Hello, and welcome to Module 1 of this free 5 module e-course, **How to Write a Sweet Romance**.

This module explains the first step to writing a sweet romance for publication.

**Step 1 - Getting Ideas and Inspiration**

The first step to writing a sweet romance novel is to read many sweet romance novels and short stories so you become familiar with this subgenre of romance. These stories will probably also inspire you to write your own sweet romance stories.

You'll also find inspiration from any number of places. For example, many romance writers get their inspiration from real life. Television might be another source of inspiration for you. Movies are another source of inspiration. Read a variety of newspapers and magazines and you're bound to find some events and people that inspire you to come up with an interesting and unique sweet romance.

Ideas and inspiration are everywhere! Start looking at everything from a writer's point of view and you'll begin to generate some story ideas.

**Understanding Sweet Romance**

Sweet romance has distinct guidelines that must be followed if you wish your story to come under this subgenre. Basically, these guidelines are:

1. A sweet romance should contain no explicit sex. Usually, the only physical contact that is described in a sweet romance might be the two main characters holding hands or kissing. A sweet romance is about an emotional connection between the two main characters.

2. A sweet romance is the story of two characters (the hero and heroine) as they struggle to be together. This struggle is the rising action and provides the dramatic tension that keeps readers interested in reading the story.

3. A sweet romance ends on a happy note. This means your two characters finally get together by the end of your story.

**Your Assignment**

After you read several short sweet romance stories, start thinking about two main characters for your own sweet romance. Also, think about a setting - where the action of your story will take place. Start developing a plot for your story - what will happen to keep your characters apart and what will finally pull them together. Make notes about these characters and your plot ideas.

When you've done that, move on to module 2 of this free e-course for Step 2.