

Nonfiction Story Checklist

1. Have you started in the right place?
2. Is your beginning too slow?
3. Have you established mood?
4. Have you written about something you know?
5. Have you been redundant?
6. Have you been careful with flashbacks?
7. Have you included unnecessary interviewees and dialogue?
8. Is your dialogue stilted?
9. Have you overworked a word or phrase?
10. Are your facts accurate?
11. Have you destroyed your scene or mood?
12. Have you been trite or "cute"?
13. Have you said something that means something?
14. Does your story unfold in logical sequence?
15. Do you use descriptive detail?
16. Have you been too wordy?
17. Have you written just for yourself?
18. Have you let your reader think? Leave something to his/her imagination.
19. If set in the past, does your present-day point of view disrupt the narrative?
20. Are you preaching to your readers?