

How to write opinion pieces (that get published)

1. Focus on one main idea or a single theme in your op-ed.
2. Look for opportunities to wed your specific area of expertise or interest with news developments. Timeliness is crucial. One day can mean the difference between acceptance and rejection. Be timely, and even controversial in your opinion. Support it with facts or the strongest proof you can muster.
3. Always write for the lay reader. Be clear and straightforward. Use simple words, short sentences, short paragraphs.
4. Have a clear editorial viewpoint. State that point in your first paragraph, and then proceed to back up your opinion or prove your thesis.
5. Take pains to educate the reader with your special insight, but take care not to condescend or preach. Keep the tone of your piece on high ground.
6. Express a strong call to action. Write with verve and “fire in your gut.”
7. Don’t ramble or deviate from your principal points. An op-ed is neither a history lesson nor an essay that slowly builds to a point. The point must be made in paragraph one.
8. Use short, declarative sentences. Long, complex sentences and paragraphs raise the “Fog Index” for even the brainiest of readers.

Opinion Piece Submission Tips:

- Submissions should be about 650 words long.
- Include your name, credentials (briefly stated) mailing address and daytime phone number when contacting the op-ed editor.

Local Media:

- [Globe & Mail](#)
 - Natasha Hassan, [Opinion Editor](#)
nhassan@globeandmail.com
comment@globeandmail.com
- [Toronto Star](#)
 - Scott Colby, Opinion Editor
scolby@thestar.ca | oped@thestar.ca
- [National Post](#)
 - Matt Gurney, Deputy Comment Editor
submissions@nationalpost.com
- [Maclean’s Magazine](#)
 - Adrian Lee, Comment Editor
adrian.lee@rci.rogers.com

International Media:

- [New York Times](#) | oped@nytimes.com
- [Washington Post](#) | oped@washpost.com
- [Los Angeles Times](#) | op-ed@latimes.com
- [Guardian \(UK\)](#) | guardian.letters@theguardian.com
 - [Comment is Free Blog](#): cif.editors@theguardian.com