The Rate for the Job

We’ve heard of a writer in an online music journals’ network who managed to raise an offer for a BBC radio punditry spot from zero to £70, so do try it! And see below for reported rates for complete radio 4 programme packages.

Thinking about work for a company you’ve not dealt with before? Simply look at the rate for the job to find out what companies in similar niches have paid. Then aim higher.

You can submit rates online, in confidence, at any time, at www.londonfreelance.org/rates – please give not only the basic rate (e.g. for FBS, First British Serial rights) but extra payments negotiated for extra uses, like the Web – or for print if it’s a rate for the Online Job. These are shown as (eg) £400 + €100. We now record rates paid in Euro as well.

Rates marked X are, in the editor’s fallible opinion, below par. Treat all rates as minima, even perhaps the happy few.

Broadcast: corporate and educational video production daily rate, no holiday pay, no agreement on rights, expenses paid separately £300; Radio 4 Great Lives programme appearance as expert/pundit £300; Radio France “On the Spot”; creating a 4-minute radio documentary (pitching, writing, recording, editing), ideally 1 full day of work, realistically 1.5 to 2 days of work, expenses paid for travel outside of city limits only, €80; BBC Radio 4 complete 30-minute radio programme production, for “everything”; arts programme £6000, factual documentary from £7000.

Illustrations: Time double-page spread, overnight turnaround, no exes first use £1800.

Photography: Redditch Standard photography per day, no exes £100 XXX.

Shifts: Guardian subbing day (7h) £185; Daily Telegraph subbing day (8h) £135; Cassini (what?) live interview per hour £120; Soaplife subbing day £120 XXX.

Words, per 1000: Woman’s Own 750 words (no pictures) @ £150 = £200; Vice.com researching and writing 1800 words inc interviews @ £300 (up from £200 offered) £167; Vice.com reporting job, photos included £135; News Corp 200 words @ £300 = £150; Mail on Sunday 200 words @ £200 £1000; BBC Online £576; Stylist 500 words @ £200 all rates £400; Evening Standard 500 words @ £150 = £300; Daily Mail 1200 words @ £350 = £292; Jane’s £220; When Saturday Comes £215 X; Guardian online and print – agreed minimum is £310.68 £121 20.

Words, other: EasyJet website regular 400-word city guides all rates £42 XXX.

The Trireme Award

This month’s Trireme Award for “the worst terms since I was chained to the oars” is shared between Radio France and Easyjet’s website.

Easyjet would appear to be extending the company’s budget “no frills” philosophy into payments for freelances – £42 for 400 words (£105 a thousand). Radio France, while they do pay some travel expenses for a four-minute “On The Spot” documentary, pay just €80 for a complete package (pitching all the way to editing), which represents at least a day and a half’s work.

Invitation to tender: copyright booklet

The NUJ would like to commission two freelance members to produce a booklet that would provide a good grounding in the current law on copyright for freelance journalists: one writer/researcher, and one editor/Formatter.

This would be contained within a maximum of 30 pages of A5 format, and should be readily understandable by beginners.

Content would include, but would not necessarily be limited to:
- What is meant by copyright
- Which legislation applies
- The international framework
- What is protected
- Who owns copyright
- Definition of “in the course of employment”
- The difference between assigning and licensing
- How long does protection last
- The rights of the copyright owner
- Exceptions
- What is meant by a “substantial part”
- How to tackle infringements
- Moral rights
- Update on new exceptions
- Creative commons licences
- Self-publishing
- Unfair contracts
- Collecting societies and secondary rights
- Extended collective licences
- The IPEC small claims track
- A list of relevant creators organisations
- How the NUJ can help
- Glossary

The following fees would apply:
- For the writer/researcher: £2000; for the editor/Formatter: £1000.
- Applicants should have a good working knowledge of copyright law, and the ability to express this understanding in an accessible way.
- The NUJ reserves the right not to engage any of the applicants at the end of this process. Applications close at midday on Monday 25 May and should be made by email to freelanceoffice@nuj.org.uk

Freelance Salon is coming

Freelance Salon is the working title of a series of local events for freelances currently being put together by the NUJ’s London Freelance Branch (LFB) in collaboration with the Union’s Freelance Industrial Council www.londonfreelance.org/ flc and other NUJ Branches that have a strong freelance presence among their members.

The format is expected to be similar to the successful “New Ways to Make Journalism Pay” conference in 2012 (www.londonfreelance.org/NewWays), except that this will be a series of shorter events – evenings rather than a full day – with refreshments and drinks laid on and an opportunity for freelances to network and compare notes. As with New Ways, it will be about how we as freelances can diversify into new techniques for earning a living as journalists. There is also a report of a stripped-down, local version of New Ways that was run by NUJ Brussels Branch at www.londonfreelance.org/ fl/1209brus.html. Manchester and Salford Branch are interested in putting on a pilot

The Freelance Office on 020 7843 3706.

Any NUJ member contemplating work for Bloomberg Television Africa Limited should first telephone the Freelance Office on 020 7843 3706.

Attention!

anyfreelancere@nuj.org.uk

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