

Literary Agent

Literary agents represent authors by pitching and submitting their books to publishers.

What you'll do

Your day-to-day duties could include:

- **reading manuscripts** from potential clients and deciding which ones to take on
- building your list of authors (**your clients**)
- **discussing books and plans for pitches** with your authors
- pitching books to editors
- **negotiating contracts** with editors
- managing different pitch opportunities to **secure the best deal**



Whilst there are **no set requirements** for this career, you will need to demonstrate a **critical understanding of books** - so a **degree in English, Journalism or another related subject** will be helpful.

You could also do an **apprenticeship or internship at a publishing house**, to help get you familiar with the industry, or **take up a job in a bookshop or library**.

Voluntary work could also show your passion for books, so **consider writing a book blog or helping out a literary festival**.

Do you need to be a writer in order to be an agent? What skills could be useful?

Related subjects you could study at university

English/ Journalism/ Public Relations/ Languages/ Publishing/ Liberal Arts and Science



Watch the clip [Getting a Job in Publishing - What Does a Literary Agent Do?](#)

