**TBW Assignment 01**

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Provide brief answers.

# What are the major fields/genres of technical writing?

Five of the most popular genre of technical writing are:

* **Instruction Manuals:** These are guides related to technical details of any product, software etc. It contains instructions regarding how to use the concerned product and steps to take in case any sort of difficulty is encountered.
* **Proposals:** The proposal can be related to business or research at educational institutes. It creates a sketch of the idea that is to be executed in the future. For business, it is to attract the potential client while for research it is to define why the particular idea was chosen.
* **Reports:** A technical report is a more detailed version of the proposal where the complete process of the idea’s execution is explained in detail. It usually contains the aim, objectives achieved and the final product that was obtained. Technical reports can include SRS reports, feasibility reports etc.
* **Case Study:** Case studies are in-depth insight into the issues concerning real life. It can be used to persuade the reader about how effective a service, product, business or software is. They can be used to explore the different facets of an issue or problem.
* **White Paper:** These can be used to shed light on how successful a product or idea of a company has been. The writing contains an overview of the problem areas and might also contain details of the products that the company sells.

# Why are good technical writing skills crucial for software engineers?

Having hands on experience with technical writing is essential for a software engineer for the following reasons:

* When designing a software product, often some high-level conceptual terms are used that might be difficult for the user to understand. Through technical writing, the engineer can grasp over user empathy. This enables him to write technical terms in a manner that is easy for the reader to comprehend.
* Technical writing also makes communication effective between teammates working on the designing of the same software. If the engineer is working in collaboration with other software developers on a regular basis, technical writing makes it easier to exchange ideas. The ideas can be structured in a way that the coworkers can better understand as an efficient message has been delivered to them.
* Once a software has been developed, the software engineer would also have to create a guide for the users. Technical writing comes in handy here to create useful guides or documentation relevant to the software. As new features are developed, the engineer can integrate them in the product and describe them through technical writing in a way that it makes sense to the reader.

# What is the primary purpose of technical writing?

The main purpose of technical writing is to structure complex ideas, terminologies in a manner that is understandable by readers of all levels. This means that the information delivered should be straightforward and clear. Regardless of the level of knowledge, the reader should be able to understand the purpose behind the piece of writing. It should be free from fluff or unnecessary information and should only focus on the facts and figures.

# Define technical writing in your own words.

According to my understanding, technical writing is completely different from other forms of writing like creative or persuasive writing. Here, our focus is mainly on pieces of writings that are implemented and used in practical i.e.: workplace, educational institutions etc. The idea is not just to inform the reader but also create a clear image in their mind regarding the product or idea that the technical writing is based upon. Unlike persuasive writing, here the goal is not to appeal to the reader to agree but to educate and inform. There is no presence of emotion or opinions. Technical writing can be a skill that companies might provide trainings for people who have the technical knowledge and expertise but are not purported writers.