



Writer/Author Internship

Overview

Readeezy, a digital library for struggling teen and older readers, is seeking creative and ambitious Writers/Authors to join our intern cohort. As a Writer/Author, you will work closely with the Readeezy editorial team to compose fictional, age-respectful and relevant stories that will attract our target audience. You will be responsible for writing a 3,500-4,000 word story that is written at a 3rd or 4th grade reading level with 5-6 chapters and, afterwards, work in tandem with illustrator to bring the story to life. Although this is an unpaid internship, it provides the opportunity to use segments of story for personal portfolio.

Who we are

Readeezy Literacy is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has created a digital library specifically designed for struggling teen and older readers to improve their literacy outcomes as well as social and emotional growth. Our books include the following features: age-respectful storylines at an accessible reading level; illustrations throughout; checks for understanding using gaming as stealth assessment; critical thinking/problem-solving questions; assessment of non-academic learning (e.g., relationships, empathy, identity).

About our Readers

Readeezy's target audience consists of struggling, disabled older readers; therefore, we focus on publishing high-interest, low-reading-level stories that have 3rd or 4th grade vocabulary and sentence structure. These types of stories are engaging for their age group and can be easily read and understood by them. Unfortunately, a lot of books that are accessible to struggling readers are tailored towards elementary students. Older students are not interested in the juvenile content of these books, which leads to them refusing to read, which leads to them continuing to struggle. Our vision is to create a digital library that will help them enjoy the activity of reading again.

We highly encourage anyone interested in this position to check out our books at readeezy.com to gain a clear understanding of the writing style we are looking for. Because our target audience is older readers, we aim to publish both mature storylines and mature-looking, teen and college level characters. **We do not publish children's literature.**

Qualifications

- Major in English, Journalism, Writing or related field
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills

- A good grasp of grammar, syntax, punctuation and storytelling techniques
- Tailoring writing style to meet the needs of target audience
- The ability to positively receive and act on feedback/constructive criticism
- Attention to detail and accuracy, particularly concerning narrative conventions
- Strong organizational and time management skills
- Proficient in components of Google Drive, especially Docs
- Able to work independently and collaboratively

Writing intern candidates are required to submit a one page sample of the beginning of a short story for teens. The story must be dialogue-driven and have minimal narration.

What to Expect

- 3500-4000 word story written at a 3rd or 4th grade level with 5-6 chapters
- Pitching, drafting, writing, editing and proofreading work
- Attend weekly check-in meetings
- Follow scheduling guidelines
- After story completion, work with illustrator to bring story to life
- Communication with Readeezy staff

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Develop the creative and technical skills necessary to conceive, execute, and revise original work that is appropriate for target audience.
- Hone their ability to invent and organize plot, develop character, and render vivid scenes through dialogue.
- Think creatively and derive story ideas from their own individual life experience and from their imagination.
- Demonstrate proficient sentence-level skills, including grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.
- Increase their understanding of the requirements of a professional publishing house in terms of positive and timely response to critique and editing suggestions, as well as deadlines.

Technical Skills Involved

- Creative Writing
- Editing
- Proofreading

Credit

This internship is unpaid, but eligible for academic or course credit if approved by your educational institution. Students seeking this option should inquire with their academic advisor. Employers will work with the student and college advisor on achieving desired learning outcomes and completing all necessary paperwork. No more than 15 hrs per week. Accepting applicants for Summer, 2025. Please indicate the semester for which you are applying.

Internship follows [US Department of Labor internship guidelines](https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fact-sheets/71-flsa-internships) and is in compliance with the following <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fact-sheets/71-flsa-internships>

To apply, please send a resume, cover letter, and a one-page sample of the beginning of a short story for teens to Maria Cleary at maria@readeezy.com. The story must be dialogue-driven and have minimal narration.