Common Mistakes in Authoring Islamic Books

One of my biggest frustrations are seeing these common mistakes in a published book. My main concern is looking at Islamic problems/concerns in texts, but my next major issue is that many Islamic books contain grammar/structure issues, and some even have typos- something that lessens the value of a book no matter how good it is.

Important tips for writers:

1.Please get a professional editor to look at your manuscript before you publish it. NO matter how good you are at English, you will make mistakes. This is just natural. Even EDITORS have other editors look at their work.

2.Please don't publish a first draft, or even the tenth! Edit A HUNDRED times before you publish! Many times, I have read books that are super undeveloped and read like they were quickly written and published too early.

3.TAKE a children's book course! Many courses are available for small fees, or even for free at times. These courses will help you to learn the basic structure of a children's book.

4.Don't be cutesy! This is such a big problem. The worst thing is when books are "dumbed down" for kids. It's tough for a parent to read, and kids are not fans of being talked down to.

5.Adverbs/Exclamation Points: These common grammar mistakes in children's books instantly lower quality. More than 2/3 exclamations in the whole text is too much. Adverbs should be avoided- "show us the events don't tell us what's happening" is a general rule.

6.Wordiness: Cut out FILLERS! Children's books really shouldn't be longer than 900 words (this is the max) and it's better to be closer to 750 words. If it's longer, you are probably too wordy. Parents get tired of reading long books and simple phrases can many times replace long paragraphs with the same meaning.

7. Make a story that happens: a beginning,middle, and end! Not just parents telling their kids a moral!

8.Don't be offended at edits! EVEN best-selling authors admit that their first drafts are "bad". Many edits go into a top-selling book.

9.Don't be CHEAP! You might spend money on editors, courses, and it might take longer. But odds are, you will lose more money in publishing a book that is mediocre. And it's bad publicity for you.

Hope these help!