

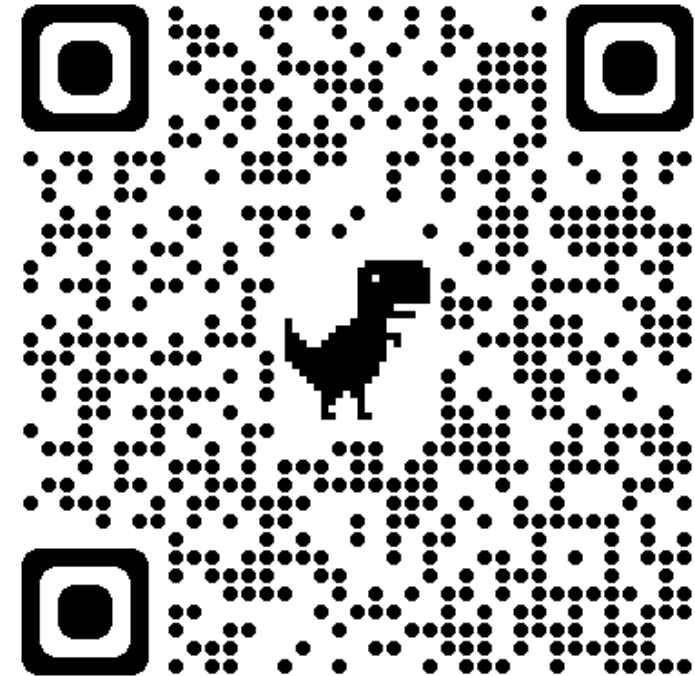
Writing a Popular Science Article

Week2 workshop

Welcome!

Please find your
designated group.

We start at 13:00.



Download link for
presentation slides

Today's program (13:00-15:30)

Introduction + get to know each other

Importance of popular science writing (lecture)

Idea generation (individually + groups)

The act of writing (lecture)

15 minutes break

Science storytelling (lecture)

Make + discuss story outline (individually + groups)

Storytelling techniques (lecture)

Improve + discuss story outline (individually + groups)

Conclusion (all together)

In groups: Get to know each other

- Name?
- Research field?
- Where do you come from?
- Favourite Sunday activity?

Importance of popular science writing

- For you (the scientist):
 - visibility
 - participate in broader discussion
 - promote your view and understanding
 - improved clarity in your own work
- For the reader (the public):
 - science based input on important questions
 - understanding of the nature of science
 - fascination and inspiration
- Key to communication: **Know your audience!**

Individually: What do you want to write about?

Useful tools:

Freewriting (write without stopping)

the quick fox jumps over the lazy dog the quick
fox jumps over the lazy dog the quick fox jumps
over the lazy dog the quick fox jumps over the
lazy dog the quick fox jumps over the lazy dog
the quick fox jumps over the lazy dog the quick
fox jumps over the lazy dog the quick fox jumps
over the lazy dog the quick fox jumps over the
lazy dog the quick fox jumps over the lazy dog
the quick fox jumps over the lazy dog the quick
fox jumps over the lazy dog the quick fox jumps
over the lazy dog

Bullet points

- First idea
 - which also leads to this
 - some thoughts
 - and other thoughts
 - and also this
- second idea is perhaps better
 - because of this
 - but perhaps this is a problem

Mind map



In groups:

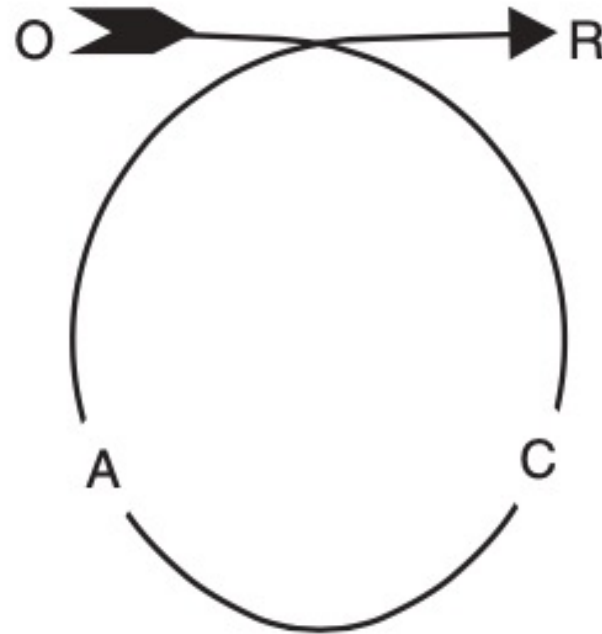
Discuss and decide on one topic each

The act of writing

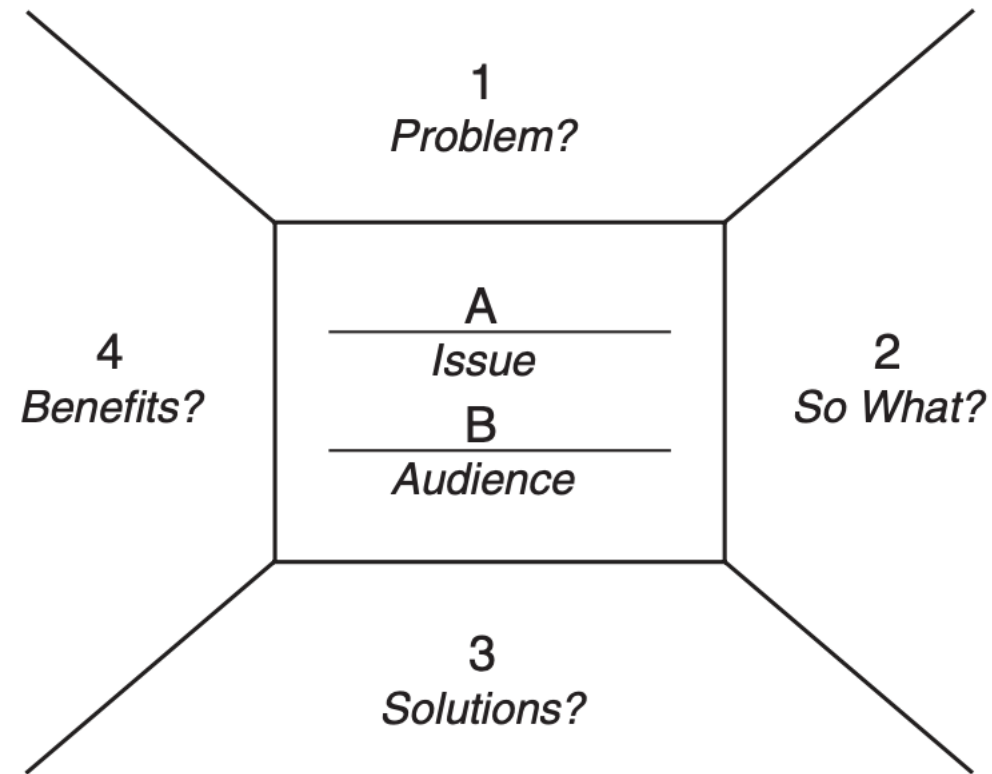
- As a scientist, you are a professional writer.
- Writing is hard! Even for the best.
- First drafts should usually be horrible.
- First things first! Focus in this order:
 - Idea/topic
 - Structure
 - Paragraphs
 - Sentences
 - Spelling

Science storytelling

Opening
Challenge
Action
Resolution

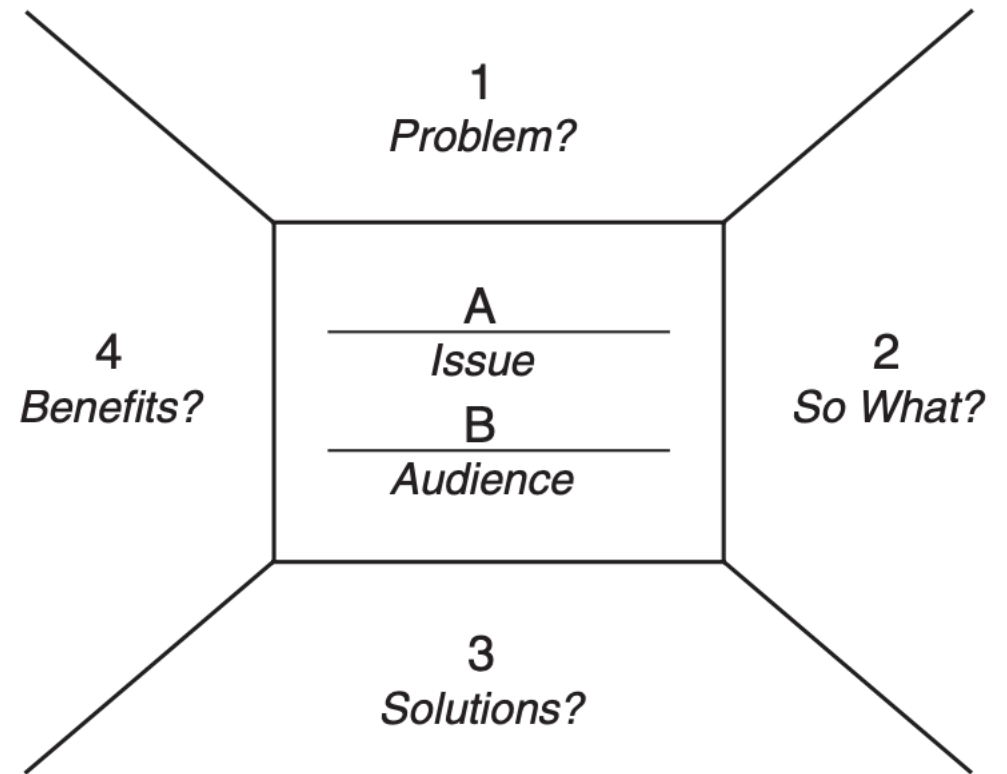
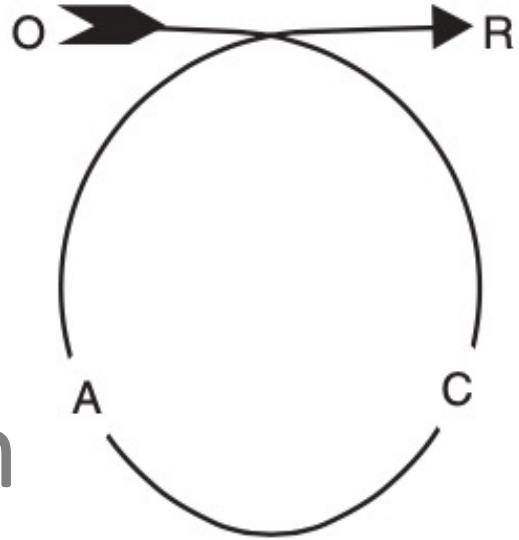


The Story Box



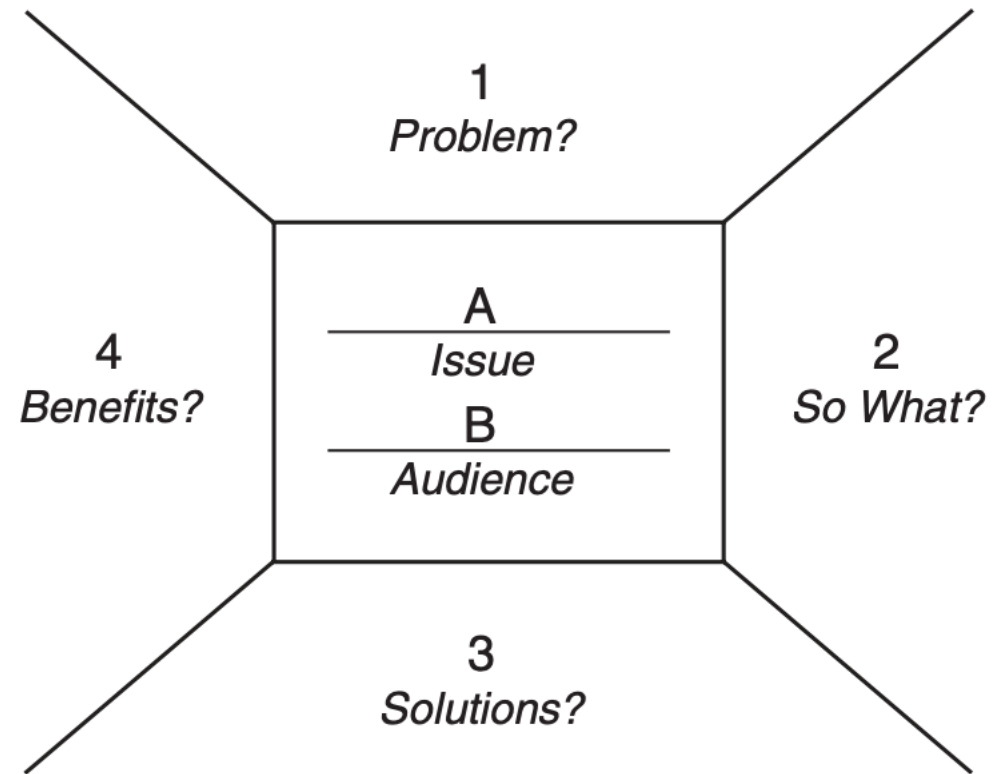
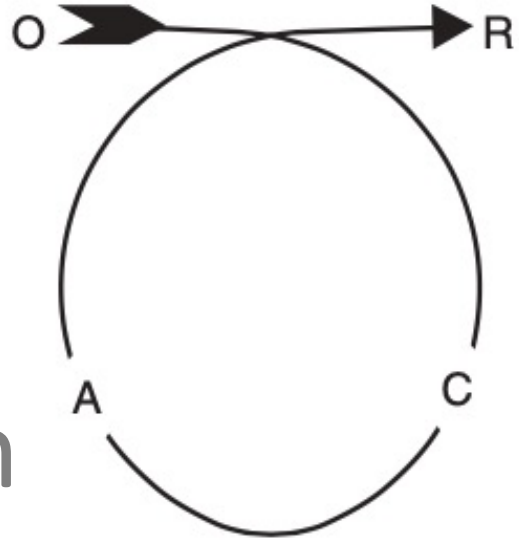
Individually: plan your story

Opening
Challenge
Action
Resolution



In groups: discuss story plans
- what is interesting? - what to focus on?

Opening
Challenge
Action
Resolution



Storytelling techniques

Simple
Unexpected
Concrete
Credible
Emotional
Stories

- Need to connect: person, place, something familiar
- Create images in the reader's mind
- Show, don't tell
 - concrete – abstract
 - anecdote – reflection
 - personal story - facts
- Everything must be true!

Individually: think of what techniques to use

Simple
Unexpected
Concrete
Credible
Emotional
Stories

- Need to connect: person, place, something familiar
- Create images in the reader's mind
- Show, don't tell
 - concrete – abstract
 - anecdote – reflection
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- Everything must be true!

In groups: discuss storytelling techniques

Simple
Unexpected
Concrete
Credible
Emotional
Stories

- Need to connect: person, place, something familiar
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- Everything must be true!

Individually: finish your story plan

Make the notes you need to
make sure you can continue
working on the text later

Science Communication Forum at MN

<https://www.mn.uio.no/kurt/english/projects/science-communication-forum-at-mn/>

The Science Communication Forum at MN is the faculty's meeting place for employees interested in dissemination. Here, we create a professional community for mutual inspiration and offer courses and workshops to develop our skills as communicators in different genres.



Tid og sted: 14. feb. 2024 09:00 – 13:00, CCSE store møterom (Fysikkbygningen 4. etasje øst)

Bokprosjektverksted: Hvordan søke penger til bokskriving

Har du en plan, ide eller drøm om å skrive en faglitterær bok? I dette verkstedet får du vite hvordan du skriver en god prosjektsøknad for å få midler til bokskrivingen, og du får tips til hvordan du kan utvikle ditt eget bokprosjekt.



Time and place: Apr. 3, 2024 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, CCSE large meeting room, 4th floor East Physics Building

Writing workshop

Are you writing an opinion piece or a popular science article? This workshop is for you if you're seeking tips on writing for the general public and if you want to develop your text in a community with writing colleagues.

Feedback about this session?



Presentation slides download

