



Optimising Training for Medical Writers

Views of a Writer/Editor

StGilesMedical Workshop, December 18th 2018 – London

Dr. Gerhard Pappert | Consulting & Communications
for Life Science, Health, Technology

Outline

- My journey into medical writing
- What training did I receive? Good and bad aspects?
- What difficulties did I face as a non-native speaker?
- What would benefit me now training-wise as a writer?
- Should medical writing be an academic discipline with a formal qualification overseen by a university?





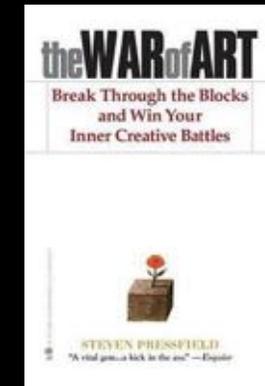
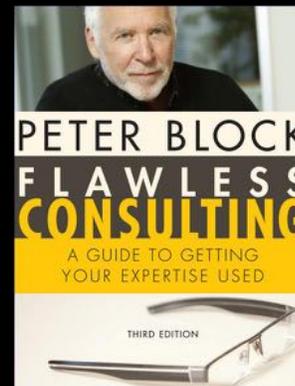
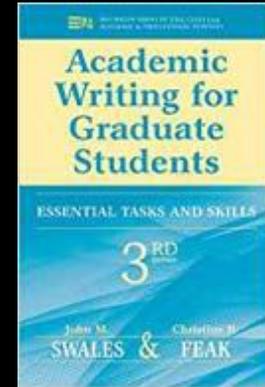
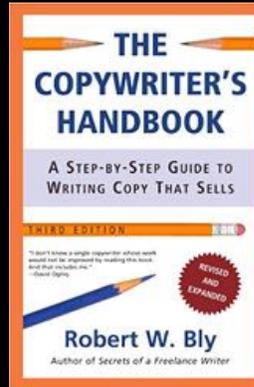
My journey into medical writing

- > Biotech Studies
- > PhD Analytical Chemistry
- > Editor at Scientific Publishers
- > Medical Writing



Training

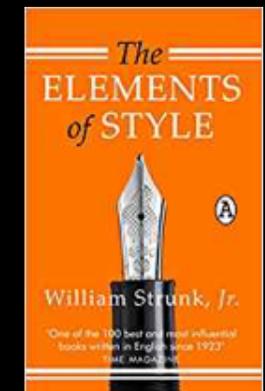
- Academic education, editorial experience at publishing houses, training on the job
- Reading and writing a lot, receiving comments from experienced writers/clients
- Toastmasters public speaking club (helps with storytelling)
- Collaboration and discussion with other writers and creative people
- Online resources and books



Stephen King

A Memoir of the Craft

On Writing





What difficulties did I face as a non-native speaker?

- Getting the language subtleties right

Recommendations for new writers

- Take on projects that involve you on-site with the client/agency, to get a feel for how things are done there and establish personal connections
- Work at a good coworking space / business club to establish daily structure, a network, invite clients and host meetings





What would benefit me now training-wise as a writer?

- That is highly dependent on individual projects
- Coming from a life science background, medical and pharma regulatory training and clinical trial management would be beneficial





Should medical writing be an academic discipline with a formal qualification overseen by a university?



Thank you

