Knowing the audience/reader

- Read the letters to the editor- it tells what they like/don't like/ needs
- Study the masthead/TOC/Departments/Columns/Cover
- Call the marketing department and ask about the demographics of the readers
- Look at the advertising- who are the advertisers targeting?
- Find people that fit the readership and get to know them

Analyze the Magazine/publisher Study the magazine/catalogue:

- What topics are covered
- What approach is used
- How long are the articles/books
- What special features are used by publisher?
- What is part of the staple diet (i.e. crafts/fashion/food in woman's magazines or specialty Bibles with Zondervan books)

Read what they publish to get flavor, sense of style, and flow

Study to match:

Study openings/headers/transitions and endings

What type of openings?

Question

Anecdote

Statistics

Quote etc.

What type of ending:

Take away?

Humor/anecdote

Question?

emotional

Magazines most open to freelance:

New/ restructured/ new editors or owners/ newly expanded/smaller ones

Magazine Analysis

Name of Magazine
Number of pages
Number of articles Average article length
Written in first person or third?
Topics covered:
Types of ads
Products in ads for what earning group/age/ed/type usage
Articles written by editors:
Style: serious light inspirational humorous
Format: First or third person? Anecdotal/newsy/humorous
Regular departments or columns: written by one person or open to freelance?
How short are the short pieces/fillers?How many?What topics?
Special features
Read table of contents: Average # words in titles
Do they use subtitles?
Do they have a slant?
Are they divided by categories?
Check out Market Guide listing for the magazine/website/and the guidelines List any tips offered any patterns noted %freelance listed