

THE AI KDP REALITY CHECK

12 Questions to Answer Before Letting AI Write Your Book

Validate the idea before AI writes 20,000 words nobody asked for.

Inside this quick audit

- ✓ A brutally simple 0–2 score
- ✓ 12 market-first questions
- ✓ Three clear verdicts
- ✓ One reusable AI audit prompt



By AffilioProfits

with Tony, who has seen enough “passive income” buttons for one lifetime

HOW TO USE THIS

Give the idea a fair trial. Not a coronation.

Choose one score for each question. Be honest: “I think people might want it” is not evidence. Write a short proof note whenever you score a 1 or 2.

0 NO EVIDENCE	1 PARTIAL	2 CLEAR EVIDENCE
Assumption, guess or wishful thinking.	Some signals, but gaps remain.	Specific, observable and defensible.

Tony's rule

If your evidence starts with “everyone,” “probably” or “ChatGPT says,” score zero. The spreadsheet may be offended. It will recover.

Before you start

- Name one book idea only.
- Use real reader language from reviews, forums or search results.
- Do not award points for work you plan to do later.
- Maximum score: 24. Your ego gets no bonus points.

Book idea

Working title or topic: _____

Target reader: _____

Date audited: _____

Score the evidence, not the enthusiasm.

1. Can you name the reader precisely?

"Busy first-time dads with toddlers" beats "parents."

- ☐ **0 No:** The audience is broad or undefined.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** I have a rough segment.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** I can describe one specific reader, context and constraint.

Proof note: _____

2. Does the book solve one recognizable problem?

A book needs a job beyond occupying shelf pixels.

- ☐ **0 No:** It is mostly a topic or collection of ideas.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** The problem exists but the promise is fuzzy.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** The problem and desired outcome fit one sentence.

Proof note: _____

3. Is the problem important enough to buy help?

Interest is nice. Urgency, pain or aspiration opens wallets.

- ☐ **0 No:** Low stakes; free content is probably enough.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Some motivation, weak urgency.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** The reader has a clear cost, fear or desired result.

Proof note: _____

4. Do you know who actually buys it?

The reader, buyer and gift-giver are not always the same person.

- ☐ **0 No:** No defined buyer.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Likely buyer, not validated.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** Buyer and purchase occasion are specific.

Proof note: _____

Score the evidence, not the enthusiasm.

5. Can you identify relevant competing books?

No competition can mean opportunity. It can also mean nobody cares. Fun!

- ☐ **0 No:** No relevant titles found or researched.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** A few titles, little comparison.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** At least 5 relevant titles with price, promise and positioning.

Proof note: _____

6. Do you know what readers complain about?

Negative reviews are unpaid product consultants with anger issues.

- ☐ **0 No:** No complaint data.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Anecdotal complaints only.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** Repeated complaints/themes documented from real reviews.

Proof note: _____

7. Can you see a meaningful content gap?

"Mine will be better" is not a gap. It is a pep talk.

- ☐ **0 No:** No specific gap.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Possible gap, weak evidence.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** Clear missing angle, format, depth or audience fit.

Proof note: _____

8. Do you bring credible experience or perspective?

AI can draft prose. It cannot retroactively give you a life.

- ☐ **0 No:** No relevant experience, access or viewpoint.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Some knowledge, limited proof.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** First-hand expertise, research access or distinctive method.

Proof note: _____

Score the evidence, not the enthusiasm.

9. Can the book be differentiated in one sentence?

Useful beats “revolutionary,” a word currently serving twelve life sentences.

- ☐ **0 No:** Sounds interchangeable with existing books.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Some differentiation, still generic.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** Specific audience + outcome + mechanism/angle.

Proof note: _____

10. Can every important claim be verified?

Confident nonsense is still nonsense—just wearing a tie.

- ☐ **0 No:** No verification plan.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Some sources, inconsistent checking.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** Claims can be checked with reliable sources or expert review.

Proof note: _____

11. Could this become a coherent series or catalog?

One useful book is fine. A connected catalog compounds discovery.

- ☐ **0 No:** Pure one-off with no logical follow-up.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** Possible adjacent ideas.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** At least 3 related books for the same audience.

Proof note: _____

12. Do you have a realistic path to readers?

Amazon is a store, not a benevolent traffic fairy.

- ☐ **0 No:** No launch or discovery plan.
- ☐ **1 Somewhat:** One weak or untested channel.
- ☐ **2 Yes:** At least one credible channel plus an initial promotion plan.

Proof note: _____

YOUR VERDICT

Add the score. Then act like it means something.

TOTAL SCORE: _____ / 24

0–12

STOP GENERATING. START RESEARCHING.

You have an idea, not yet a market-backed book concept. Interview readers, mine reviews and clarify the painful problem before drafting.

13–20

PROMISING, BUT NEEDS SHARPER POSITIONING.

There is a plausible opportunity. Fix the lowest-scoring questions and validate the promise before committing to a manuscript.

21–24

STRONG ENOUGH TO VALIDATE PROPERLY.

Good signals—not a royal decree from the Algorithm Gods. Build a competitor map, keyword shortlist and detailed book blueprint.

Your next three moves

Lowest-scoring question: _____

Evidence you will collect: _____

One decision deadline: _____

Important

This score estimates readiness for deeper validation. It does not predict sales, guarantee royalties or replace Amazon KDP's current policies and content guidelines.

BONUS PROMPT

Make AI challenge the idea—not flatter it.

Copy the prompt below into your preferred AI assistant. Replace the bracketed fields and paste your evidence notes.

Act as a skeptical publishing market analyst. Evaluate this nonfiction KDP book idea without inventing data.

BOOK IDEA: [insert]

TARGET READER: [insert]

CORE PROBLEM: [insert]

EVIDENCE NOTES: [paste notes from this workbook]

Return: (1) the strongest evidence, (2) the five riskiest assumptions, (3) missing research, (4) three sharper positioning options, (5) a validation plan requiring no manuscript, and (6) a GO / RESEARCH MORE / STOP recommendation. Clearly label facts, inferences and unknowns. Do not claim keyword volume, sales estimates or competitor data unless I provide a verifiable source.

Ready for the full blueprint?

You tested the idea. Next, validate the market, analyze competing reviews, shortlist useful keywords and build the complete book blueprint with the KDP AI Book Starter Kit.

COMING NEXT • \$7 KDP AI BOOK STARTER KIT

A practical research-and-planning system for people who want AI assistance without publishing industrial quantities of beige nonsense.

Get notified: [INSERT PRODUCT OR WAITLIST URL]

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