youth SAYS

The Writer's Guide

Everything you need to know about writing a kick-ass story on SAYS :)
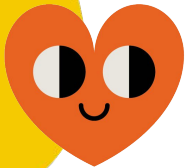
SAYS

SAYS

One-stop for news

Overviews & easy-to-read segments of major news

Trending stories

Best of viral stories that people are talking about

Feed your curiosity

Discover stuff that's fun, educational, and helpful

What sets us apart?

- All facts on SAYS are verified

- We curate our stories from all over

- We're never boring - we make reading fun

- We make complicated news easy

- We are conversational & relatable

Lifestyle

10 Brown Girl-Approved Products That Are Perfect For Duskier Complexions

Get that melanin poppin', hunny.

By Fionaa Kessler — 15 Jan 2021, 11:57 AM

#lifestyle #makeup #brownskin #SAYSbeauty #darkskin #tanskin #skincare #cosmetic #beauty

Cover image via Nandini Balakrishnan/SAYS & Fionaa Kessler/SAYS

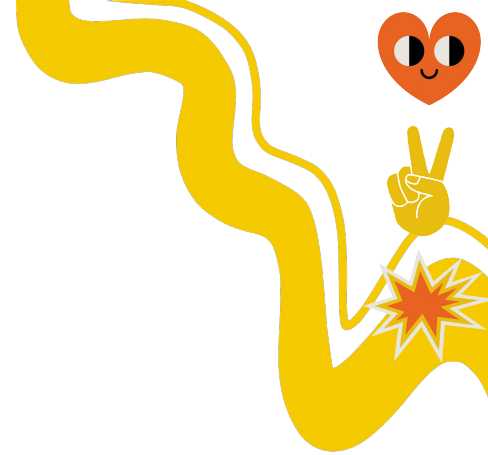**Buying cosmetics and skincare hasn't been easy for some of us brown girls**

Items in the market are usually formulated to suit fairer skin tones, so we don't really have many options. All we can do is experiment until we find the perfect product.

But we brown-skinned ladies gotta have each other's backs, right?

Here are 10 highly-recommended products that have been tried and tested by other brown girls, so you can incorporate them in your everyday routines without worrying about a thing!

Stuff you need to know

# How to submit an article

OPTION 1: Visit http://youth.says.com and upload your article, photos, and details directly

OPTION 2: Email your article to youth@says.com

If your article is chosen, we will contact you to let you know!

NOTE: Sometimes, we may have writing themes, prompts, or topics for the month. Winners will get their articles published AND receive amazing prizes from our sponsors.

Be sure to visit http://youth.says.com to know what the theme of the month is ;)
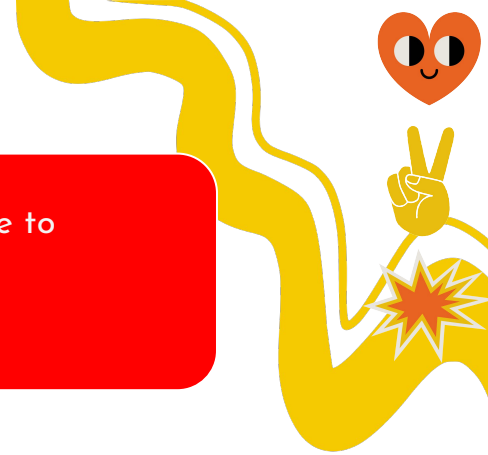
Writing tone + Style Guide

Conversational, easy to understand UK English for young Malaysian readers.

Basic style guide:

- **Manglish:** Used sparingly in localised fun stories. (Lah, wah, haih are okay)

- **Italicise non-English terms:** *budak* | **Don't italicise terms with no English equivalent:** roti canai

- **Date:** 17 June, 17 June 2020

- **Time:** 4.19PM in headline, 4.19pm in articles

- **Measurement:** 18KG in headline, 18kg in articles

- **Numbers:** Spell out single digit numbers, use numeral for double digit and above (one, nine, 10, 20)

- **Numbers:** Use numeral in headline (10 Things You Need To Know About The Samsung Galaxy S21)

- **Book, movie, video, song names:** Single quotation in headline, Italicise in story

- **Use Oxford comma:** Coffee, tea, and juice.

Headlines, Descriptions, Segment Titles, and Excerpts

Lifestyle

Malaysian Company Sells Mahjong Shirt & Socks So You're Ong From Top To Bottom

Get you in the prosperous spirit.

By Tamara Jayne — 21 Jan 2021, 12:04 PM

#lifestyle #fun #mahjong #fashion #feature #sapotlokal #cny #cny2021 #chinesenewyear

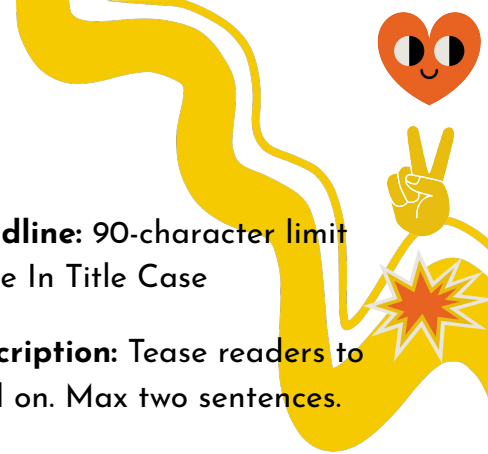**Headline:** 90-character limit
Write In Title Case

Description: Tease readers to read on. Max two sentences.

Cover image: 770px x 375px
No text, logo, or watermark

Collage images are recommended and can be made on Canva.

Headlines, Descriptions, Segment Titles, and Excerpts

It comes in a vibrant red and gold theme. And the usual hat, ship, dog, and other tokens you find in the original Monopoly set have been replaced with 'gold' CNY versions!

The tokens are golden tangerines, a lion head, a bull, a firecracker, a gold ingot, and a lantern. Fancy.

The rules of the game are also slightly different from the original. **Instead of buying properties, players buy shops, collect gifts, and find good fortune to win.**

FORTUNE STICK

Avoid your elder relatives so they can't ask you about your school results!

GO BACK THREE SPACES.

© 1936, 2020 Hasbro

Segment Title
To give an overview of the story. Scanning through the segment titles should give readers good idea of the story.

No full stop at end of sentence, unless two sentences or more

Excerpt
Complement segment titles by adding important details to the story. 2-3 sentences at most.

Images
Break up your story with images to make it more engaging.
Add image credit & link to source.

Images, GIFs, and Videos

Image via Samsung Newsroom

Images
- Landscape photos preferable
- Minimum 600px width
- Use clear images
- Photo Credit + link to source
- Use Asians in photo

GIFs
- Can source from GIPHY

Videos
- Our site is unable to host videos, but they can be embedded via YouTube

Where to find copyright free images

1. Take your own photos; you will be credited and your social media will be linked to the image

2. Visit royalty free or stock image website:
   a. https://unsplash.com/
   b. https://www.pexels.com/
   c. https://pixabay.com/
   d. https://www.freepik.com/popular-photos
   e. https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos

3. If there is a photo online that you would like to use, reach out to the owner for written permission first. If you do not receive permission, do not include the image.

Do's & Don'ts

Do:
- Be original; write from your experience and knowledge, if you are inspired by existing content, make sure to give credit
- Do research thoroughly; ensure your article is accurate and supported by credible sources
- Be clear and concise; avoid jargon and complex sentences
- Do proofread your work; our editors will also edit your final article, but you have a higher chance of being selected for publication if your grammar, spelling, and punctuation are already correct

Don't:
- Don't plagiarise; never copy content from other sources without proper attribution
- Don't use offensive or exclusionary language; language that could be considered discriminatory, disrespectful, or alienating to any group will not be entertained
- Don't include unverified information; facts must be accurate and verified through reliable sources
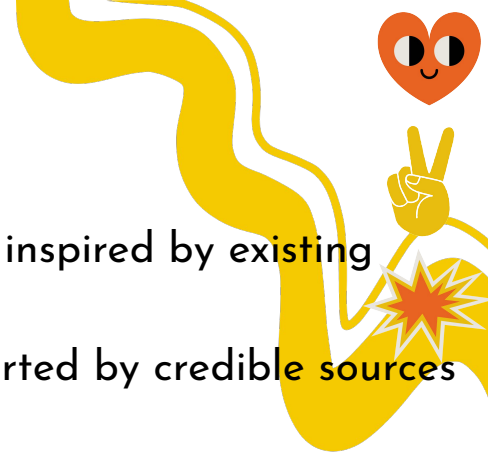
And there you go.

That's all you need to know to start writing for YouthSAYS. Don't be shy to reach out if you need anything.

Most of all, thank you for being part of the community!

YOU'RE THE BEST!