

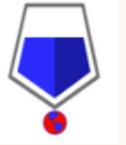


# Writing the

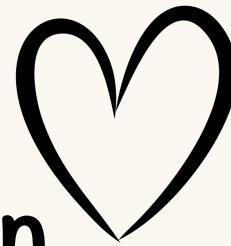
# FUTURE

With Sujatha R





# Who Am I?

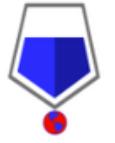


Hi there! I'm Sujatha R!



- Technical Writer at DigitalOcean
- 7+ years of tech writing experience
- Mumma bear to a 4 year old son
- Singing, dancing, learning Japanese
- Podcast host, Emcee

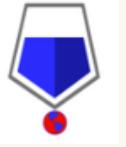




# Agenda

1. Past tech writer
2. Timeline
3. Present tech writers
4. Future tech writers
5. Characteristics of future  
tech writers
6. Tech writing tools
7. Live audit sessions





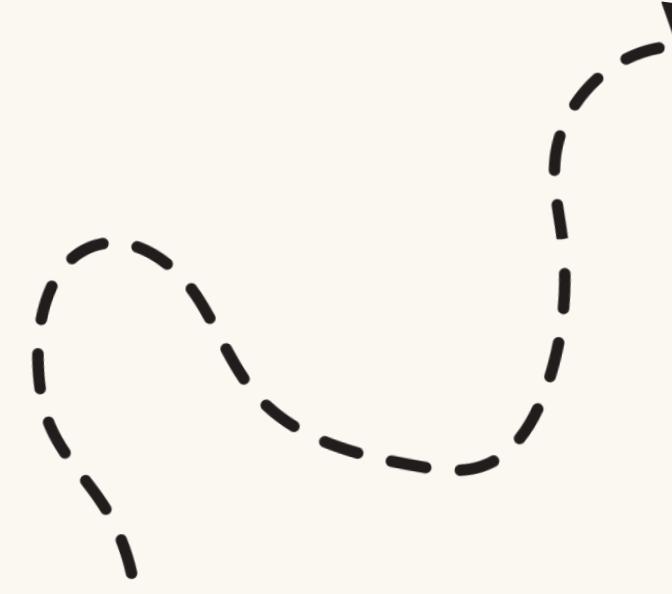
# Past



Joseph D. Chapline



- Ancient temple inscriptions
- Leonardo da Vinci (1452 – 1519) & Isaac Newton (1642–1727)
- Technical writing recognized as a profession since World War II
- Joseph D. Chapline - First tech writer - BINAC - 1949



# Timeline



1951- First technical writer role published in the “Help Wanted” ads.

1986 - American National Standards Institute (ANSI) released the Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML), which became the basis of several subset markup languages, including HTML

2024 - Artificial Intelligence writing

1949 - First user manual for BINAC computer by Joseph D. Chapline , Technical writer

1960-The continued growth of technology created a big upsurge in demand for technical writers.

2002- Sarbanes-Oxley Section 404 (SOX) says that publicly traded companies must establish, document, & maintain internal controls and procedures for financial reporting

# Present-Types of Technical Writers

Tech Write Pro



## Medical Writers

- Content for healthcare professionals & patients
- Ms Word, EndNote, SAS, SPSS
- GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)

## Compliance Writers

- Ensure that tech docs complies with industry regulations
- Pfizer- FDA and EMA standards for medical products

## UI/UX Writers

- Intuitive content for digital interfaces
- Microcopy
- Google

## Prompt engineers

- Crafting prompts
- AI systems, chatbots, and voice assistants
- Amazon

# FUTURE-TECHWRITERS

Tech Write Pro



| SL.NO | ROLE   | JOB DESCRIPTION   | EXAMPLE                 |
|-------|--|---|-------------------------|
| 1     | AR/VR Writers  | Immersive, interactive content  | Meta (Horizon Worlds)   |
| 2     | Technical marketers  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tech writers write for TOF-MOF-BOF \$\$</li> <li>• Tech complexity + Marketing message</li> </ul>  | Amazon (AWS)            |
| 3     | Software Interpreters*                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Software self express using human forms of communication</li> <li>• Define unique "voice &amp; personality" of software's communication (~ brand voice)</li> </ul> | Anduril Industries      |
| 4     | Visual Writers*  | Doc"figma-ization" - create doc with designers  | Pixar                   |
| 5     | Flash Writers  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attention span = 8.25 seconds</li> <li>• High-quality tech content+ engaging content quickly</li> </ul>  | Tech news organizations |
| 6     | doc-as-an-ecosystem<br>(Source: Book by Alejandra Quetzalli) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writers treat documentation as a living ecosystem</li> <li>• Create content that adapts and evolves</li> </ul>   | Atlassian               |



## Adaptability

Being open-minded, flexible, & able to pivot strategies based on evolving needs.

## Visual Literacy

"The future belongs to those who learn to blend words with pictures."  
- Regina Dugan

## Story telling

"The universe is made of stories, not atoms." - Muriel Rukeyser

## Emotional intelligence

Companies with high emotional intelligence earn 27% more revenue  
(Source: TalentSmart)

## Ethical AI awareness

Ensure the software's language adheres to ethical principles and guidelines.

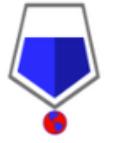
## SEO understanding

68% of online experiences begin with a search engine  
(Source: BrightEdge)

# Characteristics of future tech writers

# TECHWRITING TOOLS

Tech Write Pro



- Identify relevant keywords to optimize content for search engines
- Tools : Ahrefs, SEMrush

## Keyword Research Tools

- Optimize web pages and content for better search engine visibility and rankings
- Tools : Yoast SEO, Rank Math

## SEO Tools

- Detect instances of plagiarism in content
- Compare the submitted text against a vast database of online sources
- Tools : Grammarly, Copyscape

## Plagiarism detection tools

- Create visually appealing graphics, diagrams, & multimedia content to enhance comprehension.
- Tools : Canva, Adobe

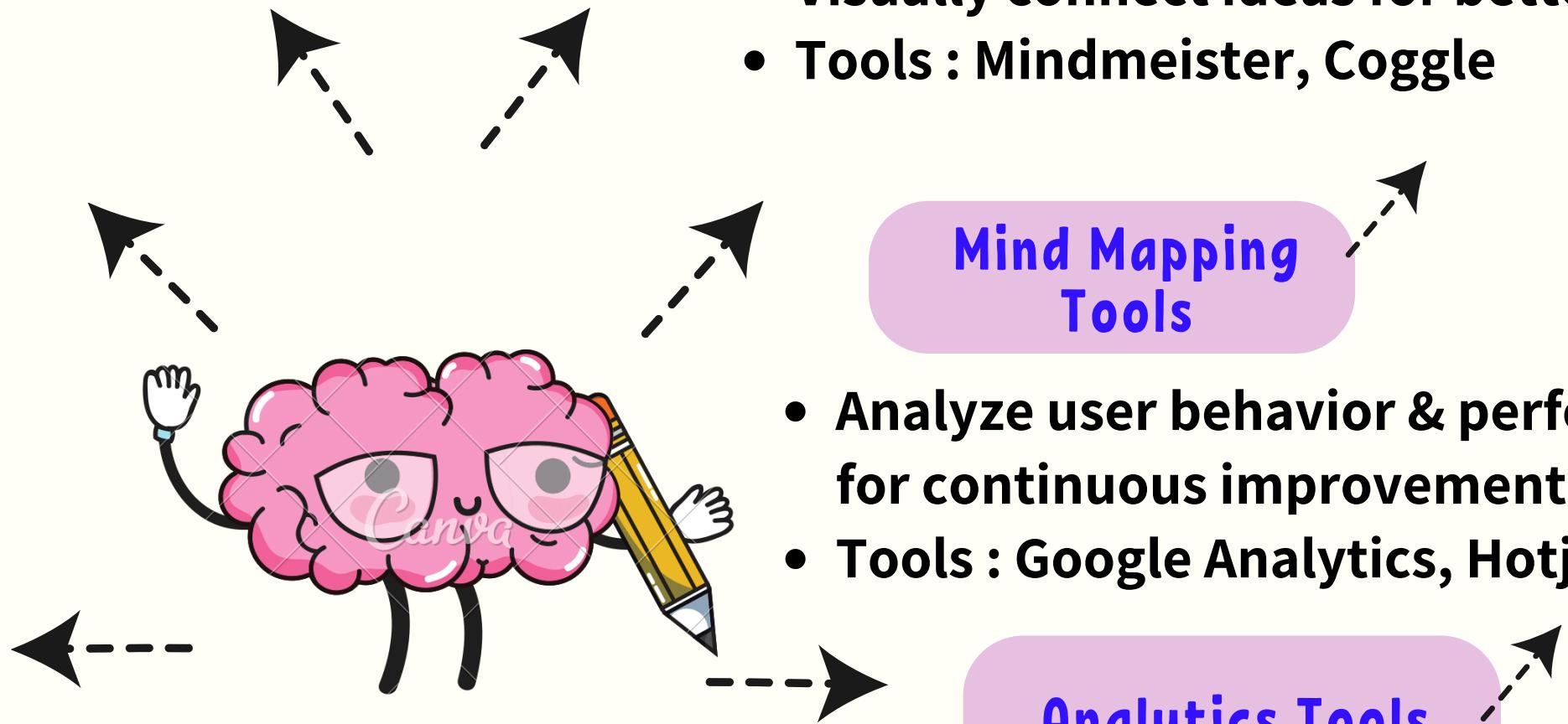
## Visual Content Creation Tools

- Visually connect ideas for better understanding
- Tools : Mindmeister, Coggle

## Mind Mapping Tools

- Analyze user behavior & performance metrics for continuous improvement
- Tools : Google Analytics, Hotjar, Mixpanel

## Analytics Tools



# HOW WE WRITE OUR BEST AT DigitalOcean



## WRITING WITH PURPOSE

- Comprehensive and Accessible
- Leaving no reader behind

## FORMATTING FOR CLARITY

- Organizing information with precision
- Presenting Commands and Outputs with Clarity

## TERMINOLOGY & CONSISTENCY

- Clarity in Addressing
- Respecting official nomenclature
- Aligning with project terminology

## TECHNICAL ACCURACY

- Ensuring a seamless learning experience
- Staying up-to-date

## STRUCTURING FOR SUCCESS

- Titles that inspire
- Capturing the reader's goal



# WRITE FOR “DO” NATIONS

- 1 Your tutorials will be promoted across DigitalOcean's social media channels
- 2 Become part of a diverse group of strong technical writers
- 3 Receive one-on-one support and feedback from professional editors

## WRITE, CONTRIBUTE, & SUPPORT

- An opportunity to contribute to DigitalOcean's library of open-source tutorials
- Support tech-focused charities and nonprofits through your writing

## DIVERSE TOPICS-OPEN SOURCE

- Share your expertise on various topics: Linux system administration, tools, Docker, security, and more
- All tutorials focus on practical guides using free and open-source software

## REWARDING EXPERIENCE

- Receive \$400 for each new tutorial published
- DigitalOcean donates \$25 to your chosen charity for each accepted article

## COLLABORATIVE PROCESS

- Work closely with DigitalOcean's editorial team for guidance and feedback
- Refine your topic, outline, and writing through a structured review process



**TECH WRITE PRO**

**PAYU**

**DIGITALOCEAN**

**EVERYONE!**

**Feedback →**



**LinkedIn**

**→ Sujatha R**