

Instructions for Authors - Shells & Pebbles

You are writing a piece within the field of history of science, preferably about one particular source or a collection of sources. We define 'history of science' quite broadly. If you are in doubt whether your contribution is suitable, don't hesitate to ask the editors.

Length

You should write between 600 and 1200 words. Next to individual pieces, we also encourage you to think about writing a series (multiple, individual pieces covering multiple aspects of a source or a collection of sources). However, only in exceptional cases will we accept lengthy individual articles that need to be cut into parts.

When writing, please consider the following:

- Think about an **intriguing title**.
- Language use. Write in the language you feel most comfortable in (currently Dutch, English or German) and please pay attention to **spelling and grammar**.
- **Paragraphing**. In the context of a blog, texts are most enjoyable when paragraphs are short and crispy. Introduce sub-headings to give additional structure to your piece.
- **Hyperlinks**. A welcome feature of using the internet as a medium is that you can introduce hyperlinks in your text to easily refer to sources or other relevant websites. If applicable to your contribution, please make use of this tool.
- Once your piece is published, **readers can comment** on it. The more discussion the merrier. You can also keep this in mind when writing.
- The **first paragraph** or the first couple of sentences, depending on the length of the paragraph, will advertise your entry on the blog's main page. Keep this in mind when writing.
- **Illustrations**. When using illustrations, please do not forget the proper reference, and if relevant, copyrights.
- **Referencing**. Please make sure your source is properly introduced (what is it/who produced it/when/if possible, where to find it). We appreciate footnotes, in moderation. Include references to quotations in footnotes. For citing, please follow the APA style sheet.
- Please send us a couple of sentences in which **you introduce yourself**. These will appear under your text. You can also provide us with a link to your webpage or own blog.

Timepath

The planned date of publication is four weeks after your deadline, always on a Sunday. The process proceeds as follows:

- **28 days before publication**: you send in your piece.
- **21 days before publication**: we send you an edited version of your piece. We expect you to be available via mail this week in case we still need to discuss things.
- **14 days before publication**: The definite version of the text.
- **7 days before publishing**: Your piece will become available on the website (still invisible to the public) and we send you the respective link so you can see whether you are happy with the way it looks or whether you would still like to incorporate changes. If we do not receive any comments from you, the piece will be published as is.

Thank you! We are looking forward to your contributions!