

A photograph of a workspace featuring a laptop keyboard on the left, a wooden desk surface, and a notebook with a pen on the right. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main text.

Predict **THIS**:

Horoscope
Writing Course

The Dark Pixie Astrology

Welcome to the Predict THIS: Horoscope Writing Course!

This course will lay out what you need to learn to write horoscopes. Hopefully you find this information helpful, and are able to use it to better understand horoscopes or get into the job of horoscope writing.

It's recommended you spend about 1 week per unit, 3 weeks total for the entire course. Each unit is comprised of 3 lessons, and you'll spend more time on some than others.

Unit 1: The Basics

This unit covers all of the technical information you need to get started with writing horoscopes: what exactly is a horoscope comprised of, and length depending on the kind of horoscope and how it's being displayed. You'll also find information for numerology and tarot horoscopes in this unit.

Lesson 1: The Super Basics

What is in a horoscope?

When people read their horoscope, they read their Sun sign, the sign everyone knows. What they don't realize is that horoscopes are based on the Rising sign, or the sign on the 1st house cusp.

A natal chart is a snapshot of the location of the planets at the exact moment of your birth from the location you were born at. It also includes 12 houses, each ruling different areas of your life and personality. The cusp of a house is the very beginning of the house, and the sign on the 1st house cusp is called the Rising sign because it's the sign on the horizon at the moment of your birth from the location you were born at.

Why are horoscopes based on the Rising sign?

The moving planets are called transit planets, and the transit planets don't move through the planets of a chart, they move through the houses of a chart. Horoscopes are based on the Rising sign because this represents the 1st house. Your Sun sign only represents your Sun, a planet, and not a house (though it can rule a house - the planetary ruler of a house is the natural planetary ruler of the sign on a house cusp, but you don't need to deal with that with horoscopes).

How does it work?

Since horoscopes are written for the Rising sign but people read their Sun sign, it goes like this: the Sun sign is used as the Rising sign. So if you're reading a horoscope for Leo, you're reading not for a Leo Sun, but actually

for a Leo Rising. This is called using Solar houses. I encourage people to read both their Sun and Rising Signs; the Sun sign does come into place for the Sun itself for one thing, but we'll get into that later.

The Signs & Houses

When it comes to houses, they go in order, 1 through 12, numerically as well as astrologically. The signs go in order as follows:

- 1st sign: Aries
- 2nd sign: Taurus
- 3rd sign: Gemini
- 4th sign: Cancer
- 5th sign: Leo
- 6th sign: Virgo
- 7th sign: Libra
- 8th sign: Scorpio
- 9th sign: Sagittarius
- 10th sign: Capricorn
- 11th sign: Aquarius
- 12th sign: Pisces

When you get to the end, Pisces, you start over again at Aries, so for a Leo Rising, it goes:

- 1st house Leo
- 2nd house Virgo
- 3rd house Libra
- 4th house Scorpio
- 5th house Sagittarius
- 6th house Capricorn
- 7th house Aquarius
- 8th house Pisces
- 9th house Aries
- 10th house Taurus
- 11th house Gemini
- 12th house Cancer

Every house rules something different. Here's a list:

1st House: The 1st house rules who you come across as. Compare this to the Sun, which shows who you are with those who know you best; the Sun is the inner you while the 1st house is the outer you. The sign on the cusp and any planets in this house will have major influence in your outer personality, looks, and presentation, and the general energy you exert. One interesting note about the 1st house is that we all tend to want to put our best foot forward, so we tend to play up mostly the positive aspects of the sign on the cusp and planets within the house. The 1st house is on an axis with the 7th house (the exact opposite house), and is also called the Ascendant or AC for short (because it's derived by finding the sign ascending on the horizon at the exact moment of birth). The sign on the cusp is called the rising sign. This house is the house of the self, whereas the 7th house is the house of others. The 1st house is ruled by Aries, Mars, and is an angular house, all action, so a load-up of planets here could show you're someone who likes to DO.

2nd House: The 2nd house rules your disposable income, values, self-esteem, and self-worth. The sign on the cusp and planets within the house show what profession you could make the most money in. They also show how your approach money, and what your overall feelings are about money. They show how your values lean and what kind of ethical code you adhere to. Your own feelings of self-worth and esteem can be shown within this house as well. This house is considered one of the career houses, along with the 6th and 10th. The 2nd house is ruled by Taurus, Venus, and is a succedent house.

3rd House: The 3rd house rules your communication style, your siblings, your close environment, and short distance travel. How you learn and communicate is shown by the sign on the cusp and any planets within the house. The 3rd house also rules your younger years of education (before college/university/trade school etc.) and how you approached school and what your experiences were during that time. The relationship you have with your siblings is shown with this house. Your neighborhood, the kind you're drawn to and how you participate within it, is also shown here. The 3rd house rules short distance travel (anywhere you can drive to in a few hours;

usually every day travels). Mercury and Gemini rule the 3rd house, and it's a cadent house.

4th House: The 4th house rules your home, family, and foundation. It can rule your home itself structurally, like the kind of home you like and the place or area you'd like to live, as well as the environment within the home. The sign on the cusp and planets within the house show your family environment as a child as well as the one you create as an adult. The 4th house is on an axis with the 10th house (the exact opposite house), and is called the *Immunus Coeli* or IC for short. Both houses rule your parents, with the 4th house ruling one parent and the 10th house ruling the other. This axis is also a very spiritual axis, and the 4th house shows the spiritual foundation upon which you build. Cancer and the Moon rule the 4th house, and this house is an angular house.

5th House: The 5th house rules your hobbies, romantic interests, children, and creative pursuits. What you find most fun and how you have fun can be found by the sign on the cusp and planets within the house. The kind of romantic you are, how you want to be courted, and the people you date and fall in love with are also ruled by the 5th house. Children are ruled by this house, the personality types and your approaches towards them. What you're most creative with, what you feel best at creating, falls here as well. Generally, people with planets here (except Saturn) are highly creative people. The 5th house is ruled by Leo and the Sun and is a succedent house.

6th House: This house is the house of work, health, pets, and daily habits. It's your structure, your routine, your everyday life. In prediction, aspects to this house tend to impact your work environment or job, what kind of work you want to do, your attitude toward routine and daily tasks, how hard-working you are, how focused you may be, and how your health is. Naturally ruled by Virgo and Mercury. Opposing house is the 12th house (6th house = I serve you; 12th house = I serve the world).

7th House: The 7th house rules all of your one-on-one relationships. Called the *Descendant* or DC for short, it's along an axis with the 1st house (the house of the self) and is the house of others. Marriage, how you feel about commitment, what you expect in a relationship (personal or business), and the kind of partner you're attracted to for a relationship (personally and in

business) fall under the rulership of this house. This house also rules your open enemies (a different kind of relationship most don't think of). The 7th house is ruled by Libra and Venus and is an angular house.

8th House: The 8th house rules other people's money and transformations. 'Other people's money' can mean debt, taxes, inheritances, joint finances (spouse/partner) and loans. This house is on an axis with the 2nd house (exact opposite house) and is an axis of money (2nd - your money; 8th - other people's money). 'Transformations' can be mental/emotional; physically it can be sex (start of life), pregnancy (process of life and major transformation to women's bodies), and death (both literal and figuratively). The more serious side of life and deep thought are very 8th house. The 8th house also tends to be misunderstood a bit, seen as 'depressing.' This house is one of the three relationship houses (5th - love; 7th - commitment; 8th - sex). The 8th house is ruled by Scorpio and Pluto, and is a succedent house.

9th House: The 9th house rules higher education, philosophical pursuits, long distance travel, and the law. Higher education refers to your secondary education, like college. This house shows what kind of philosophies you subscribe to. Travel that's far from home falls here. Any legal dealings are 9th house matters. The 9th house is also a house of communication (along with the 3rd house/they are opposing houses and on an axis). It rules writing (and writers) and publishing (and publishers). This house is optimistic and forward thinking in an abstract way. The 9th house is ruled by Sagittarius and Jupiter, and is a cadent house.

10th House: The 10th house rules your career, social status, authority figures, and life path. What kind of career you'd do best in can be found by the sign on the cusp and planets within the house. Along with the 2nd and 6th houses, it's one of the career houses and shows what professions a person would be best at. Your social status and rank also fall under the 10th house, and how you need to be ranked (it should come as no surprise this house also rules politicians). Authority figures, those above you that you must answer to or look up to, fall here (like bosses). This house is on an axis with the 4th house and is also called the Medium Coeli, MC for short, or more usually the Midheaven. Both houses rule your parents, with one house ruling one parent and the other house ruling the other. Both are also

spiritual in nature, and the 10th house holds influence over your life path and future. Capricorn and Saturn rule this house, and it's an angular house.

11th House: The 11th house rules your friends, groups, charity, and hopes and dreams. The sign on the cusp and planets in the house can show the kind of friends you're attracted to, the qualities you want in a friendship, and how you are as a friend. Any groups or organizations you belong to fall under the 11th house. Charity also falls here (mostly organizations as opposed to one person), though 'helping others' seems to be more in a distant way. What your hopes and dreams are for your life and future and how you treat them are all 11th house matters. This house is opposite the 5th house and therefore on an axis with it, and both house are social houses. The 11th house is ruled by Aquarius and Uranus, and is a succedent house.

12th House: The 12th house rules endings, hidden things, confined places, and your past life. The 8th house rules death, because it's seen as a transformation, going from one form of existence to another; the 12th house rules endings where something ends to make way for something new. It's a 'clear the clutter' house. Hidden things can be anything that's kept from others, usually referring to secrets. Confined places are anywhere that you are contained, like prison or hospitals. If you have planets in this house, the energy ruled by them tends to be hidden, and if you have a personal planet here (Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars), you tend to feel 'misunderstood.' This house is ruled by Pisces and Neptune, and is a cadent house.

The Planets

There are 10 planets in astrology, excluding Earth, including the Sun and Moon. They are: Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. They each move at different speeds, with the Moon spending about 2 ½ days in each sign, the Sun, Mercury, and Venus spending about 1 month in each sign, Mars spending about 2 months in each sign, Jupiter spending about 1 year in each sign, Saturn spending about 2 ½ years in each sign, and Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto spend many years in one sign.

In horoscopes, when a planet enters a new sign, it enters a new house, so how long a planet is in a sign dictates how long it's in a solar house in horoscopes. This means that daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly horoscopes all focus on different planets, but we'll cover that in a bit.

Each planet has its own energy that it brings to the houses in transit:

Sun: Shines a light on the areas the house rules, can show where you feel most comfortable or are most like yourself, brings positive energy and a spotlight

Moon: Shows your emotional focus, brings out the feelings associated with the areas of life ruled by the house, can show how you emote at the moment

Mercury: Shows your mental focus, what you're thinking about, what areas of life you're making plans for, what you're talking about, and how you're communicating at the moment

Venus: Has pleasant energy so the areas of life ruled by the house are easier to manage, can also have lazy energy, shows how you love and what you enjoy, good relations with others

Mars: Shows where your drive and energy are focused at the moment, the house Mars is in usually has the most importance currently, you want to do something and take initiative with the areas of life ruled by the house

Jupiter: Has expansive energy, brings opportunities to bring new things into your life with the areas ruled by the house, has positive energy

Saturn: Has restricting energy, makes you take stock with the areas of life ruled by the house and be more responsible and mature, you tend to learn lessons with the areas of life ruled by the house

Uranus: Has energy for change, makes things happen suddenly/unexpectedly with the areas of life ruled by the house, desires change so you want to do things in new ways

Neptune: Has dissolving energy, things can fade from the areas of life ruled by the house, is foggy and can make it difficult to see reality with these areas, also creative, imaginative, and spiritual with these areas

Pluto: Has powerful and transforming energy, makes you transform the areas of life ruled by the house, can tear things down first to make you transform, can bring power struggles and control issues or more personal power and control with these areas

So when you're assessing how the transit will be, you look at the transit planet and the house it's entering. Let's say you're writing for Leo and Venus entering Scorpio. With Leo as the 1st house, Scorpio is the 4th house, so you write as Venus entering the 4th house: Pleasant energy at home, good relationships with family, enjoying comfort and being nurturing, etc.

How do you find the location of the planets? You'll need an ephemeris, a table that shows you the location of the planets on any given day. Astro.com offers ephemerides for 6000 years and is the most popular to use, and is free. You can find other ephemerides online with a simple search. You can also use an ingress calendar; when a planet enters a new sign, it's called an ingress.

Aspects

There's one other part that can be included in horoscopes aside of transit planets moving through the houses, and that's transit aspects.

Each sign is made up of 30 degrees, each degree made up of 60 minutes, and each minute made up of 60 seconds. With 12 signs, there are 360 degrees (12x30) in the Zodiac. An aspect is when two planets or points are a certain amount of degrees away from one another.

You'll mostly only look at the major aspects between the transit planets: conjunction (0 degrees, in the same spot), sextile (60 degrees, two signs apart), square (90 degrees, 3 signs apart), trine (120 degrees, 4 signs apart) and opposition (180 degrees, 6 signs apart, exactly opposite one another). Sextiles and trines bring positive opportunities, squares bring friction and difficulty, oppositions bring opposition and events out of your control, and conjunctions amplify the energy of the planets involved.

Transit aspects can be used in horoscopes using the Sun sign instead of the Sun sign as the Rising sign. When a transit planet aspects the transit planet that naturally rules the Sun sign, you can include that in the horoscope as something that may impact the person. Here are the planetary rulers of the signs:

Sun: Leo

Moon: Cancer
Mercury: Gemini, Virgo
Venus: Taurus, Libra
Mars: Aries
Jupiter: Sagittarius
Saturn: Capricorn
Uranus: Aquarius
Neptune: Pisces
Pluto: Scorpio

Let's say that you're writing for a Virgo. The ruler of Virgo is the Mercury. Mars sextiles Mercury on a given day. Mars is energy and drive, sextiles are positive opportunities, so you can say that the person may have energy and drive to pursue new opportunities.

To get the aspects between transit planets, you'll need an aspectarian. You can purchase one in a bookstore or online. For a free resource, Café Astrology offers aspects for the current month as well as the next 3 months here: <http://www.cafeastrology.com/thismonthstransits.html>

Lesson 2: Composition and Length

Horoscope Composition

Daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly horoscopes are all comprised of different things. They are:

Daily horoscopes: Since daily horoscopes are only good for one day, you focus on the planet that changes signs the fastest, the Moon. With the Moon spending only about 2 ½ days per sign, it moves through the houses the fastest. You can also consider the daily transit aspects with daily horoscopes.

Weekly horoscopes: Weekly horoscopes focus mostly on the Moon and transit aspects, just like the daily horoscopes, but also take into consideration the movement of the Sun, Mercury, Venus, and Mars, as well as the new and full moons.

Monthly horoscopes: These are your most common horoscopes. They don't consider the transit Moon since it moves so fast and monthly horoscopes have to look at the whole month. As far as aspects, you usually don't consider aspects made by the transit Moon for the same reason.

Yearly horoscopes: Yearly horoscopes take a wider view, so they tend to focus on the slower-moving planets, with particular emphasis on Jupiter and Saturn. If Uranus, Neptune, or Pluto change signs, this is also important. Of the faster planets, Mars is usually the only one you consider. The eclipses are included instead of the new and full moons. The only transit aspects of note are aspects made between the slow-moving planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto). With these aspects, you place the two transit planets in the solar houses based on the signs they're in, and interpret for those two houses (example: transit Saturn in Virgo squares transit Pluto Sagittarius for a Leo (Rising), putting Saturn in the solar 12th house and Pluto in the solar 9th house, so you have difficulties (square) with ending (12th house) a course of study or legal issue (9th house), with old (12th house) beliefs (9th house) etc.). Yearly horoscopes can also be broken down into specialized horoscopes, but this will be covered in unit 2.

Horoscope Length

The length of horoscopes depends on which kind and the format the horoscope will be displayed:

Daily horoscopes: These tend to be the shortest horoscopes since it's just a snapshot for one day, and you're only considering the transit Moon. You'll rarely see a daily horoscope over 100 words. They're shortest in newspapers, usually 20-30 words per sign, because they only have a small space for the horoscopes. Apps can also be short since they're on a cell phone, usually 50-60 words per sign. You don't see daily horoscopes in magazines very much since they tend to be weekly or monthly (or even less frequent) publications, but you can put length around the same as an app. You don't usually see daily horoscopes for books either, but would need to keep those to newspaper length so the book isn't an epic length. Websites give you the longest daily horoscopes, as low as 50 but can go over the 100 max occasionally. The daily horoscopes on The Dark Pixie Astrology run 30-40 words.

Weekly horoscopes: Weekly horoscopes average out to 150-250 words per sign. They get a little more than daily horoscopes since they're considering 7 days instead of just one. Again, newspapers are shortest, as low as 50 words, up to 150. Apps can go the same length. In magazines and books, 100-200 words each; websites again offer the longest, and you can go over 250, with some being as long as monthly horoscopes. On The Dark Pixie Astrology, the monthly horoscopes are as low as 130 words per sign up to as high as 250, depending on what's happening that week.

Monthly horoscopes: Standard monthly horoscope length is around 500 words per sign. Newspapers and apps can do 100-200; magazines can do 200-250; books can go 400-600; and websites can go as long as you want, but again, 500 is the average. The longest I've seen is [Susan Miller's](#) monthly horoscopes, which can be up to a whopping 2,000 words per sign. Monthly horoscopes on The Dark Pixie Astrology vary depending on what's happening each month, as low as 450 (usually February, the shortest month) and as high as 1300 (when Jupiter or Saturn change signs). Average is 700-800 words per sign.

Yearly horoscopes: This one varies wildly. As low as weekly horoscope length of around 100-200 words, up to as high as the highest monthly horoscopes. It really depends on what you're including in the yearly horoscopes. You can get away with longer horoscopes in newspapers for the yearly, up to 300 words per sign, or even longer if you get a full featured article; apps will still be low, 100-200 words. Magazines can do 250-400 words per sign. Books give you the longest, with 1,000 words per sign for the shortest (like an e-book), up to 7,000 words per sign (for a full book). Websites can vary as much as the others, though you'll usually see 750-1,000 words per sign. On The Dark Pixie Astrology, since the yearly horoscopes are broken down, they average about 2,000 words per sign.

Lesson 3: Numerology and Tarot Horoscopes

Some of you may be looking to try your hand at numerology or tarot horoscopes (dubbed numeroscopes and tarotscopes), so I wanted to give some information on these two as well.

Numerology Horoscopes

Numerology horoscopes, like astrology ones, can be done as daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly. You can write the horoscopes for the Sun Number (month + day of birth) or for the Life Path Number (month + day + year of birth). Sun Number horoscopes are the most common, but you'll occasionally see Life Path Number horoscopes as well. It's really a matter of personal preference. The length of numerology horoscopes tends to be the same across mediums.

Numerology horoscopes are much shorter than astrology horoscopes because you have less factors in play. You're just looking at a few numbers. Daily numerology horoscopes are made up of the Personal Day Number (Personal Year Number + month + day), and you consider the Day Number, Month Number, and Year Number together. They can be as short as a sentence, up to 50 words.

Weekly numerology horoscopes are made up of the Personal Week Number (Personal Year Number + week), and you consider the Week Number and Year Number together. They can be 30-100 words.

Monthly numerology horoscopes are made up of the Personal Month Number (Personal Year + month), and you consider the Month Number and Year Number together. They can be 50-300 words.

Yearly numerology horoscopes are made up of the Personal Year Number (Sun Number + year, or Life Path Number + year). You can consider the Sun or Life Path Number with the Personal Year Number, and also look at the Personal Month Numbers for the months of that year. They can be as low as 100 or as high as 500 words per number.

Tarot Horoscopes

Tarot horoscopes, unlike astrology and numerology ones, pretty much have no rules. You can devise any number of ways of coming up with a tarot horoscope. The most common is the draw one card per sign for a horoscope for each sign for that day, week, month, or year. You can pull 3-4 cards for monthly horoscopes and up to 12 (one for each month) for yearly horoscopes. For another tarot horoscope idea, every planet and every sign is ruled by a major arcana card. You can assign the 2 cards to a transit planet in a sign, and interpret them together in the horoscope house the planet is in. For example, Venus in Scorpio for a Leo (Rising) horoscope would be The Empress (Venus) + Death (Scorpio) + 4th house (Scorpio is the 4th house with Leo Rising). The major arcana cards that rule the signs and houses are on the [Tarot](#) page. Tarot horoscopes tend to be short, a max of 200 words across mediums.

Unit 2: Horoscope Types

Horoscopes pretty much fall into one of 3 categories: general, outlook, and specialized.

Lesson 1: General Horoscopes

General horoscopes are the horoscopes you're pretty used to seeing. They cover the day, week, month, or year in general. This is a general monthly horoscope on The Dark Pixie Astrology for Aries from January 2015:

Venus enters air sign Aquarius on January 3rd, and you enjoy spending time with your friends, in the groups that you belong to, and championing the causes you believe in. You find it easier to make new friends, attracting people to you naturally that share the same point-of-view as you. You also enjoy thinking about your future, the dreams that you have for your future, and what you hope your future will be like. In love, you're a little more distant, but can connect with loved ones as a friend, and believe that friendship is an important foundation for any relationship. The Sun joins Venus in Aquarius on January 20th, and you feel most like yourself when you're with your friends, in a group, focusing on the future, and embracing your individuality. You're attracted to the unusual, the zany, the weird, and you want to explore the parts of yourself that make you unique. You may come across as more independent, rebellious, or distant.

Mercury may make a little mess of things though, as he enters Aquarius on the 4th and will retrograde in Aquarius starting January 21st. A planet is called retrograde when it appears to be moving backward from our vantage point here on Earth; it isn't actually moving backward, it only looks that way because of the way the planets move in relation to us. Mercury retrogrades 3-4 times each year, and tends to throw everything off since he rules communications and technology. With Mercury entering Aquarius early in the month, you'll want to explore unusual ideas, think outside of the box, and talk things over with like-minded people, but as the retrograde kicks in midmonth, you can avoid anything new or unusual or different like the plague. You have difficulty with your friends, perhaps even feeling that you should walk away from a friendship. You can have trouble in a group you

belong to, and feel you shouldn't belong to it anymore. You have a hard time finding people who you feel think the same way as you do. And you question your future, the dreams and hopes you have, and wonder if you're not being realistic and should give up. This retrograde is good for reconnecting with old friends, rejoining groups you used to belong to, taking up an old cause again, or getting a second chance at an old dream. Mercury will be retrograde until February 11th, and impact through mid-February.

Mars will enter water sign Pisces on January 12th, and your energy starts to wane. You find it difficult to find the energy you need when you need it, and are quickly and easily drained. You need more time alone so you can rest, recharge, and you find you have more energy when you're by yourself, or for projects that are behind-the-scenes or where no one is hovering over you. The less people demand of you, the better. You do have plenty of energy for your imagination, and can get lost in fantasy at times. Venus will join Mars in Pisces on January 27th, and you enjoy using your imagination, being creative and artistic, and are more compassionate, understanding, and sweet. In love, you're affectionate only behind closed doors, with no one looking. You can have a secret crush that you fantasize about.

A full moon occurs on January 4th in water sign Cancer, and you can finish a home improvement project or settle a family dispute. If trying to buy/sell real estate, you can finalize the deal now, though it's best to do so before the retrograde kicks in. You're more in touch with your feelings, and when you're hurt, it hits you at your core, so you're more sensitive and may shy away from exposing your emotions to others. Avoid being passive-aggressive when you're upset. A new moon occurs on January 20th in Aquarius, right around when Mercury begins his retrograde in Aquarius, so this is a good new moon to reconnect with old friends or an old group you used to belong to, take up an old cause again, or take advantage of an opportunity to give an old dream another shot.

Each type of horoscope is made up of something different. General horoscopes take into account all of the astrological events for the given period of time (day/week/month/year), and see how it impacts every sign individually, highlighting the important parts. For example, the monthly horoscopes on The Dark Pixie Astrology focus on any planet changing sign, turning retrograde or direct, and the new/full moons/eclipses for the month

for every sign. Take a look again at the Aries horoscope for January 2015 and see how it lays out:

*Venus enters air sign Aquarius on January 3rd (**entering Aries solar 11th house**), and you enjoy spending time with your friends, in the groups that you belong to, and championing the causes you believe in. You find it easier to make new friends, attracting people to you naturally that share the same point-of-view as you. You also enjoy thinking about your future, the dreams that you have for your future, and what you hope your future will be like. In love, you're a little more distant, but can connect with loved ones as a friend, and believe that friendship is an important foundation for any relationship. The Sun joins Venus in Aquarius on January 20th (**entering the solar 11th house**), and you feel most like yourself when you're with your friends, in a group, focusing on the future, and embracing your individuality. You're attracted to the unusual, the zany, the weird, and you want to explore the parts of yourself that make you unique. You may come across as more independent, rebellious, or distant.*

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A full moon occurs on January 4th in water sign Cancer (**in the solar 4th house**), and you can finish a home improvement project or settle a family dispute. If trying to buy/sell real estate, you can finalize the deal now, though it's best to do so before the retrograde kicks in. You're more in touch with your feelings, and when you're hurt, it hits you at your core, so you're more sensitive and may shy away from exposing your emotions to others. Avoid being passive-aggressive when you're upset. A new moon occurs on January 20th in Aquarius (**in the solar 11th house**), right around when Mercury begins his retrograde in Aquarius, so this is a good new moon to reconnect with old friends or an old group you used to belong to, take up an old cause again, or take advantage of an opportunity to give an old dream another shot.

Lesson 2: Outlook Horoscopes

Outlook horoscopes aren't focused on any one particular sign, and instead give general information for what's going on astrologically that applies to everyone. The weekly outlook that used to be posted on The Dark Pixie Astrology is an example of an outlook. This one is from December 22nd - 28th 2014:

MONDAY: The Moon is in Capricorn all day, and we're practical, ambitious, and hard-working. The Moon turns void-of-course at night, and we go to bed early. We wake from happy dreams, have a lot to share in the morning, avoid the unexpected and try to take control in the evening, and indulge at night.

TUESDAY: The Moon enters Aquarius at night, so most of the day is lost, but we end feeling rebellious and inventive. The Moon positively hits Saturn at night, and we make plans. Saturn enters Sagittarius in the morning, and we have to grow up a little. For more on this transit, go to the blog.

WEDNESDAY: The Moon is in Aquarius all day, and we're independent, innovative, and futuristic. We embrace the unexpected in the evening, and have energy when we try to go to bed. Mercury harshly hits Uranus in the evening, and we can't think outside of the box.

THURSDAY: The Moon turns void-of-course in the morning, and we don't do much for the second half of the day. The Moon enters Pisces at night, and we're compassionate and sweet. We indulge and feel lazy in the morning, and lack discipline at night. Mercury aligns with Pluto overnight, and we focus on serious subjects, look at the dark side of life, and research.

FRIDAY: The Moon is in Pisces all day, and we're vulnerable, imaginative, and intuitive. The early birds feel at ease with themselves, we wake from lucid dreams, and we feel in control in the evening. The Sun positively hits Neptune at night, and we get taken away by our dreams.

SATURDAY: The Moon is in Pisces all day, but turns void-of-course in the morning, so we're unproductive. Tie up loose ends and don't do anything too

important. The night owls get good news, and we're charming in the morning.

SUNDAY: The Moon enters Aries overnight, and we're energetic, impulsive, and pioneering. The night owls have discipline, and we think outside of the box at night. We enter the 2nd Quarter Moon phase in the afternoon, and over the next week, we can make adjustments to get to where we want to go.

The monthly outlook in the newsletter is an example of a monthly outlook. This one is from January 2015:

Venus enters Aquarius on January 3rd, making our love more intellectual and friendly. We're less into traditional romance, and more into making sure we have real connections on a mental level. If we don't feel we're around someone who is our intellectual equal, we have less respect for them and are out the door. The Sun will join Venus in Aquarius on January 20th, and we'll become even more aloof, interested only in the abstract and the future, and utilize technology even more.

The Aquarius energy will be made quite difficult though in January because of . . . MERCURY MADNESS! Yep, another round begins on January 21st (Mercury enters Aquarius January 3rd, fyi, and the hardest part of Mercury retrograde begins on the 18th). With Mercury retrograde in Aquarius, an air sign, our communicating and social ability go out the window, especially with friends, the groups we belong to, or in groups. We can see things go wrong with technology or the internet. We say all the wrong things to our peers and avoid being helpful like the plague. We sit on lofty perches and think we know everything when we know nothing. Oh Mercury! The retrograde lasts until February 11th, so buckle down folks. Aquarians, you'll have it extra spicy, so prepare yourselves, and try not to expect too much of yourselves. Remember that retrogrades are great times for do-overs, especially in the areas of life ruled by the house Mercury is retrograding in, so try to make the madness magical :)

Mars enters Pisces on January 12th, and our energy is geared toward imagination and fantasy. We can get lost in our own little worlds that we dream up, and easily swayed and deluded. We're compassionate but

vulnerable, sensitive but too much at times. We want peace, and we'll fight for it. Venus joins Mars in Pisces on January 27th, and we're romantic and dreamy in love, craving a soul mate connection, and sacrificing whatever it takes for true love.

A full moon occurs on January 4th in water sign Cancer, and a new moon occurs in Aquarius on January 20th. For how those impact your sign, read the monthly horoscope.

Outlooks take all of the same information into consideration, but don't focus on any specific sign. Instead, the information is interpreted for the overall, general impact for everyone. Weekly outlooks tend to be broken down by day, looking into each day one at a time, and daily and weekly outlooks also take into consideration the transit aspects each day. Monthly and yearly outlooks tend not to use transit aspects, except for major aspects made between Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, or Pluto.

Lesson 3: Specialized Horoscopes

Specialized horoscopes are focused on something specific, with the most common being love and career horoscopes. The old mini love and career weekly horoscopes that used to be on The Dark Pixie Astrology are examples of that. These two are for Aries from January 19th - 25th 2015:

Love: You can be open and exposed with your loved ones on Monday, wanting to share all with them. You feel sweet and sensitive with them, and want to help them with whatever issues they're facing, willing and able to take on the responsibility.

Career: You focus on the goals you have to start the week, likely feeling unsure of yourself suddenly. You have big dreams for your future that you're usually confident about, but something has you questioning yourself. Should you be?

The monthly love and career weekly horoscopes on The Dark Pixie Astrology are examples of monthly ones. These are for Aries from January 2015:

Love: You want to find the friendship in your romantic relationship earlier in January, and connect with your partner as a friend, if in a relationship. If single, a foundation of friendship seems more important to you now than it has in the past. As the month goes on, you find it difficult to relate to someone you're interested in or involved with as a friend though, and even your actual friends butt heads with you and can cause needless problems that you don't want to deal with. Have some patience.

Career: You can focus on your career during the first half of the month, working hard toward a goal that you have. You may make progress early, but find that everything slows down to a crawl, or even goes backward, during the second half of the month. Your energy isn't great either, and seems to escape you as the month goes on. You lack the drive you usually have, and feel that now isn't the right time for you to do anything important. There will be a better time later.

Love and career are the most common, but some other common ones are for various business stuff aside of career in general (like money, marketing,

tech, etc.), health stuff (like weight loss, diabetes, mental health, etc.), love stuff (like dating, sex, etc.), spirituality, or pets. The yearly horoscopes on The Dark Pixie Astrology are split up to include a general horoscope as well as specific horoscopes (love, career/money, home/family, mental state). Specialized horoscopes can also focus on something specific astrologically, like the movement of a specific planet or new and full moons.

Specialized horoscopes use only the astrological data that pertains to whatever it is the horoscope is focused on. For this, you'll need to know which planet and house rule the subject you're covering.

Covering the most common specialized horoscopes, this is what you'll focus on:

Love: planets moving through or new/full moons in the 5th house (of love), 7th house (of relationships), 8th house (of intimacy), Venus (planet of love) in the houses, transit Venus aspecting the ruler of the sign; dating focuses on the 5th house and Venus, sex focuses on the 5th (casual sex) and 8th (orgasmic sex) houses

Career: planets moving through or new/full moons in the 2nd house (of money), 6th house (of work), 10th house (of career), new moons in the houses (where you can start new ventures), full moons in the houses (where you can end ventures), transit Sun, Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, or Saturn aspecting the ruler of the sign; marketing focuses on the 9th house (of marketing), tech focuses on the 3rd house and Mercury (gadgets) and 11th house and Uranus (internet)

Money: planets moving through or new/full moons in the 2nd house (of your money), 8th house (of other people's money), Venus (planet of money) in the houses, transit Sun, Venus, or Jupiter aspecting the ruler of the sign

Health: planets moving through or new/full moons in the 1st house (of the self), 6th house (of health), Sun (ruler of the body) in the houses, transit Sun or Mars aspecting the ruler of the sign; specialized health horoscopes can focus on the house/planet ruling the specific topic

Spirituality: planets moving through or new/full moons in the 12th house (of spirituality), Neptune (planet of spirituality) in the houses, transit Neptune aspecting the ruler of the sign

Pet horoscopes: they use the same information as general horoscopes, but are written through the lens of a pet/animal

Unit 3: Tone

Whenever you read about how you should write horoscopes, you'll usually find that you should be a little vague, a little general. Don't use words like never or always, use words like can, could, maybe, if, or, possibly, potentially, and use phrases that can have multiple meanings. But there's another part of your writing that's just as important, and that's your tone.

Lesson 1: Tone Types

Tone refers to the tone of your writing, how it comes across to the reader. Pretty much all horoscopes will fall in one of six tone categories: Serious, Technical, Humorous, Sarcastic, Young, or Inspirational/Positive.

Horoscopes with a serious tone convey serious messages and interpretations. They lack fluff, don't tone down the difficulties, and are aimed at adults. Horoscopes focused on health or business tend to be serious horoscopes. Horoscopes with a technical tone are similar to serious horoscopes, but focus on the technical parts, giving both positive and negative possibilities, and explaining aspects thoroughly.

Horoscopes with a humorous tone are more playful, light, don't take astrology very seriously, and crack jokes. Pet horoscopes tend to fall in the humorous category. Sarcastic horoscopes are an off-shoot, but instead of playful humor, goes for sarcastic humor, poking fun. You'll find sarcastic horoscopes often on websites with a sarcastic tone to it, like [The Onion](#).

Inspirational/positive horoscopes are the ones most are used to seeing. They give a more positive spin to what's going on astrologically, usually glossing over or completely ignoring anything negative. While this would be unethical in a consultation with a client, it's often what people want in a general horoscope. Horoscopes with a young tone are usually humorous or positive, but are aimed at the younger crowd, usually teenagers or college-aged kids, and usually contains the "young" jargon.

Lesson 2: Tone Examples

I'm going to give an example for a daily horoscope focused on money written in the six different tones. Can you guess which is which?

1) You try to make the most of the financial opportunities available to you, and need to believe in yourself. You're capable of more than you realize, and should embrace the power within yourself to create the kind of financial life you want and deserve.

2) We all have financial lessons to learn, and you focus long and hard on the ones you're trying to grasp right now. Have you been irresponsible in the past? Have you learned from those mistakes? You need to be honest with yourself about what you need to do.

3) So you made some extra moolah and have two choices: save it wisely or spend it wildly. I'm not going to baby you and tell you what to do. Don't you know what the right thing is? Guess you'll know it when it hits you in the arse.

4) You have the opportunity for a financial transaction, arrangement, or agreement today with the Moon in your money sector, and you try to make things work out in your favor, but harsh Pluto to your ruler could bring struggles over control of the situation.

5) You got a little cash burning a hole in your pocket. If you don't need to hold on to it for anything important, grab your BFF and hit the latest Bradley Cooper movie. Splurge on the worst junk food you can find and don't giggle too much!

6) You've been working hard for the money lately, and you want to have fun with it. Buying a clock made out of fish hooks probably isn't a good idea, but you can still have some fun if you resist the knick knack aisles.

Answers are at the end of lesson 3 (to at least make it a little harder to cheat!).

In case you didn't realize it, the horoscopes on The Dark Pixie Astrology are written in the technical tone with occasional positivity or humor thrown in. I know, I know, I said horoscopes are usually written in the inspirational/positive tone, but I wanted to differentiate these from others, and focus on those who want to learn. When you separate yourself from others, you stand out enough to grow an audience. I don't recommend this type of horoscope for everyone though; the downside to writing technical horoscopes is that they're neutral, so they're up for interpretation in terms of positive or negative, and often hinges on the person reading it and their own attitude.

Lesson 3: Finding Your Tone

So, how do you figure out the tone that works for you? Use your natal chart, of course! We are using astrology here, after all. I'm going to go over the different things you should look for in your chart to figure out the kind of tone that you should write for your own horoscopes. Obviously, if you're writing for other people, you'll need to adapt to the tone that they want, but if you want to write your own horoscopes, you'll need to figure out what the best tone is for you.

First: Mercury

Mercury is the planet of communication, so he should be the first place you look at. Mercury shows the natural way you communicate with the world, what's most comfortable for you, and how you express yourself. Look at the sign Mercury is in along with the house. This will tell you a lot right off the bat. Serious and technical scopes are best with earth and water signs/houses; humorous and sarcastic are best with fire and air signs/houses; inspirational/positive are good for all but earth; young are best for Aries/1st house and Gemini/3rd house.

You can get more of an idea of what you should lean toward from the interpretations of Mercury in the signs and houses on the [Natal Mercury](#) page.

Second: 3rd house

The 3rd house is the house of communication, naturally ruled by Mercury, so take a look at this house as well. See the sign on the cusp and any planets within the house. The signs are the same as above for Mercury; with the planets, you'll usually see serious tone for Saturn or Pluto; technical tone for Mercury, Saturn, or Pluto; humorous tone for Sun, Mercury, Venus, Mars, or Jupiter; sarcastic tone for Sun, Saturn, Uranus, or Pluto; inspirational/positive for Sun, Moon, Venus, or Jupiter; and young tone for Mercury or Mars.

You can get more of an idea of what you should lead toward from the interpretations of the 3rd house in the signs and planets in the 3rd house from the [3rd House](#) page on this site.

Third: 1st house

The 1st house rules you and how you come across, so it should be factored in as well. Signs and planets will play out like with Mercury and the 3rd house.

You can get more of an idea of what you should lead toward from the interpretations of the 1st house in the signs and planets in the 1st house from the [1st House](#) page on this site.

If you want to try out a little numerology, focus on the Personality Number. The Personality Number shows how you come across, your outer self, so it's similar to the 1st house in astrology. To find your Personality Number, add up all of the consonants in your full birth name and reduce to a single digit unless you get a Master Number (11,22,33).

Lesson 2 answers: 1) positive/inspirational, 2) serious, 3) sarcastic, 4) technical, 5) young, 6) humorous