

# 20 Questions to Ask Before Writing a Novel

*This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:*

[Do This Before Writing Your Next Novel](#)

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1. What do you want to write about?
2. Why do you want to write this story?
3. Do you have the time and motivation to write this book?
4. Do you know enough about the subject of the book or will you need to do research?
5. Why did you choose your protagonist?
6. What about this protagonist do you want to explore?
7. How will the reader connect with this protagonist?
8. Who is your antagonist?
9. How does your antagonist reflect your protagonist?
10. What do your main characters want?
11. What do your main characters need to get what they want?
12. What motivates them?
13. What makes them afraid?
14. What is the character's arc?
15. What mood would you like to create in your story?
16. What is the setting of your story?
17. How does the setting play into the story's main conflict?
18. Has this story been told before and, if so, how are you putting a unique spin on this story?
19. What do you want the reader to feel as they're reading your story?
20. What do you want the reader to feel **after** they've read your story?