





212 BLOG POST IDEAS

Brought To You By: Digital Marketer



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If you're looking for a simple way to bump your conversions (without having to write new sales copy), then download this copy-and-paste follow up series today...



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Increasing Conversion Rates, and...

Boosting Social Engagement

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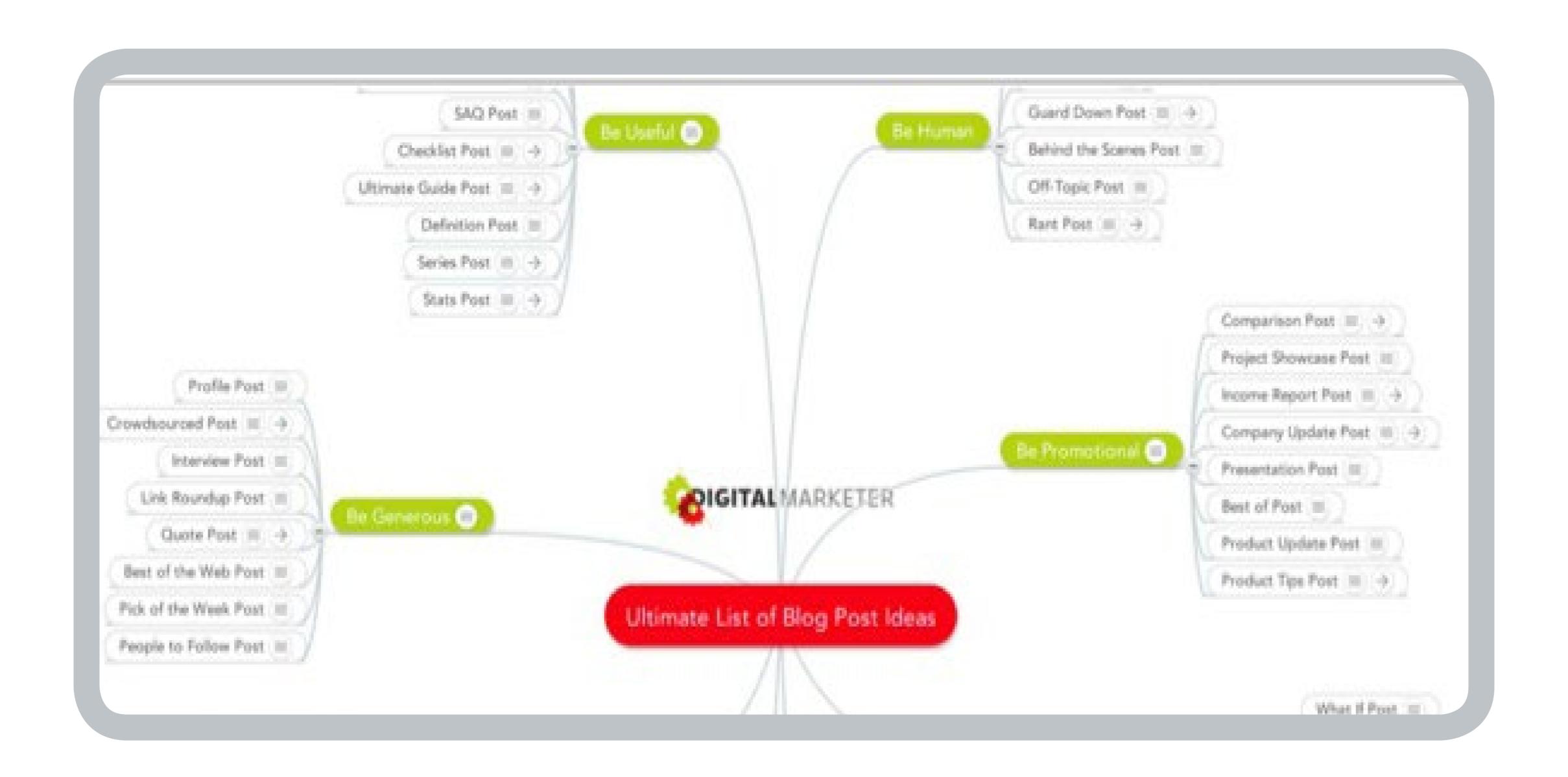
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Looking for blog post ideas? You've come to the right place.

NOTE: Don't miss the 'Blog Post Idea Multiplier' section at the end of this post. It will show you how to multiply each of these blog post ideas by four.

This article is divided into 8 sections, each representing a goal you might be trying to reach with your blog. You can also <u>download a mind map of this post here</u>.



Click on one of the sections below to view the blog post ideas from that section:

- Be Useful
- Be Generous
- Be Entertaining
- Be Timely
- Be Human
- Be Promotional
- Be Controversial
- Be Engaging



These useful blog post ideas will endear you to your market and establish you and your business as the authority in your niche.

1 LIST POST

List posts are everywhere and for good reason... they flat out work.

Create a list of books, tools, resources or any other thing that your market will find useful.

2 HOW-TO-POST

The How-To Post is another staple blog post idea.

Describe how to execute a process and use images, video or audio to enrich the post and make it as easy as possible for your visitor to take action.

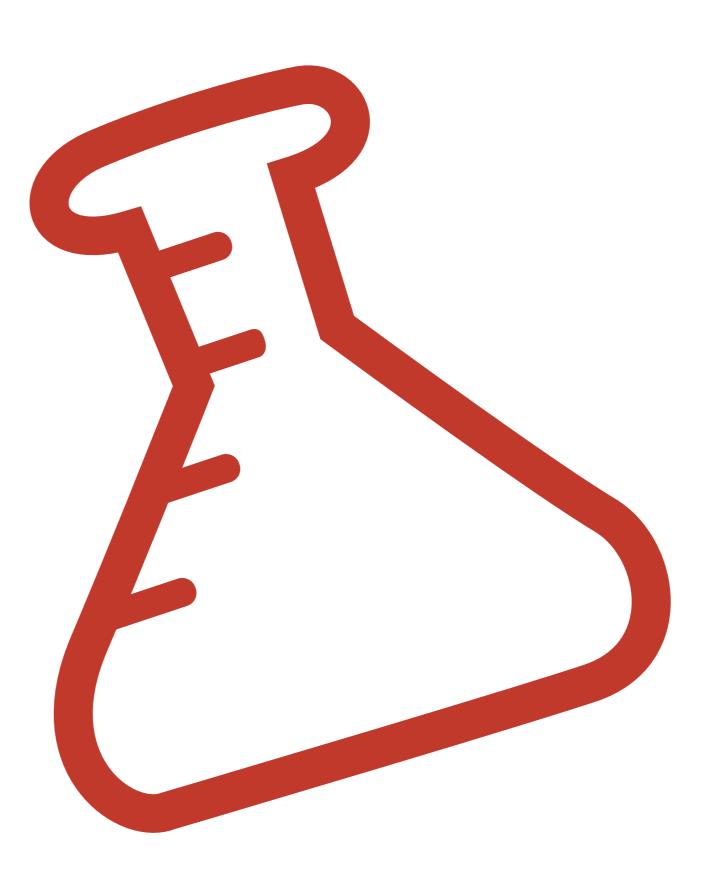
3 CASE STUDY POST

The term 'case study' carries more perceived value than the term article, blog post or video.

Outline and unpack the details of something like a project, event or process.

Here's an example from Optimizely called <u>3 Unexpected A/B Testing</u> <u>Lessons: A Small Business's Story...</u>





3 Unexpected A/B Testing Lessons: A Small Business's Story

By Ural Cebeci

PUBLISHED

April 1, 2014

How did Spreadshirt, a custom design and apparel marketplace, increase clicks to their sales page by 606%?

SHARE



How did subtle copywriting adjustments on Insound's checkout page increase conversions by 54%?

f Like 5

That's the power of website optimization. Relatively small changes to your website

FoxyCart's Story

Brett Florio and Luke Stokes started FoxyCart almost eight years ago to solve a major pain point among small businesses.

"We had a web development company and were doing client work," explains Brett.

"Every time we worked



PROBLEM/SOLUTION POST

This type of post has an easy format:

- Define a problem
- Present the solution

This post can cross over into the territory of other blog post types such as the FAQ Post, How-To Post or Checklist Post.

5 RESEARCH POST

Conducting your own primary research around a topic in your niche is one of the best ways to build blog content that gets attention.

That said, you can also simply curate research form third-parties and pull it together into an article, infographic, etc.

6 FAQ POST

If you get repeat questions from customers or prospects there is a good chance they are typing these same questions into Google and other search engines.

Create content around these topics.

If you like this post... you'll love this Execution Plan... check it out below.

How to Get Your First 1000 Blog Subscribers and More

Optimize your blog for lead capture and grab your first 1000 subscribers and beyond.

<u>Click Here to Access this Execution Plan</u>

Flash Sale: Regularly \$47 Limited Time \$27

SAQ POST

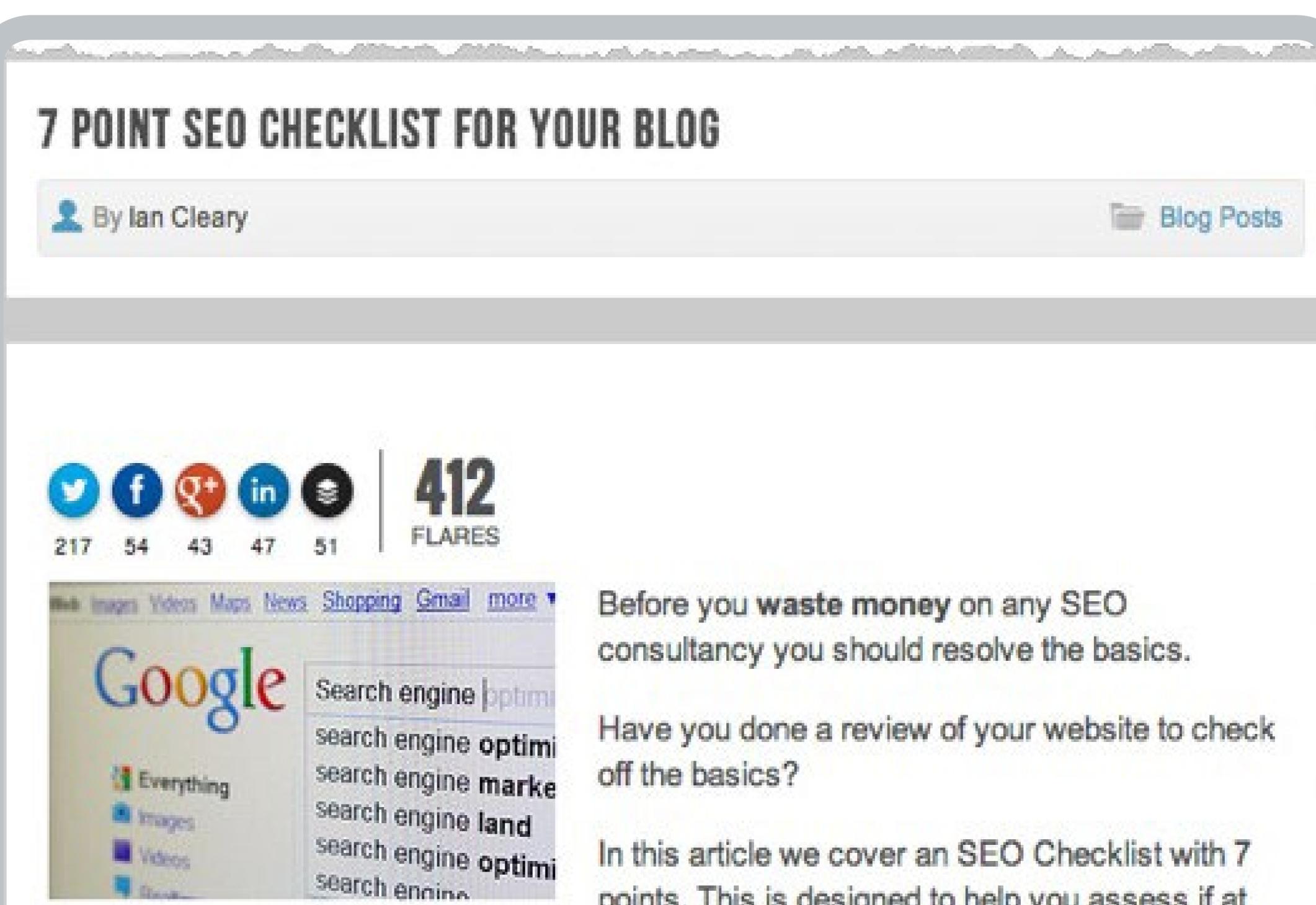
The Should Ask Question Post is a variation of the FAQ post. This is a question that customers or prospects don't ask — but they should.

8 CHECKLIST POST

If the content you are delivering can be broken into a "checklist" it will often perform better.

People like the checklist format because it's easy to digest and take action when the content is itemized in this way.

Here's an example from Ian Cleary at Razor Social called the <u>7 Point</u> <u>SEO Checklist For Your Blog</u>...



points. This is designed to help you assess if at least you have the basics rights for optimizing your

blog/website for Google.

1. DO YOU HAVE UNIQUE TITLES FOR EVERY PAGE

Imagine walking into a library full of books with no titles on the cover.

Google looks for a page title for every page it indexes. The title is really important for Google but a lot of times we don't create titles, have ones that are not optimized or we have duplicate titles.

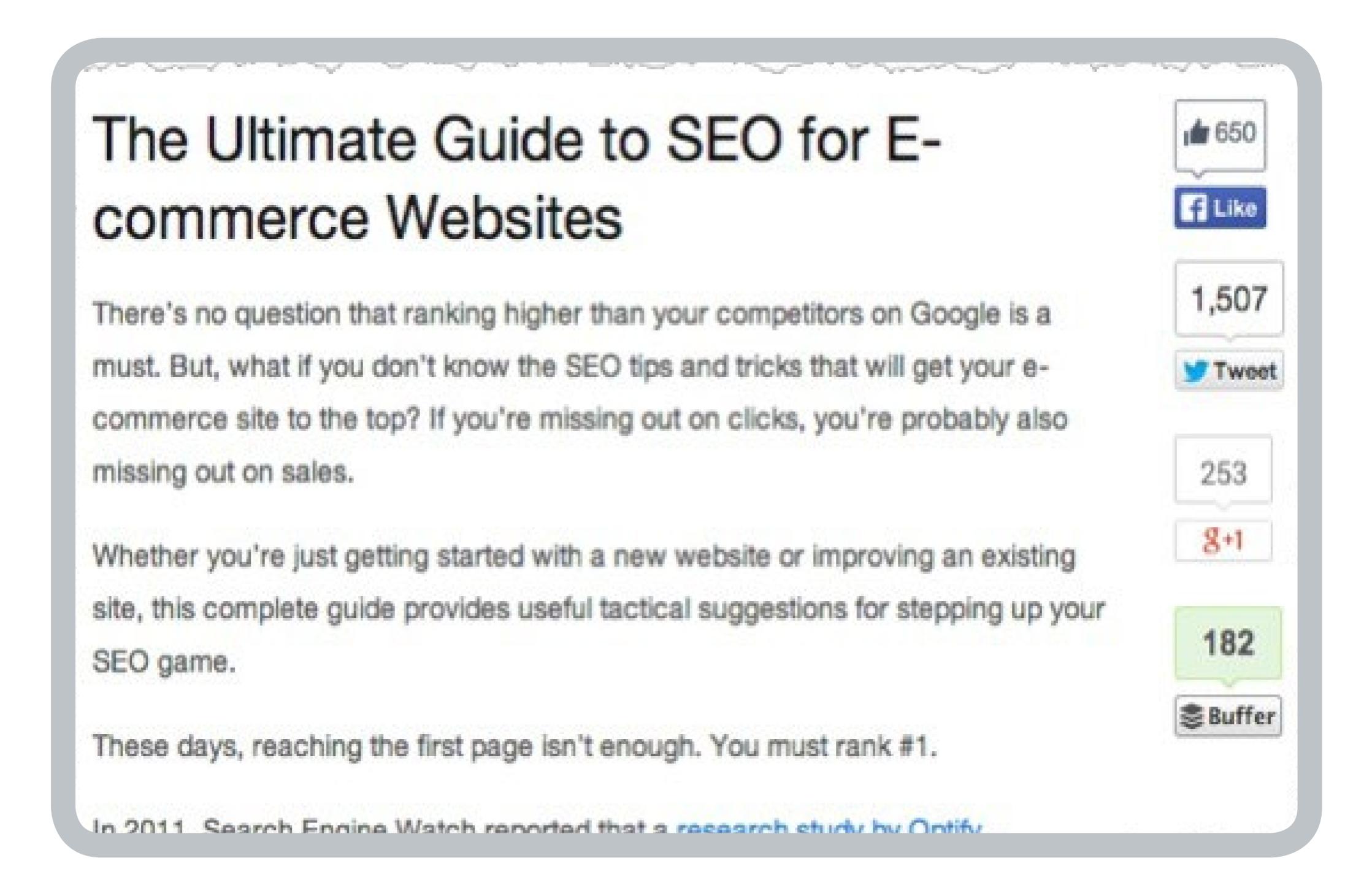
Action - Go to Google and type in site:<name of website> (e.g. site:www.razorsocial.com). When you put in your own page Google will show you a selection of posts and will include the title for the post.

ULTIMATE GUIDE POST

The ultimate guide post is just what it sounds like — a detailed, comprehensive post on a topic in your niche.

Don't skimp here — take your time and deliver the definitive post on the topic.

Check out this example from KISS Metrics called <u>The Ultimate Guide</u> to <u>SEO for E-Commerce Websites</u>



10 DEFINITION POST

In niches where the market needs to be educated the definition post is an absolute must.

Consider creating a series of posts that define aspects of your niche.

You'll get bonus points if you can logically define something in your niche in a way that is unique, unusual or controversial.

11 SERIES POST

Look for opportunities to break a topic into a series that can be released each day over the course of a week or every Monday over the course of a month.

Link these articles together as you publish them.

Here's an example of a series post from LA Fitness called <u>The 90 Day</u> <u>Weight Loss Workout Plan – Part 3</u>...

The 90 Day Weight Loss Workout Plan – Part 3 (Days 30–45) #MoveMoreBurnMore



#MoveMoreBurnMore

Wow, you're really on a roll now! Great work on making it this far; you've made it a third of the way to completing the 90 Day Weight Loss Workout Plan.

If you are new, remember to start from the beginning by CLICKING HERE:

90 Day Weight Loss Workout Plan Part 1

One month down and two more to go!

You are probably feeling quite a few things changing, such as:

12 STATS POST

This post (like the Research Post) works best when you can use statistics that you have produced.

That said, consider curating and pulling together stats from multiple locations to create a good statistics post.





One of the easiest ways to grow your blog is to be generous by promoting other people. When you promote others they will promote you.

Here's a number of ways to get it done...

13 PROFILE POST

Write a profile of an influential person in your niche.

Be sure to notify them via email, phone call or social media that you have profiled them — this way they will have an opportunity to share it.

14 CROWDSOURCED POST

Bring multiple influencers together to answer a single question in short form.

When you get 10 influencers to give you 100 words each on a single topic you've got a powerful blog post.

The content is top notch, easy to put together and will be shared by many of these influential people.

Here's an example of a crowdsourced blog post from Salesforce called <u>How 10 Winning Salespeople Spend 15 Minutes Before a Sales Call...</u>

How 10 Winning Salespeople Spend 15 Minutes Before a Sales Call

Jul 30 2013 By Russ Henneberry In Featured, Sales, Small Business



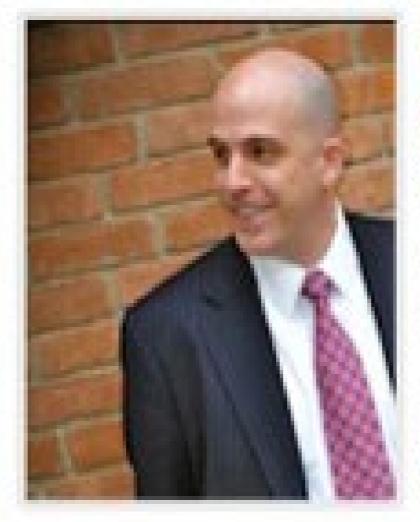








Got an extra 15 minutes before a sales call? Here's how winning salespeople spend that time.



The best thing to do with the 15 minutes before sales call is to review the work you did in planning the sales call. You did plan the sales call, didn't



You're going to want to review the outcomes that you need to obtain in order to either create or to

want to be prepared to create value and you want to be in the best state possible to do so.

" Anthony lannarino, The Sales Blog

+++



Develop the best possible list of questions you can ask the customer.

The most effective sales presentation is the one that is never given. What this means is the salesperson knows their material so well that they can conduct a sales call as a discussion anchored with questions. This is a better approach than a call that relies heavily on marketing materials, which ultimately can offer little flexibility.

" Mark Hunter, The Sales Hunter

15 INTERVIEW POST

It's surprising how willing even the most influential people are to give you an interview — even if you have a small audience on your blog.

Remember that the easiest way for an influencer to give you an interview is through audio — all they have to do is call you and start talking.

16 LINK ROUNDUP POST

This type of post can work well as a series that publishes once a month or once a week.

Curate, link to and provide a description of multiple pieces of content that your audience will find valuable.

Remember to notify those that you link to via email or social media to give yourself the maximum opportunity to get the post shared.

17 QUOTE POST

People love quotes from influential people.

Pull together quotes from multiple influencers across a specific topic to create a 'Quote Post'.

Again, if applicable — be sure to notify those that you quote that you have included them in your post.

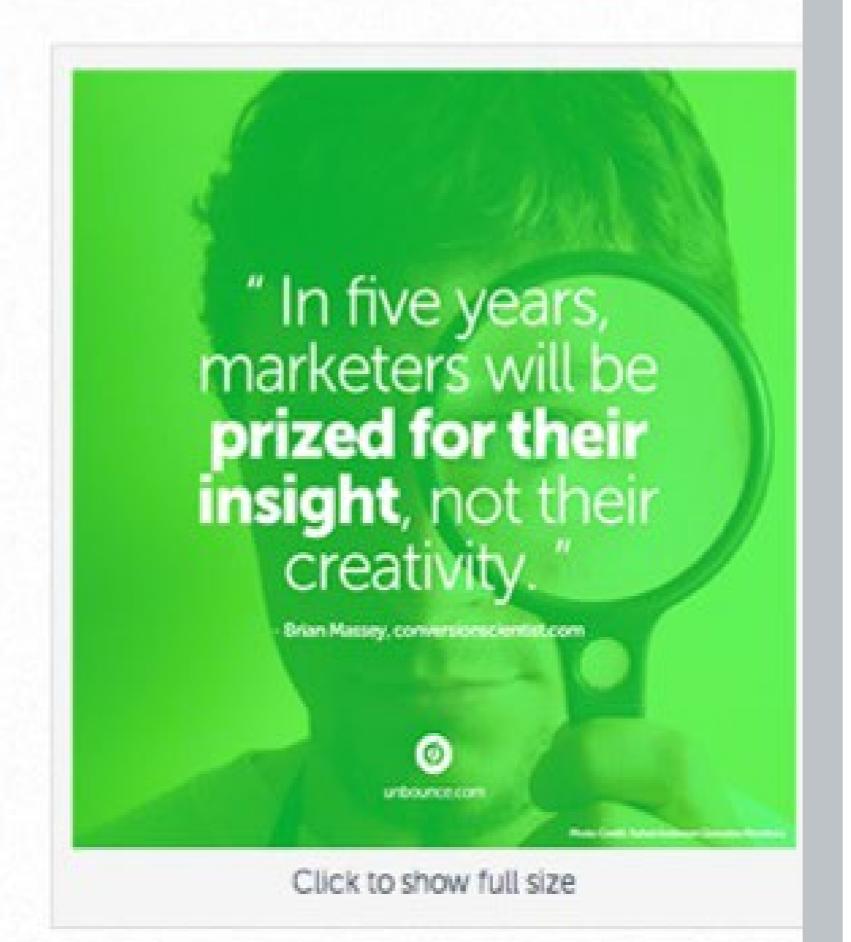
Here's an example from the folks at Unbounce called

20 Marketing Insights That Inspired Us In 2013...

20 Marketing Insights That Inspired Us In 2013

1. Brian Massey

Scientist at Conversion
Sciences and he has the lab
coat to prove it. His rare
combination of interests,
experience and neuroses were
developed over almost 20 years
as a computer programmer,
entrepreneur, corporate
marketer, national speaker and
writer. He attributes this quote
as a riff on what Scott Brinker
has been talking about for
years.

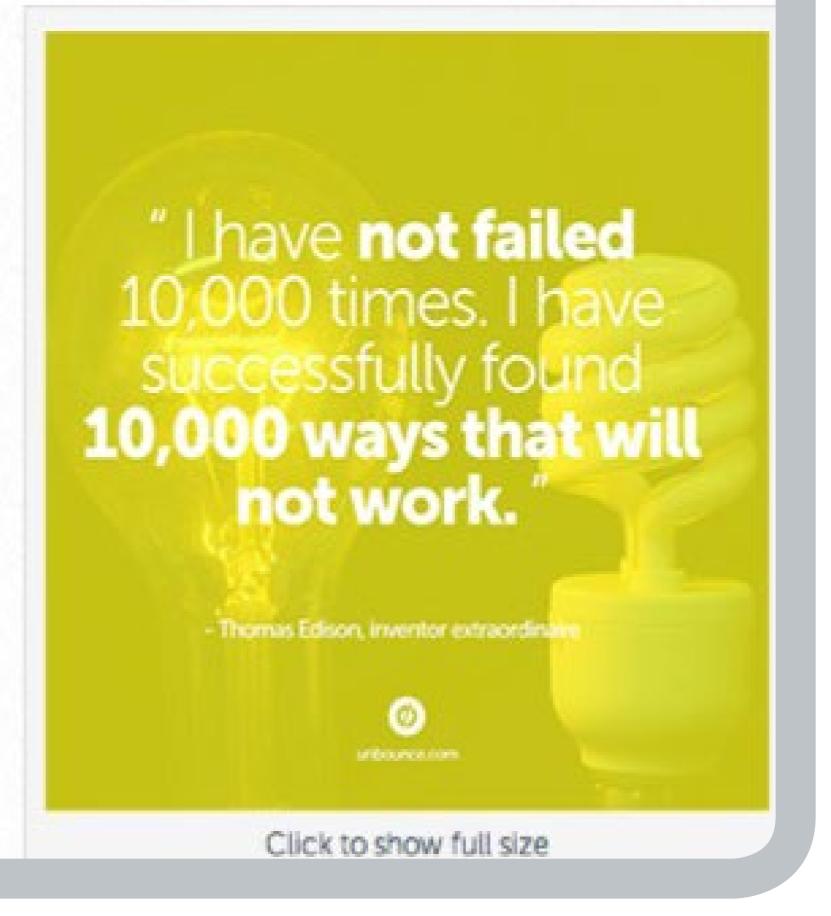


- Share this marketing insight on Twitter
- Like, comment or share this marketing insight on Facebook

2. Thomas Edison

Thomas Alva Edison, inventor extraordinaire. You might be thinking, what does Thomas Edison have to do with conversion? Well, Peep Laja over at Conversion XL pairs this quote nicely with the real goal of A/B testing.

- Share this marketing insight on Twitter
- Like, comment or share this marketing insight on Facebook



18 BEST OF THE WEB POST

The Best of the Web Post often includes content, tools and other resources that you have curated, linked to and described.

19 PICK OF THE WEEK POST

This is a popular type of series post and is usually a relatively short blog post that describes a single piece of content, tool or other resource that you have curated, linked to and described.

20 PEOPLE TO FOLLOW POST

Curate a list of influential people, describe them and provide links for your audience to connect with them through their website, social media channels, events, books, etc.



Creating entertaining content can be difficult but, if you can make it work, it can be a very effective type of blog post.

Here are the blog posts types that entertain...

21 STORY POST

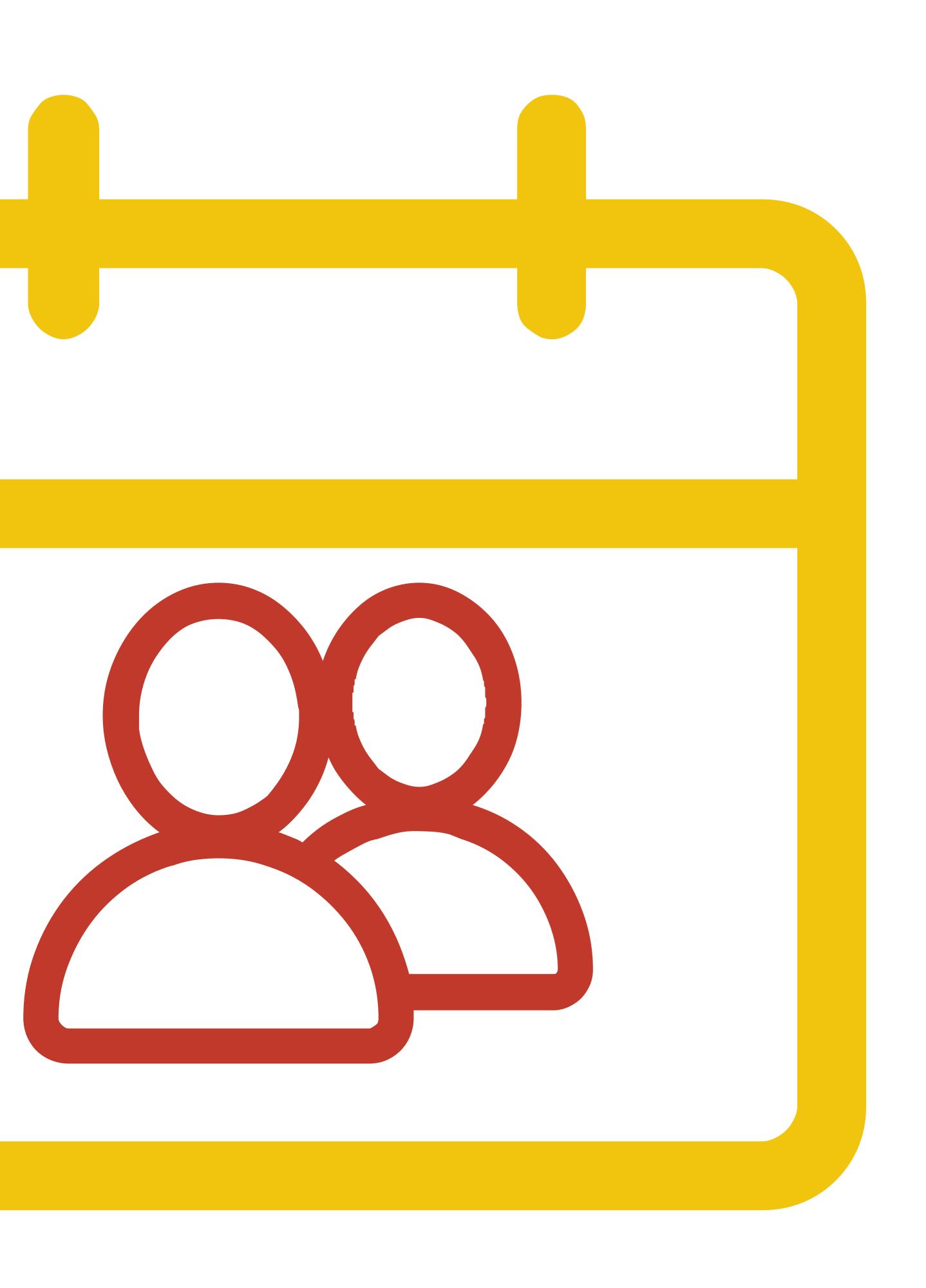
Create content that tells a story that would be entertaining to your market.

Some blogs only produce this type of content and others create a series around this type of blog post.

22 SATIRE POST

Be humorous through the use of irony or extreme exaggeration.

This kind of post works well where there are timely issues such as politics or sports.



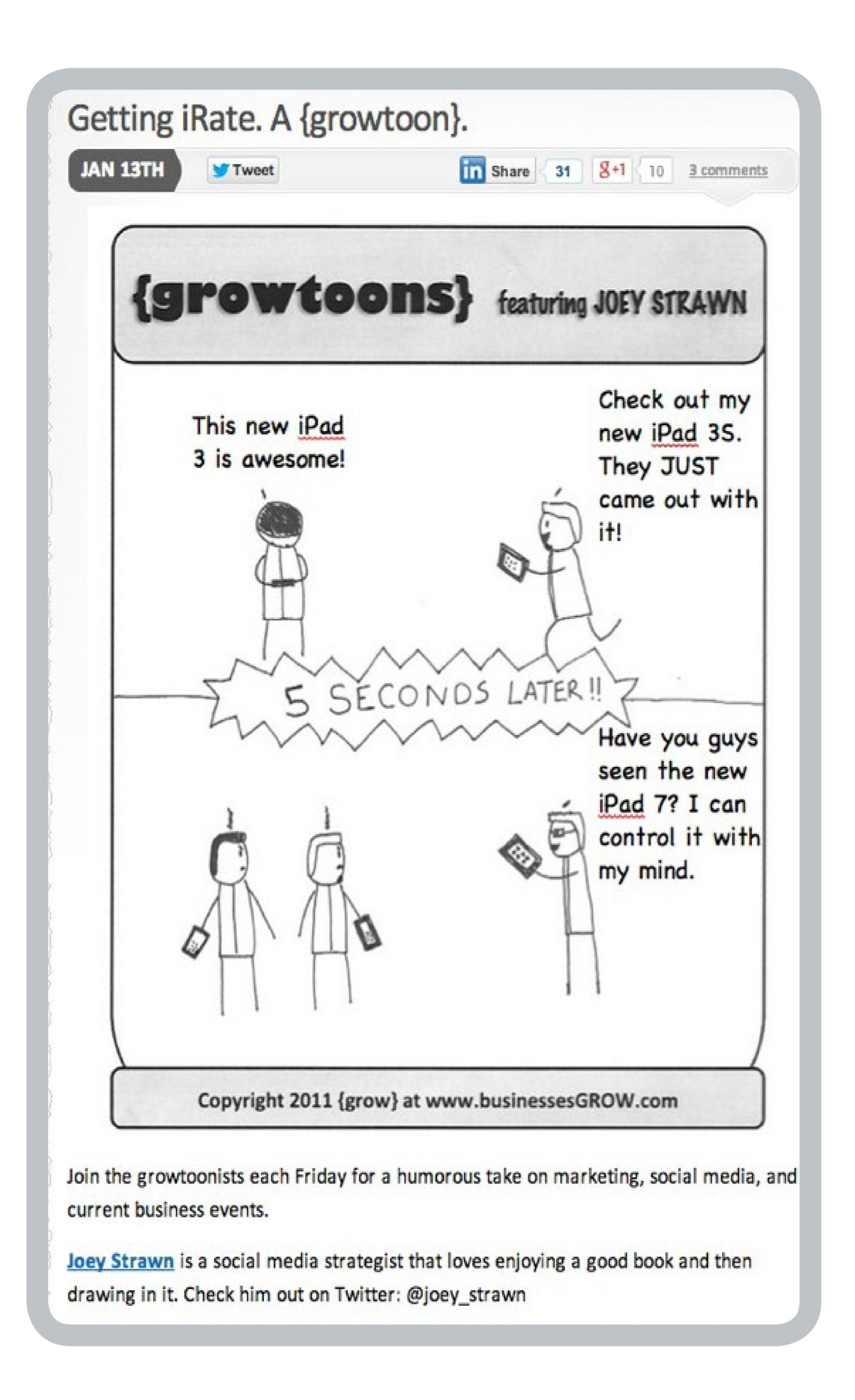
23 CARTOON POST

This type of post works well as a series.

Create weekly or monthly cartoon posts that make your audience laugh and think about issues and events in your niche.

Here's an example from Mark Schaeffer's
Businesses Grow blog called <u>Getting iRate. A</u>

<u>{growtoon}</u>...



24 MEME POST

Meme's are humorous pieces of content that spread virally across the web.

Create your own meme's or pull together a curated set of meme's from across the web.

25 PARODY POST

Create a post that imitates a well-known person or media property in your niche.

Be sure to exaggerate their strengths and shortcomings in your content.





It takes a commitment to stay timely in some niches but if you can pull it off — timely information is among the most effective blog content you can create.

If you find keeping up with the latest news and trends is too daunting of a task, consider creating a series of posts that publishes timely information once per week, as an example.

Here are 5 blog post ideas that are timely...

26 REVIEW POST

Review a product, event or anything else you have access to while it is newsworthy.

For best results, be as honest as possible in your review rather than painting everything you review in a positive light.

27 SURVEY POST

Choose a newsworthy/trending topic and survey your audience about it using email, social media or in-person events.

Then, pull the results together into a blog post.

Here's an example from Copyblogger called <u>Copyblogger's 2014</u>

<u>State of Native Advertising Report...</u>



28 NEWS POST

Look to create content on your blog about events as they are happening.

You don't need to "break" the story but, for best results, be sure to add a perspective that your audience will find valuable or entertaining.

TREND POST

Some content creators are able to predict trends as they are happening.

If you're a trendspotter, create content on your blog that rides that trend as it becomes popular.

30 ISSUE POST

Choose issues that affect your audience and create content about them while they are timely and relevant to them.



31 INSPIRATIONAL POST

Some of the most effective content on the web is neither informational or entertaining — it simply inspires.

This kind of post can work well as a Story Post, Profile Post or Quote Post among others.



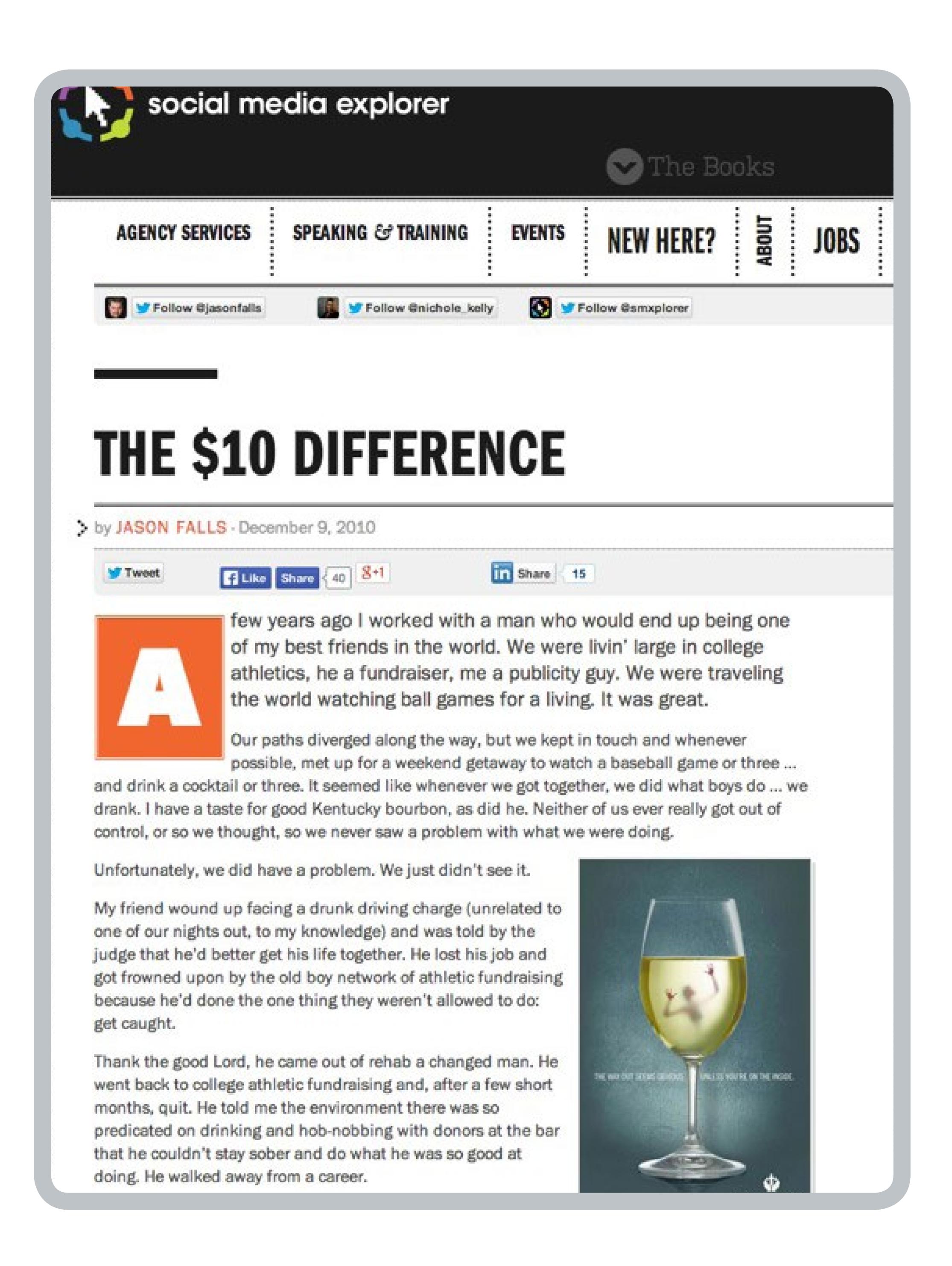
32 HOLIDAY POST

Some blogs go dormant on popular holidays while others use the opportunity to deliver well-wishes to their audience and display their humanity.

33 GUARD DOWN POST

Some of the best content on the web is created by a content creator that lets their guard down by delivering a deeply personal experience that the audience can relate to.

Here's an example from Jason Falls at Social Media Explorer called The \$10 Difference...



BEHIND THE SCENES POST

If you have a loyal following they will want to see what goes on behind the scenes of the content that you can create.

35 OFF-TOPIC POST

This can be risky, but if you have a loyal following that has become accustomed to you covering a specific set of topics — this kind of post can shock them and receive a great response.

Test it.

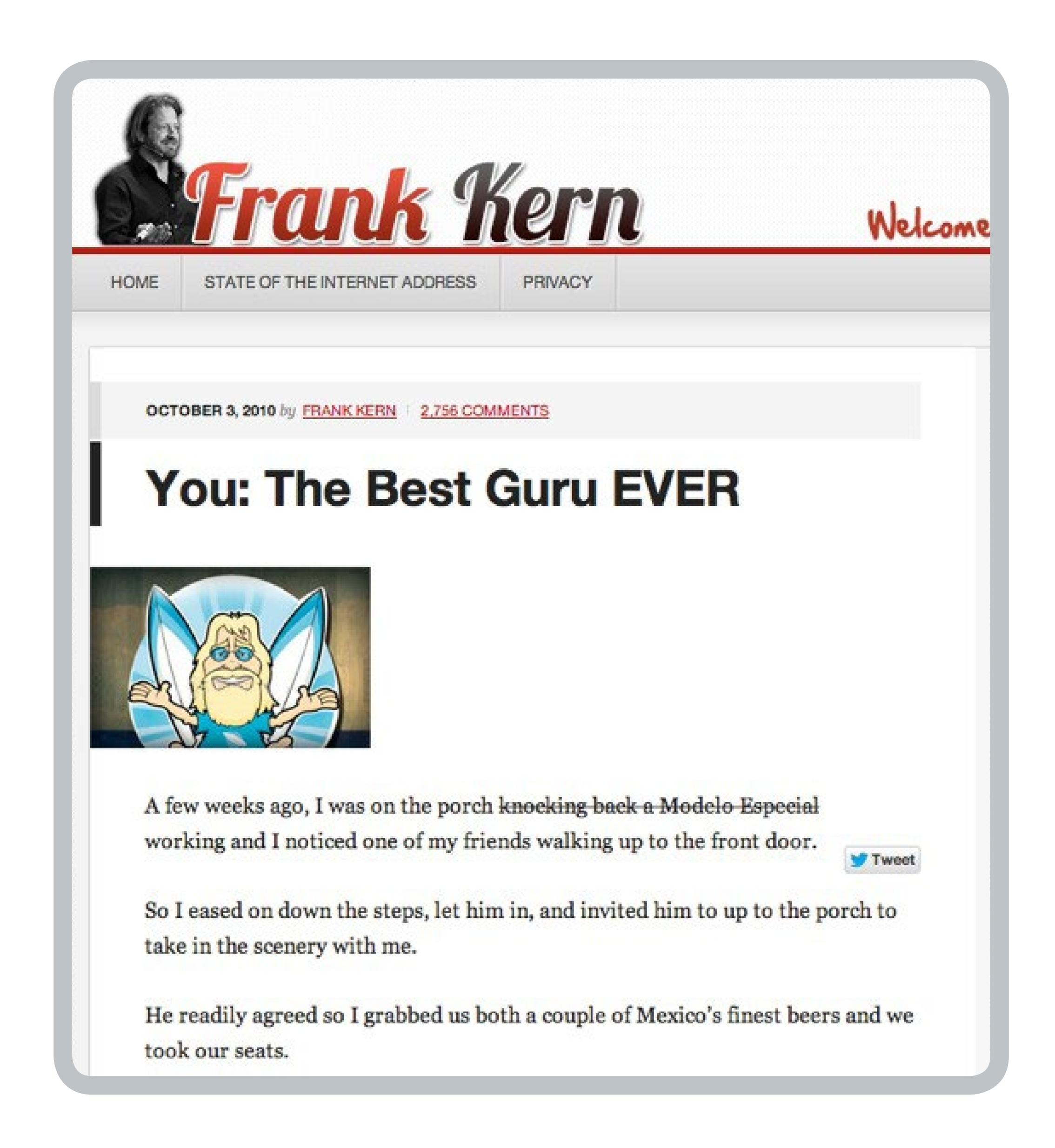
36 RANT POST

The rant post shows your human side by revealing your passion and anger about a topic that is relevant to your audience.

It's not for everyone but the right blog and the right audience will respond well to a rant.

Here's an example rant post from Frank Kern called <u>YOU: The</u>

<u>Best Guru Ever...</u>





Some organizations use their blogs in a promotional way. This can work very well for the right company.

Here are the blog post ideas that are promotional...

37 COMPARISON POST

Create a post that compares the features and benefits of your product to competitive solutions.

For best results and to build trust, include cases where your product IS NOT the best solution.

Here's an example from River Pools and Spas called Which is Best: Fiberglass, Concrete or Vinyl Liner?



By now you probably know that there are three types of inground pools: fiberglass, vinyl liner, and concrete (also called gunite).

Below is a detailed comparison of these three pool types including the pros and cons of each. If you want general pricing for each you can find that here. Below you'll also find the most comprehensive library of fiberglass vs vinyl vs concrete pool articles found anywhere.

Okay, let's dive in. First, let's look at the following comparison chart that outlines specific pros and cons fo each type of pool on a scale from one to five (green is good):

DESIRED QUALITIES OF INGROUND POOLS	FIBERGLASS	VINYL LINER	CONCRETE
Low Maintenance			
Speed of Installation	INTE		
Low Chemical Usage	IIIII		
Smoothness of Finish	IIIIII		
Durability	HIHH		-
Low Lifetime Cost of Ownership			
Energy Efficiency			
Attractive and Elegant Look			-
Beauty of Interior Finish	THE RESERVE TO THE PARTY OF THE		
Factory Controlled Quality			
Number of Available features		THU	INNE
Resale Value	IIIIII		
Compatibility with Salt Water Systems			HHU
Low Initial Cost			
Customizable Shape and Size			

Let's discuss this chart for a moment. As you can see, fiberglass pools have some substantial advantages

38 PROJECT SHOWCASE POST

Use your blog to outline a specific project you or your organization is working on currently or has completed.

Show the process and share results if possible.

39 INCOME REPORT POST

Open the books and show your audience a breakdown of the money you and your organization are making.

Here's an example from Pat Flynn at Smart Passive Income called My Monthly Income Report – March 2014...





40 COMPANY UPDATE POST

Use your blog to let your customers and prospects know of new employee hires, acquisitions or major contracts.

Here's an example from the folks over at Buffer App called Buffer November Update: \$2,347,000 run rate, 1,189,000 users...



Want to join the team? We're hiring »

A blog about all things Buffer culture

Buffer November Update: \$2,347,000 run rate, 1,189,000 users



Posted on Thursday, December 5th, 2013 Written by Joel Gascoigne

Below is the monthly update email I have just sent this morning to all our investors. I hope you enjoy taking a read about the full details of our work on Buffer in the last month. I'm excited to hear from you in the comments if you have any questions about what we're up to!

If you want to know how October went, you can take a look here.

Traction update

- New users: 66,000 (Total: 1,189,000, from 1,123,000: +5.9%)
- Daily active users: 30,600 (down from 32,500: -5.8%)
- Revenue: \$196,000 (Annual: \$2,347,000 down from \$2,388,000: -1.5%)
- Business revenue: \$22,250 (down from \$30,510; -27%)
- Cash in bank: \$318,651 (last month: \$311,719)

The volatility of an early product (Buffer for Business) is affecting our revenue growth rates. We're growing faster overall, but the growth is spiky. We saw a similar pattern in the early days with our freemium product. October's hacking incident is the cause for the drop of DAUs, but we're seeing it returning to previous levels now.

41 PRESENTATION POST

Publish presentations given by employees that contain interesting and valuable content for your audience.

42 BEST OF POST

Create a blog post that pulls together the most popular blog posts you have published over a period of time.

43 PRODUCT UPDATE POST

If you have rabid fans of your products and services you might be surprised at how well a post on new product/new feature announcements will do on your blog.

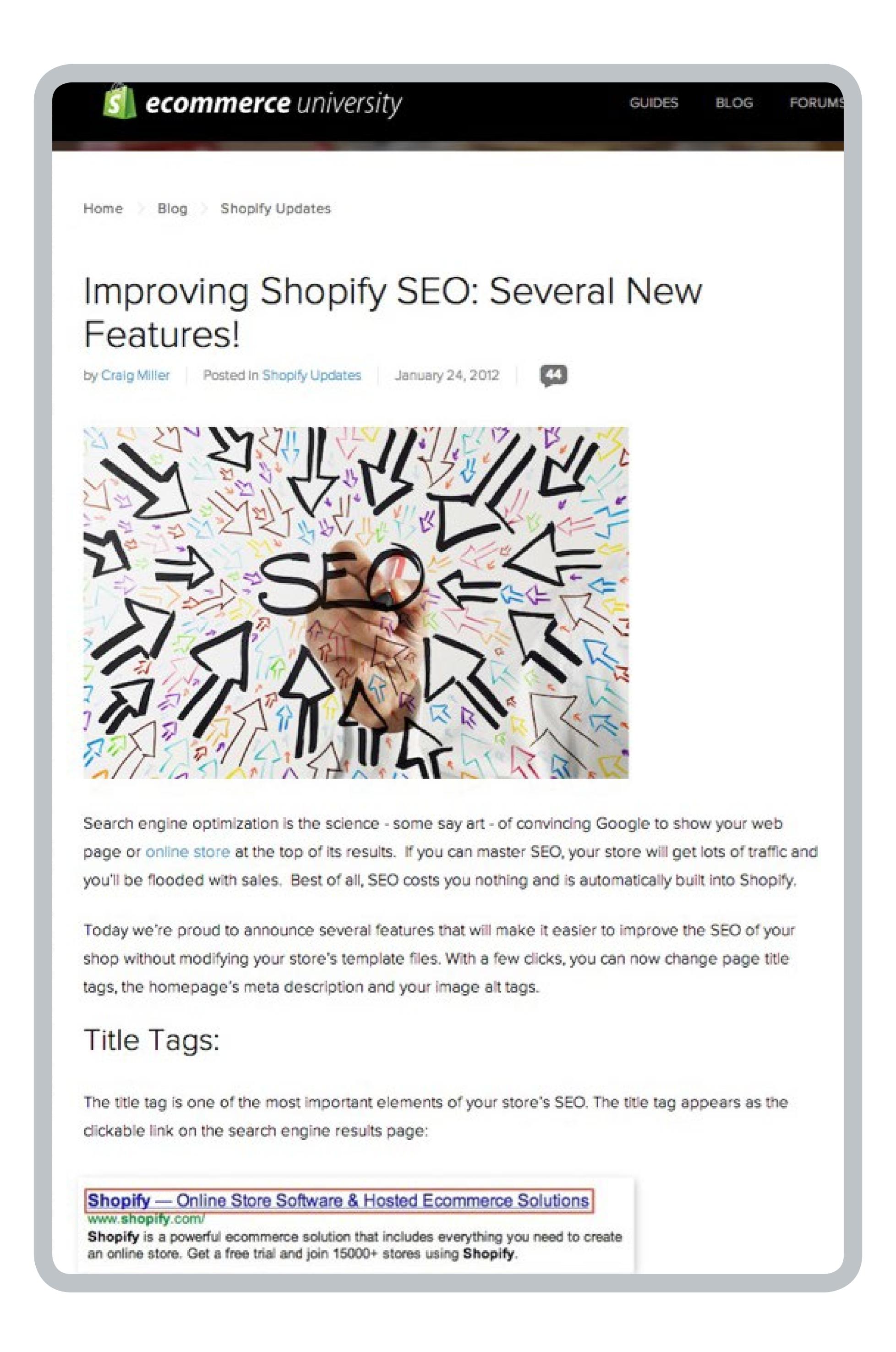
44 PRODUCT TIPS POST

This post type is both promotional and useful and is very powerful for the right blog and audience.

Create content that helps your customers be more successful with your product or service.

TIP: Prospects will read these too.







You can get a lot of action on controversial posts — just make sure it fits with your brand.

Here are blog post ideas that are controversial...

45 WHAT IF POST

This type of blog post speculates on what would happen if...

The success of this type of post rests on your ability to choose a "what if" that is interesting and debatable.



45 DEBATE POST

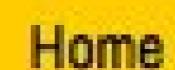
Use your blog to present one side of a debatable argument... or find someone that disagrees with you and present both sides in the same post.

47 ATTACK POST

Be careful with this one but picking a fight with the right person/ organization/event, etc will force your audience to choose sides and draw lots of attention.

This type of post, when done right, will create enemies of some and die hard fans of others.

Here's an example attack post from Defective by Design called <u>An</u> Open Letter to Steve Jobs...



What is DRM?

Take Action

DRM-

An Open Letter to Steve Jobs

BY DESIGN org

Dear Steve Jobs,

We would like to thank you for your public statements about Digital Restrictions Management (DRM), and your pledge to drop DRM from iTunes if the four major record labels—EMI, Warner, Universal and Sony—let you.

As you know, the Free Software Foundation's campaign against DRM, DefectiveByDesign.org, has specifically targeted Apple since it launched in May 2006. As activists against DRM, we have supported these high-profile protests outside Apple stores in the US and in the UK because, as the largest purveyor of DRMed music, Apple carries a large part of the responsibility for the situation in which consumers now find themselves.

But Apple is under pressure not just from anti-DRM activists and from a consumer boycott of DRM, but also from consumer rights regulators in Europe who have declared iTunes's DRM (FairPlay) illegal. In Norway regulators have given you until October 1, 2007 to open up iTunes or be forced to close down under penalty of daily fines. Similar moves are being made by consumer regulators across Europe.

48 PREDICTION POST

If you take a debatable and speculative approach, a prediction post can get a great response.

49 REACTION POST

Use your blog to react to content created by someone else. For example, the content might be a blog post, book or presentation.





While engagement isn't necessarily the end goal, it pays to create an engaged audience on your blog.

Here are blog post ideas that increase engagement...

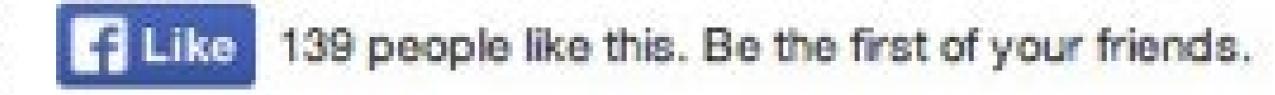
50 QUESTION POST

Curate and answer questions your audience asks in social media, on forums or in the comments section of your blog.

Here's an example from Bob Burg called <u>The Rope of Leadership</u> and <u>Influence</u>...



January 21st, 2014 by Bob Burg





Recently on Facebook and Twitter I posted the following:

"How far can you push a rope? Not very far. That's why true influencers don't push."



A reader asked, "But if you think about how hard and how often to "pull" when are you being strategic and when merely manipulative?"

I thank him for caring enough to want to use influence for good.

First, a powerful influencer does not pull hard; they pull gently.

Regarding the second part of his question, it depends whether you are thinking only of yourself without caring how it affects the other person. That would be manipulation.

On the other hand, if you are focused on helping them; combining the benefits of your goal with THEIR wants, needs, desires, goals, and values then it's very positive; what I would call

51 ANSWER POST

The Answer Post is the sister of the Question Post.

In this post type, you will simply ask a question and allow your audience to answer it in your comments section. This type of post is generally very short, allowing your audience to create the bulk of the content.

52 CHALLENGE POST

Use a blog post to pose a challenge to your audience.

This post can work well as a series with updates being made that feature audience members that are participating in the challenge.

53 CUSTOMER SHOWCASE POST

This blog post type is partly promotional but also builds engagement.

54 FREEBIE POST

Use a blog post to allow your audience to get access to a relevant giveaway.

CONTEST POST

Announce a contest on your blog.

This post can work well as a series as well with updates being made featuring contest results.

Here's an example from Elegant Themes called <u>Introducing the</u> <u>Winners of Our Customer Showcase Contest</u>...



Introducing The Winners Of Our Customer Showcase Contest

Posted on September 17 by Nick Roach in Customer Spotlight | 37 comments



Last week, we asked our members to vote on their favorite customer website. One week and 800+ votes later, the three lucky winners have been chosen. The results were very close – many of the top spots were only 3 votes apart! Each winner will receive some awesome prizes, and all 20 of our finalists will be featured in our upcoming customer showcase page. Thanks again to everyone who participated. It was loads of fun to explore each entry, and to see all of the wonderful websites that have been created using our themes.





There are 4 different formats to deliver content on the the web:

- **Text** Text articles are still the most common format for delivering content on the web.
- Images Image posts can be delivered via infographics, cartoons/drawings, charts/graphs or through still photography.
- Video Video blog posts can be delivered numerous ways including talking-head style, using a screencast program or presentation style.
- Audio Audio blog posts can be delivered via podcast or simply by embedding an audio player on a web page.

Most of the blog post ideas in this article can be be delivered in any of the 4 formats above.

Choosing a blog post idea is a two-step process...

• Step 1 - Choose a blog post topic or idea

Step 2 - Choose a deliver format



For example, you might choose...

• An FAQ Post (idea) delivered via video (format).

-OR-

 A People To Follow Post (idea) delivered via image (format).

-OR-

 A Customer Showcase Post (idea) delivered via text (format). And... don't forget to <u>view the mind map</u> (or <u>download the PDF</u> version).

What do you think? What ideas do you have for blog posts? Add them to the comments section below and let's talk about them!

If you like this post... you'll love this Execution Plan... check it out below.

How to Get Your First 1000 Blog Subscribers and More

Optimize your blog for lead capture and grab your first 1000 subscribers and beyond.

<u>Click Here to Access this Execution Plan</u>

Flash Sale: Regularly \$47 Limited Time \$27

CONCLUSION

Here are the next steps...

Print the <u>Ultimate List of Blog Post Ideas mind map</u> and pin it to the wall next to your workstation.

The next time you are in a blogging rut try out a new post type or deliver your content in a new format.

With this list at your disposal... you'll never run out of ideas for blog posts again.

