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- □ Think like a reader write what you would want to read
- $\hfill\square$ Create a style guide to ensure consistency
- $\hfill\square$ Big picture powerful hook, flow, relevance, call to action
- $\hfill\square$ Don't edit while you're writing the first draft
- $\hfill\square$ Don't do all the editing at the same time
- $\hfill\square$ Let it sit, sleep on it, fresh eyes, new perspective
- \square Read out loud, read it backwards
- $\hfill\square$ Print it out, change font type, size or colour and use a ruler and red pen
- \Box Cut long sentences into two 15 words or less
- $\hfill\square$ Try writing in an active voice, as opposed to passive
- $\hfill\square$ Tone of voice consistent and best for your audience
- \Box Remove useless/filter words
- $\hfill\square$ Remove uncertain language could be, seems to be, might be, should have
- $\hfill\square$ Avoid repetitive words and phrases be creative or use a thesaurus
- $\hfill\square$ Choose normal words over fancy ones
- \Box Use powerful verbs
- $\hfill\square$ Steer clear of words that end in 'ing' replace with a strong verb
- □ Look out for words that sound the same but are spelt differently (homophones) your/you're, their/there/they're
- $\hfill\square$ Use contractions and use them consistently
- \square Be consistent with your capitalisation
- $\hfill\square$ Remove double spaces after a full stop
- \Box Ellipses are only three dots ... (Alt+0133)
- \Box Avoid currently, start to, in order to, that, thing, very, really, there is, there are
- \Box Check your commas, apostrophes and other punctuation marks are in the right spot
- \Box Reference a style guide/dictionary
- \Box Use spell check or a tool like Grammarly BUT don't rely on them
- □ Hire a professional

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27 Editing Tips to Make Your Copy Shine