I'm not a robot

Want a story idea right away? No problem! Here are our top ten favorite story ideas for you to use: A group of villains go on a team-building retreat. You are granted one wish. But you have to use the wish for someone else. Instead of trying to get a man on the moon, every nation raced to be the first at the very bottom of the ocean. Money really does grow on trees and is heavily regulated by governments. A plane takes off with 81 passengers. It lands with 82. You are home alone watching TV. A character dials a number on their phone. Your phone rings. You open a fortune cookie at a Chinese restaurant. Inside is a handwritten note. A magician, a troll, and a college student walk into a bar. It is the year 3000. The sun starts to flicker. An optimist becomes a pessimist. Why? Top 10 short story ideas... also for you! Everyone who writes short stories out there knows that short stories are different and not just because theyre, well, shorter. So if youre seeking a short story idea, weve got you. Here are our favorite bite-sized short story ideas: Turn one of your grandparent's old stories into fiction. A romance told through a series of texts. Two people are playing chess. One person can read minds, the other person can see the future. Write a story that draws from a moment in your life where you wish you'd made a different choice. Have your protagonist make that choice, and then see what happens. Amazon has invented time travel and introduced pre-emptive shipping. Today, you receive something completely unexpected from your future self. Write about the way the sunset looks from the perspective of two characters. One is sad, the other is happy. A wand-maker goes to the forest ready to work, only to find a group of environmentalists camped out in front of their favorite hemlock tree. Pick a genre and then write about a long walk home after school. The last person on earth celebrates their own birthday. A team of scientists have successfully teleported an apple. It reappears with a bite taken out of it. How to come up with short story ideas yourself We get it: writing prompts are an excellent resource, but you want to know how to come up with your own story ideas, maybe even for a longer project. Here are four of our go-to tricks when thinking of interesting things to write about. 1) People-watch:Hands down, this our favourite way to come up with story ideas. All stories, even ones about robots or plants, have some element of humanity at its core. There are therefore a countless number of stories to be found by observing human nature. 90% of the prompts included in ourwriting prompts newsletterare inspired by simply staring out a window and watching people go by. 2) Forget what you already know:Have you ever become trapped in a but why? loop with a child? Its enough to make your head spin or an existential crisis occur. But if you can return to this sense of curiosity and wondering you had as a child, you can find a treasure trove of short story ideas to be found. Take in your surroundings and ask yourselfwhythings are the way they are.What ifthey were different?Whatwould that look like andhowwould it work? 3) Use your day job:If you feel like you have the most interesting job on the planet, well, perfect! It shouldnt be hard to use it as plot-fodder for a great short story. On the other hand, if you find yourself yawning a lot at work, ask yourself:What could happen to make this work day interesting?Lets say you work as a receptionist but your real passion lies with art. Write a story about a receptionist who sees a colleague hang a new piece of art in their cubicle one the receptionist recognizes as being famous for going missing a century ago. 4) Read:Imagine walking up to a piano and trying to make beautiful music without ever having heard it played before. You need to consume great short stories in order to know what you enjoy about them. Figure out what you like, and youll be on the path to great writing topics. Ready to start submitting your short story to writing contests? Find the right one for you in our list of writing contests. Looking for writing tips? Sign up for our free course How to Craft a Killer Short Story here. Generate a random story title thats relevant to your genre. You can pick between fantasy, crime, mystery, romance, or sci-fi. Simply click the button below to get started. Clue of the Burnt Tuba Your Name Here Begin writing... Villain name Name meaning Gender Cessair Sorrow, affliction Female Abaddon Angel of death Male Jabez "He makes sorrowful." Male Kshipa Darkness of the night Female Alastor Tormentor Male Keres Evil spirits Female Andras Marquis of Hell Male Lilitu Demon Male Azazel Scapegoat Male Gorgon Bringer of Death Male Agrona An ancient Celtic goddess of slaughter and death Female Heath An isolated wasteland Male Methuselah To bring death Male Ernesh Battle to the death Male Mercurius God of tradesmen and thieves Male Feel free to use all of the names that this villain name generator provides. Be sure to tell us the success story at service@reedsy.com! And if you still need to battle the forces of good in order to uncover the perfect name, the rest of the Internets got you covered. Here are some of our other favorite villain name generators on the web: Seventh Sanctums Villain Name Generator Or if you think that generators are fun and all but that youd rather create your own villain name? Great Head to this post, which is all about naming a character. Generate a random plot through this drama plot generator. Simply click the button below to get started. Like a particular story combo? Lock and save it to nail it down. , who Secondary character , who It's story about It kicks off with (Note that:) And there's a twist! {"id":27,"protagonists":["A writer","A veteran","A con artist","A banker","A billionaire","A single parent","A socialite","A widow","A sheriff","A reporter","A businessman","A businesswoman","A housewife","A plumber","A chef","A student","A divorce","A painter","A photographer","A groomsman","A bridesmaid","A lawyer","A judge","A bodyguard","A tutor","A food critic","A spinster","A publicist","A convict","An actor","A mob boss","A linguist","A janitor","A composer","A hitchhiker"],"who_one":["is a compulsive liar.","is manipulative.","has good intentions.","can be spoiled.","is stubborn to a fault.","has outrageous moral inflexibility.","is self-centered.","has a history of bigotry.","used to be idealistic.","is withdrawn.","may be materialistic.","has a knack for drama.","can be overbearing.","is gruff.","has not laughed in a long time.","used to be optimistic.","used to be kind.","is generous to a fault.","is past prime.","tends to be cynical.","has no friends.","is introverted.","has low self-esteem.","is self-conscious.","is weary.","hates people.","can be pretentious.","can be quick-tempered.","is puritanical.","tries not to be lonely.","is far from home.","is devoid of purpose.","has an obsessive nature.","is a perfectionist.","used to have a heart of gold.","wishes that the end will come soon."],"secondary_character":["A writer","A veteran","A banker","A billionaire","A single parent","A socialite","A widow","A sheriff","A reporter","A businessman","A businesswoman","A housewife","A plumber","A chef","A student","A divorce","A painter","A photographer","A groomsman","A bridesmaid","A lawyer","A tutor","A spinster","A boy","A girl","A mailman","A secretary","A convict","A tramp","A bookkeeper"],"who_two":["is indecisive.","is practical.","can be overprotective.","can be overconfident.","is a smart ass.","is soft-hearted.","tends to get tongue-tied.","is idealistic.","is unpredictable.","excels at self-deprecation.","needs to be right.","is adventurous.","is rational to a fault.","is conscientious.","can see right through people.","is rather suave.","is quiet.","is spontaneous.","used to be trusting.","is well-read.","harbors controversial opinions.","is outspoken.","was a spelling bee champion.","grows carnivorous plants.","secretly knits scarves for homeless shelters.","tends to favor head over heart.","has a photographic memory.","can seem eccentric.","is reformed.","was a chess master.","is blind.","is deaf.","volunteers at the animal shelter on weekends.","has burnt every bridge."],"genre":["a literary fiction","a satire","an anthology","a comedy-drama","a family saga","a historical fiction"],"about":["religion and moral truth.","believing in oneself.","change versus tradition.","finding companionship.","the dangers of ignorance.","the loss of innocence.","corruption.","the dangers of conformity.","non-conformity.","mortality.","broken dreams.","displacement.","the American dream.","the evils of racism.","confronting reality.","overcoming insecurities.","fate and free will.","fear of failure.","finding justice.","battling prejudice.","struggling to live up to expectations.","the transience of youth.","overcoming guilt.","second chances.","the cost of power.","growing up.","rationalism versus romanticism.","the nature of obsession.","found families.","love and loss.","the unreliability of truth.","honor and integrity.","overcoming adversity.","mental health.","greed.","a family in crisis. ","the death of a marriage.","a relationship in decline. ","homelessness. "],"begins":["in a hospital in Burkina Faso","on a yacht","in a nightclub in Seattle","in a caf in Sao Paulo","in a butcher shop","in a parkour academy","in a monastary","in Berlin","in Seoul","on the 6 train in East Harlem","in a hookah lounge","in a bagel pub","in a waiting room","outside the spa","in an Uber","by the beach","in Barcelona","in a library","at a botanical garden","at a temple","in a manor","at a ski chalet","at the Grand Canyon","at a brothel","on a balcony","in the suburbs","at a gas station","by a log cabin","in a summer house","in a mosque","at a local festival","in an office","in a restaurant","in an abandoned shed","in the woods","in an alley","in a graveyard","at a campground","in a bar","on a college campus","at a protest","at a McDonald's drive-through"],"plot":["the discovery of an anonymous note.","someone crying in public.","someone appealing to an authority figure.","an awkward conversation.","a confrontation that was a long time coming.","a New Year's Resolution.","a bachelor party gone wrong.","a baby shower gone wrong.","the reveal of a pregnancy.","the delivery of an important letter.","the sentence: \"This is the saddest story you'll ever be told.\"","the sentence: \"It was the day the ghost came by to visit again.\"","the sentence: \"This is a true story. I swear it.\"","a ground-shaking family revelation.","the death of someone important.","someone who's late to a funeral for someone close.","someone from the past turning up unexpectedly.","someone eavesdropping on a private conversation.","someone in the middle of divorce proceedings.","the end of a relationship.","the beginning of a relationship.","someone witnessing something inexplicable.","a hostage situation.","someone about to enlist in the military.","someone wishing upon a star.","someone being accused of a crime.","someone making a misguided promise.","someone receiving an unexpected windfall.","an attempted suicide.","a mysterious stranger approaching from the distance.","a job offer.","someone begging for forgiveness.","a false accusation."],"note":["someone in the story is in desperate need of money.","someone in the story has desired status for a long time.","someone in the story has a lot of hard lessons to learn.","someone in the story has had problems with addiction for a while now.","someone in the story is just emerging from an unhealthy relationship.","someone in the story had a troubled childhood.","someone in the story has a dysfunctional family that will be introduced.","someone in the story has a criminal background that will come to light.","someone in the story has just moved to a new country.","someone in the story is still in denial about something.","someone in the story was just discharged from a mental facility.","someone in the story has a history of suicide attempts.","someone in the story still has a debt to repay.","someone in the story is running from something in the past.","someone in the story has a reputation to salvage.","someone in the story will become haunted by a past mistake.","someone in the story is hiding a secret that cannot be revealed.","someone in the story will form a hidden agenda.","someone in the story will make a big decision that is irreversible.","someone in the story will make a mistake that will change everything.","someone in the story will fall seriously ill. ","someone in the story will suffer a steep fall from grace.","this story will play out entirely in a single room.","someone in the story has amnesia.","this story spans five generations of a family.","someone in the story will sigh meaningfully every five pages.","the flashbacks in this story will become vitally important.","the authority figures in the story cannot be trusted.","politics will play a major role in the story.","the cast of characters are all baby boomers in the story.","the cast of characters are all millennials in the story.","the protagonist is not introduced until the second third of the story.","the story is written entirely in dialogue.","the story is written in eye dialect.","two of the characters are in the middle of a divorce.","most of the story takes place over the course of a road trip."],"twist":["You should write the story in the second person POV.","The story is told by an unreliable narrator.","The story is set in the 1970s.","Someone else will leave a controversial will.","There is a dog... and the dog lives.","It's an unhappy ending.","An enemy will also become a valued friend.","An unexpected birth in the family will also change everything.","You should write the protagonist as an anti-villain.","The story is set in the 1940s.","A natural disaster will change everything.","Midway through the plot, all other problems will be foregotten in the face of a zombie apocalypse. ","Midway through the plot, the story will turn into a murder mystery.","Midway through the plot, the story will turn into a pscyhological trhiller.","Someone who was presumed dead will return. ","A case of mistaken identity will occur.","An unexpected gift will change the direction of the plot.","Someone's faulty memory will end up being the game-changer.","Midway through the plot, the story will turn into a ghost story.","It is revealed that two people were unknowingly switched at birth.","The story is a retelling of a Shakespearean tragedy.","The story is a retelling of a Greek drama.","One of the characters will turn out to be a hallucination.","You should write the story in reverse chronology.","The story is set in the 1920s.","The story is told non-linearly.","You should write the story as a piece of flash fiction.","The story takes place in two different timelines. ","You should base the protagonist on a famous historical figure.","The story's last scene revisits its opening scene from another perspective.","You should tell the story in epistolary form.","The story is told from the perspective of a child who doesn't fully comprehend what's happening.","You should tell the story in the form of a cookbook.","You should tell the story in the form of a diary. ","You should tell the story in a series of blog posts.","The story takes inspiration from the song, \"I'm a Little Teapot.\"","The first half of the story is a work of fiction being written by one of the characters.","The main character dies at the beginning of the story."],"category_id":114,"created_at":"2019-11-10T12:00:52.000Z","updated_at":"2019-11-10T12:00:52.000Z"} Generate a random story title thats relevant to your genre. You can pick between fantasy, crime, mystery, romance, or sci-fi. Simply click the button below to get started. Obsidian Plague Your Name Here Begin writing... Iconic names come from all over the world, such as Don Quixote, Elizabeth Bennet, and Jean Valjean. If you'd like to venture beyond the scope of your own country for the right name, this random name generator is for you. Medieval Name Generators Here lie the original names of the world as sturdy and worthy today as they were thousands of years ago. If youre interested in the secrets that the ancient world of names holds, this medieval name generator is for you. God Name Generators Long before books came into existence, men and women relied on their ancient gods for guidance. If you, too, would like to look to the universes greater powers for help when it comes to a name, this god name generator is for you. Fantasy Name Generators For the next J.R.R. Tolkien in the world or anyone who wants a more fantastical name. If youd like to ascend into legend alongside characters like Azazel, Bilbo, and Daenerys, this fantasy name generator is for you. Archetype Name Generators Heroes. Villains. Sidekicks. Mentors. Oh my! This generator will put a name to the face of the hero or villain that you have in mind. If youd like a character who lives up to the name, this archetype name generator is for you. Need an original book title, and fast? We got you. Here are 8 ways to come up with book title ideas. 1. Start free writing to find keywords Write absolutely anything that comes into your head: words, phrases, names, places, adjectives the works. Youll be surprised how much workable content comes out from such a strange exercise. 2. Experiment with word patterns Obviously, were not advocating plagiarism, but try playing around with formats like: The _____ of _____ or _____ and the _____ These will work for certain genres, though they are by no means the only patterns you can play around with. Have you noticed how many blockbuster thrillers these days feature the word woman or girl somewhere in the title? 3. Draw inspiration from your characters If your central character has a quirky name or a title (like Doctor or Detective) you can definitely incorporate this into your book title. Just look at Jane Eyre, Percy Jackson, or Harry Potter, for instance working with one or more or your characters names is a surefire way to get some title ideas down. Equally, you can add a little detail, like Thomas Hardys Jude the Obscure, to add a little color to a name and make it title-worthy. 4. Keep your setting in mind Is your book set somewhere particularly interesting or significant? Even if your title isnt just where the action takes place (like Middlemarch by George Eliot), its something to have in the back of your mind. You can include other details, like The Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum or Picnic at Hanging Rock by Joan Lindsay, to give your readers a sense of action and character, as well as setting (which tend to be linked). 5. Look for book title ideas in famous phrases Think Harper Lees To Kill A Mockingbird here this is a central symbol and significant piece of dialogue in the novel. Its enigmatic (what does it even mean? Is it a warning? An instruction?) and makes us really sit up when these words appear in the text itself. Try and think of your inspiration for writing your book or sum up your central theme in a few words, and see if these inspire anything. 6. Analyze the book titles of other books You might be surprised at how many books refer to other works in their titles (The Fault in Our Stars by John Green comes from Shakespeares Julius Caesar, and Steinbecks Of Mice and Men takes its inspiration from a Robert Burns poem). Going this route allows authors to use an already beautiful and poetic turn of phrase that alludes to a theme in their own book. From Ernest Hemingways For Whom the Bell Tolls to Philip Pullmans His Dark Materials, so many books have used this technique that might also work for you. 7. Dont forget the subtitle In non-fiction publishing, theres a trend of evocative or abstract titles, followed by a subtitle that communicates the content (and is packed with delicious keywords that the Amazon search engine cant resist). This is also another way to get around long titles and to add a little panache to an otherwise dry subject matter. In the United States, its also quite common to have A Novel as a subtitle (if, you know, its a novel). In the United Kingdom, this practice is much rarer. 8. Generate a book name through a book title generator If youve gone through all of the above and are still wringing out your brain trying to come up with the golden formula fear not! There are other ways to get the cogs whirring and inspiration brewing, such as title generators. And speaking of cogs whirring, let us present you with the... 15 best book titles of all time Witty, eye-catching, memorable these famous book titles have it all. Without further ado, here are 15 best book titles you can take inspiration from. I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou East of Eden by John Steinbeck The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? by Philip K. Dick The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett Pride and Prejudice and Zombies by Seth Grahame-Smith The House of Mirth by Edith Wharton Are You There, Vodka? It's Me, Chelsea by Chelsea Handler And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston The Devil Wears Prada by Lauren Weisberger Brave New World by Aldous Huxley Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee by Dee Brown The Man Who Was Thursday by G.K. Chesterton Looking for even more story title ideas? If youre agonizing over your book title, youre not alone! Some of the best book titles today emerged only after much teeth gnashing. The Sun Also Rises was once titled Fiesta; Pride and Prejudice was once First Impressions. Then there was F. Scott Fitzgerald, who reportedly took forever to think of a good title. He ultimately discarded a dozen (Gold-Hatted Gatsby, The High-Bouncing Lover, and Trimalchio in West Egg included) before reluctantly picking The Great Gatsby. So its tough out there for a novelist, which is why we built this generator: to try and give you some inspiration. Any of the titles that you score through it are yours to use. Wed be even more delighted if you dropped us the success story at service@reedsy.com! If you find that you need even more of a spark beyond our generator, the Internets got you covered. Here are some of our other favorite generators on the web: Or if you think that generators are fun and all but that youd rather create your own book title? Great Kick off with this post, which is all about how to choose your book title. And once you've got the words down, make sure you format your title correctly. So youve (finally) finished your book, only to find one last question standing between you and the bestsellers list: how to title your book. Maybe you dont like the working title youve been using these past few months. Perhaps youve come up with a title you love but everyone else says that it might hurt your market potential. So what makes for a truly good book title? Luckily, theres a short, simple, 4-point checklist that will help you choose a book title thats guaranteed to catch a readers roving eye. Only joking! Although that would be nice, wouldnt it? While theres no sure-fire method for formulating the perfect title, this post will give you ideas for devising a title that enhances your book and gives it the best chance of success. We recommend downloading this actual free book title checklist to follow along while you read this post. Otherwise, let's get started! FREE RESOURCE Book Title Checklist Create a title that stands out and sells. Why do book titles matter? Without a book title, your book can't exist. Having a title in place before you start writing can help inform or reinforce your themes and what your novel is actually about. To learn more about the planning process, go here for acomplete guide and a free book outline template. Secondly, if you dont already think of the title of your book as a marketing decision, start now. Your book title might be the single most important marketing choice you make. The title plays a key part in creating a first impression possibly even more so than the design of your book cover. Think about the last time you browsed Amazon or looked at a bestsellers list. Chances are that what caught your eye was the: The book cover design, and The title. Now, a good title wont magically make a book sell, but a bad one will hinder sales at best and, at worst, alienate its core readership. With that in mind, lets start making some good decisions! What do good titles have in common? Find out in this post! Click to tweet! What do good titles for books have in common? Like we said earlier, there are no hard-and-fast rules for crafting the perfect title. There are, however, some patterns and similarities between good titles that may help you choose your own. They intrigue and entice the reader A title might ask a question it could encourage the reader to wonder how, why, who, or what the title refers to. Keep in mind, however, that the line between mysterious and downright confusing is sometimes a very fine one. Think along the lines of: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon and Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?by Philip K. Dick. They match the book to its genre You dont have to be painfully obvious about it, but a title like Titan Returning doesnt sound like an emotionally fraught romance novel. Whilst intriguing titles are what were aiming for, you also want it to tip readers off to your genre especially because people are likely to find new books through Customers Also Shopped For sections. Theyll gravitate towards things that remind them of books they have read and loved, so take inspiration from your favorites of the genre. Think along the lines of: Me Before You by Jojo Moyes and The Murder of Roger Ackroyd by Agatha Christie. They are (normally) of a sensible length The aim is for your readers to have some idea whats going on, without revealing too much or having a paragraph on the frontcover. Long titles can work just think of The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer so long aspeople can recall just enough of it to find it on Amazon (or by asking a bookseller in a store). Also, its important to think of what your cover will look likeas a thumbnail. If the type is too small, no-one will be able to pick out the title. If you look at the design for Jonas Jonassons book, the words The Hundred-Year-Old Man are isolated and presented in slightly larger type than the rest of the title. The designer knew that most people would likely refer to it as only that just as most readers will know that The Curious Incident refers to The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon. Just know that super-long titles are the exception, not the rule. Think along the lines of: The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared by Jonas Jonasson and Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov. They help readers discover the book Even if youre not planning to exclusively sell through Amazon, chances are that many readers will discover your book through it making it one of your main source of revenue. Whilst you want a unique title, so its not the millionth novel titled The Book, you dont want to make it so special that you miss out on potential keywords that people search for in your genre. In essence, if your book is about tax accounting, then words related to that better feature in the title. Think along the lines of: Beekeeping for Dummies or Why We Sleep: The New Science of Sleep and Dreams by Matthew Walker. Things to watch out for Whilst there aren't things youneedto do, and so there aren't things you need tonot do when choosing a book title, there are certain things that are best given a wide berth. Overly complex language Even books about a specialist subject can have a simple, accessible title, like Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman. Remember that a title is there to intrigue and entice not repel and frighten off readers by making them think that your book is going to read like a thesaurus. One-word titles If you title your non-fiction book Bottles, its going to be very difficult to rank as the first search result: youd be competing against people selling hot water bottles, books on the ecological impact of plastic water bottles, and research on bluebottle flies. Avoid confusion by striking the balance between cryptic titles and ones that attempt to summarize the entire book on the front cover. (The exception is flash fiction, where the brevity of one-word titles matches the brevity of the story itself.) Potential confusion Dont get caught out be careful not to choose a title that might be offensive in certain regions, or that might have an unintended double meaning. Equally, if your book title relies on a reference that is extremely local, or perhaps a little niche, it might be an idea to reconsider and aim for something more universal. How to title a book: a couple of methods There really are no bad ideas when youre coming up with potential titles just ones that are better than others. Try to write down anything that comes to mind. Start free writing Write absolutely anything that comes into your head: words, phrases, names, places, adjectives the works. Youll be surprised how much workable content comes out from such a strange exercise. Look for formulas or set phrases Obviously, were not advocating plagiarism, but try playing around with formats like: The _____ of _____ or _____ and the _____ These will work for certain genres, though they are by no means the only patterns you can play around with. Have you noticed how many blockbuster thrillers these days feature the word woman or girl somewhere in the title? Use characters as inspiration If your central character has a quirky name or a title (like Doctor or Detective) you can definitely incorporate this into your book title. Just look at Jane Eyre, Percy Jackson, or Harry Potter, for instance working with one or more or your characters names is a surefire way to get some title ideas down. Equally, you can add a little detail, like Thomas Hardys Jude the Obscure, to add a little color to a name and make it title-worthy. Do the same for setting Is your book set somewhere particularly interesting or significant? Even if your title isnt just where the action takes place (like Middlemarch by George Eliot), its something to have in the back of your mind. You can include other details, like The Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum or Picnic at Hanging Rock by Joan Lindsay, to give your readers a sense of action and character, as well as setting (which tend to be linked). Is there a particular phrase or idea you can work with? Think Harper Lees To Kill A Mockingbird here this is a central symbol and significant piece of dialogue in the novel. Its enigmatic (what does it even mean? Is it a warning? An instruction?) and makes us really sit up when these words appear in the text itself. Try and think of your inspiration for writing your book or sum up your central theme in a few words, and see if these inspire anything. Find inspiration from other works You might be surprised at how many books refer to other works in their titles (The Fault in Our Stars by John Green comes from Shakespeares Julius Caesar, and Steinbecks Of Mice and Men takes its inspiration from a Robert Burns poem). Going this route allows authors to use an already beautiful and poetic turn of phrase that alludes to a theme in their own book. From Ernest Hemingways For Whom the Bell Tolls to Philip Pullmans His Dark Materials, so many books have used this technique that might also work for you. In non-fiction publishing, theres a trend of evocative or abstract titles, followed by a subtitle that communicates the content (and is packed with delicious keywords that the Amazon search engine cant resist). This is also another way to get around long titles and to add a little panache to an otherwise dry subject matter. In the United States, its also quite common to have A Novel as a subtitle (if, you know, its a novel). In the United Kingdom, this practice is much rarer. Start with a generated title! If youve gone through all of the above and are still wringing out your brain trying to come up with the golden formula fear not! There are other ways to get the cogs whirring and inspiration brewing, such as title generators. How I chose my book title: #amwriting Click to tweet! What are the rules for choosing a book title? There are no actual rules when it comes to naming your book. Editors and agents might have their own rules of thumb. But hey, its your book and you can call it what you want to. That being said, each retailer has its own particular rules and standards for titles rules youll need to adhere to if you intend to publish there. Lets take a look at Amazons guidelines. Not permitted in Amazon book titles: Unauthorized reference to other titles or authors so dont think you can get away with titling your book Stephen Kings Dreams. Unauthorized reference to a trademarked term. Reference to sales rank (e.g., "bestselling") even if it is a bestselling book. Reference to advertisements or promotions (e.g., "free") a lot of people search for Free books, which is why Amazon doesnt want you to call it that. The title field should contain only the actual title of your book as it appears on your book cover. Foul, vulgar, or obscene language as Jeff Wheeland, author ofThere's More to Life than a Shitty Cubicle found out, you can't advertise your book on Amazon if you swear in the title. Whilst Amazon doesnt always effectively police their own rules, if you want to build a reputation as an author, youll naturally want to avoid underhand practices. Test your book title Congrats! If youve got this far, its time to test your title. Thought you were done? Oh, no. Even if you are 110% certain that youve hit upon the next Harry Potter title-equivalent, a little market research wont hurt and could be the crucial difference between an okay and a bestselling title. Remember to test your book title with target readers: this is who will read your book Here are some ways you can check if your title floats in the real world and in the heads of your audience who, after all, are the most important people in this process. Its vital to remember that book titles are ultimately for readers. Start local Begin with your family and friends, but remember that if you just poll inside your immediate circle for feedback, chances are it will be biased towards the positive and not totally objective. While this may be great for the ego, at this stage in the game you need some genuinely constructive criticism. Distinguish who your target audience is (they might not be your friends), and try to get some feedback from these people. Facebook groups Like many things, there is a Facebook group for this exact purpose. Just searching for book title review or test book title will yield some preliminary results. All it takes is to put up a post asking people to choose between two or three, and some real-life (probably literary-headed) people will give their honest opinions. If you're looking for a group to help you out, why not check out The Street Team, a book marketing group moderated by Reedsy? SurveyMonkey In a similar vein, gain the opinion of people slightly further out of your inner circle by making a survey on SurveyMonkey and share the link with as many people as you can. Obviously, this will start amongst friends and family, but if you encourage them to share it the ripple effect should kick in and youll be getting some valued feedback from all sorts of participants in no time. Nothing beats genuine, honest opinions, and its even better the wider you can cast your feedback people are less likely to be clouded by personal bias if they dont know you. Not a fan of SurveyMonkey, or want to try different survey methods? Check out this list of useful SurveyMonkey alternatives. Run an Adwords campaign Depending on your technological capabilities (although it sounds more complex than it is in practice) you can A/B test your title, provided you have a final two, via an Adwords campaign. This way, success is measured by clicks, and you have in-depth analysis to work off. This will require a bit more work than the others, maybe involving creating ads that have people sign up to for a free sample or free chapter of your book. But, like most things that take more effort, the results will be worth it. Unbiased surveys We were recently introduced to Pickfu a testing service that allows authors to ask strangers their opinion. Their tagline is optimize without an audience, shouting loud and clear how theyre going to help you test your book title, even if you dont have hundreds of willing participants that you know personally. Getting the opinions of strangers is just as (if not more) useful than polling those you know personally they are sometimes going to be more like your target audience than those closest to you. Now its your turn Your book title is the foundation that your book will stand on once its published, and will be a key part of convincing readers (or publishers!) to take a chance on your book. Hopefully, all this will get the ball rolling on your book title, and wed love to hear the results! Once you've got a title you're happy with, double check you're capitalizing it properly by reading through rules about title capitalization. You can't be too careful. God name Name meaning Mythology origin Dosojin God of roads Japanese Cyhiraeth Goddess of streams Celtic Kek A god of obscurity and night Egyptian Delling God of dawn Norse Sjofn Goddess of passion and relationships Norse Okeanos Personification of a body of water Greek Rakshasas The original Indian demon Hindu Caelus God of the sky Roman Indra Supreme ruler of the Vedic Gods Hindu Atri One of the Seven Seers Hindu Kaminar Goddess of thunder Japanese Arngrim Berserker Norse Iole Violet Greek Tisiphone One of the Three Furies Greek Am-Heh "Devourer of millions." Egyptian Hathor Patron goddess of joy and inspiration Egyptian Cel Warrior of the Fianna and the lover of Crd Celtic Nox Goddess of the night Roman Slaine Health Celtic Daikoku God of wealth and soil Japanese Consus God of grain storage Roman Atum God of creation Egyptian So you want to create good god names? Gods and goddesses remain with us in more ways than one. Indeed, god names and demigod names constitute a powerful well of inspiration to this day so much so that they are omnipresent in our everyday existence. Amazon.com was inspired by a tribe of mythological female warriors while Nike is a namesake of the Greek goddess of victory. Olympus cameras, Mars bars, Hermes scarves, the Tennessee Titans: all derive their strength from god names from the past. If youre struggling to come up with your own mythological name, thats what this god name generator is for. Centuries of lore has bestowed us with countless gods and goddesses which means that many god names exist to guide you. Here's how to come up with cool god names: This god name generator includes the names of both gods and goddesses. Simply select Female to see female mythological names or Male to filter for male mythological names. Consider the god behind the god name. Does it align with the persona of the character or product that youre envisioning? Nike, for instance, is the champion of victory perfect for a sports company. Pay attention to the sound of the name. Does it crackle like thunder on your tongue? Is it mightiness or delicacy that youre going for? Keep in mind that the name is your audiences first impression of your character or brand. Depending on the background of your character, you may want to explore several branches of mythology at once. This god name generator will equip you with god names from Japanese, Celtic, Hindu, Egyptian, Roman, Norse, and Greek mythology. So feel free to use this god name generator as a springboard to your names! What if youd like to learn more about the making of a character name? Great Head here for a guide on how to come up with character names.

Good anime title ideas. Good dystopian title ideas. Good children's book title ideas. Good fantasy book title ideas. Good chapter title ideas. Good book title ideas. Good scary story title ideas. Good manga title ideas. Good album title ideas. Good romance book title ideas. Good comic title ideas. Good stream title ideas. Good song title ideas. Good movie title ideas. Goodnotes title ideas.