing partner, for feedback, for generating sections?</i>
Biggest challenge	<i>What's the hardest part of this phase for you?</i>

System 5: Editing and Publishing Prep

How you take a completed draft and prepare it for publication.

Area	Your Current Process
Current approach	<i>What does your editing process look like? Do you self-edit, hire an editor, or both?</i>
Production tasks	<i>How do you handle formatting, cover design, metadata, and other publishing logistics?</i>

AI usage	<i>Are you using AI for any editing or production tasks? If so, which ones?</i>
Biggest challenge	<i>What's the hardest part of this phase for you?</i>

System 6: Publishing and Audience

How you get your finished work in front of readers and build an audience around it.

Area	Your Current Process
Current approach	<i>What does your book marketing look like? Launch plan, ongoing promotion, audience building?</i>
Channels	<i>Which platforms or channels do you use? Email, social media, Amazon ads, blog, podcast?</i>
AI usage	<i>Are you using AI for any marketing or audience-building tasks? If so, how?</i>
Biggest challenge	<i>What's the hardest part of this phase for you?</i>

SUMMARY: YOUR WRITING PROCESS MAP

Rate Your Confidence in Each System

Circle or highlight your rating for each system. 1 = nonexistent or chaotic. 5 = consistent and effective.

System	1	2	3	4	5
Idea Development	1	2	3	4	5
Market Research	1	2	3	4	5
Outlining & Structure	1	2	3	4	5
Drafting & Writing	1	2	3	4	5
Editing & Pub Prep	1	2	3	4	5
Publishing & Audience	1	2	3	4	5

Identify Your Top Priorities

Priority	System	Why This Matters Most Right Now
#1		
#2		
#3		

Your Current or Next Project

If you have a specific book or project in mind, capture it here. This becomes the context for your work in Part II.

Working title or concept	
Where it stands right now <i>Idea stage, partially drafted, stalled, nearly complete?</i>	
What's holding it back <i>What's the primary thing keeping this from moving forward?</i>	

AI for Writers: Build Better Ideas, Stronger Drafts, and a Sustainable Creative Workflow

Part of the AI Systems Series by Dan King

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