

# Creating a Classroom Blog

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# Today's Agenda

- \* Why have a Classroom Blog?
- \* Create your blog at <http://wordpress.com>
- \* Decide on a topic
- \* Create your first post
- \* Upload a picture
- \* Upload a video
- \* Add a few users
- \* Comment on other people's blogs

# Why Have a Classroom Blog?

- \* Students can interact with students around the world
- \* Another way for students to practice writing
- \* Students who are not talkative in class can still interact with their classmates
- \* Students feel like they are getting their work published
- \* Learn more about a hobby or discover a new one

# Create Your Classroom Blog

- \* Get your blog address
- \* Make your first post
- \* Customize your blog in the Dashboard

# Wait, What's a Dashboard!?

The screenshot shows the WordPress dashboard for the site 'Beautiful Eye'. The browser window title is 'Dashboard - Beautiful Eye - WordPress - Mozilla Firefox'. The address bar shows 'bookonsrilanka.wordpress.com/wp-admin/'. The dashboard includes a navigation menu on the left with options like Home, Site Stats, My Blogs, Store, Posts, Media, Links, Pages, Comments, Feedback, and Appearance. The main content area is titled 'Dashboard' and features a tip, a 'Right Now' summary table, a 'QuickPress' widget, and a 'Recent Drafts' section.

Tip: Be the master of your own domain - make this blog [bookonsrilanka.com](http://bookonsrilanka.com) for only \$18.00 per year.

| Right Now      |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>CONTENT</b> | <b>DISCUSSION</b> |
| 25 Posts       | 11 Comments       |
| 12 Pages       | 11 Approved       |
| 28 Categories  | 0 Pending         |
| 70 Tags        | 0 Spam            |

Theme [Adventure Journal](#) with 9 Widgets

Akismet has protected your site from 237 spam comments already. There's nothing in your spam queue at the moment.

**STORAGE SPACE**

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 3,072MB Space Allowed | 427.48MB Space Used (14%) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|

**QuickPress**

Have you tried our new home page quick post form yet? Try it now →

Enter title here

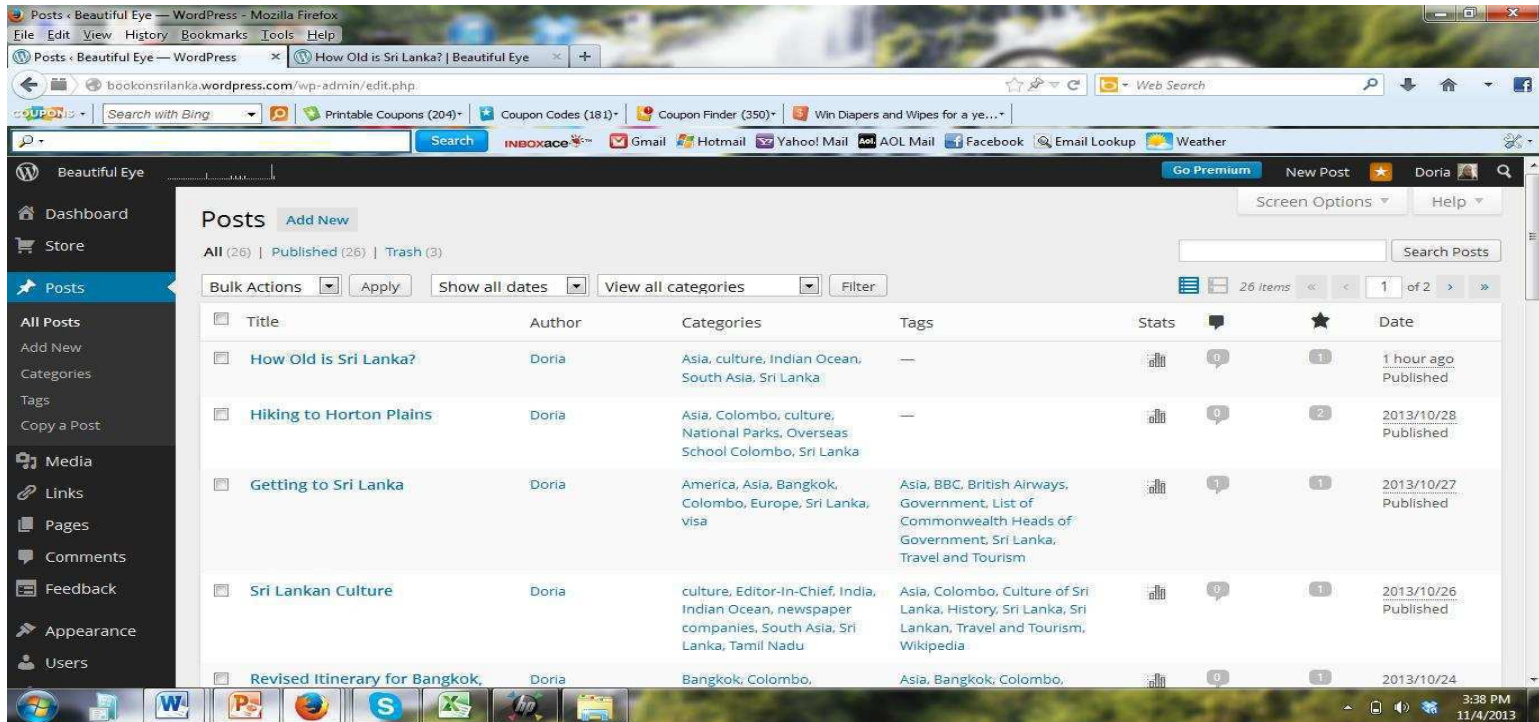
Tags (separate with commas)

**Recent Drafts**

[Quiz on Sri Lanka History and Geography](#) October 30, 2013

It is just 13 days before I leave and I

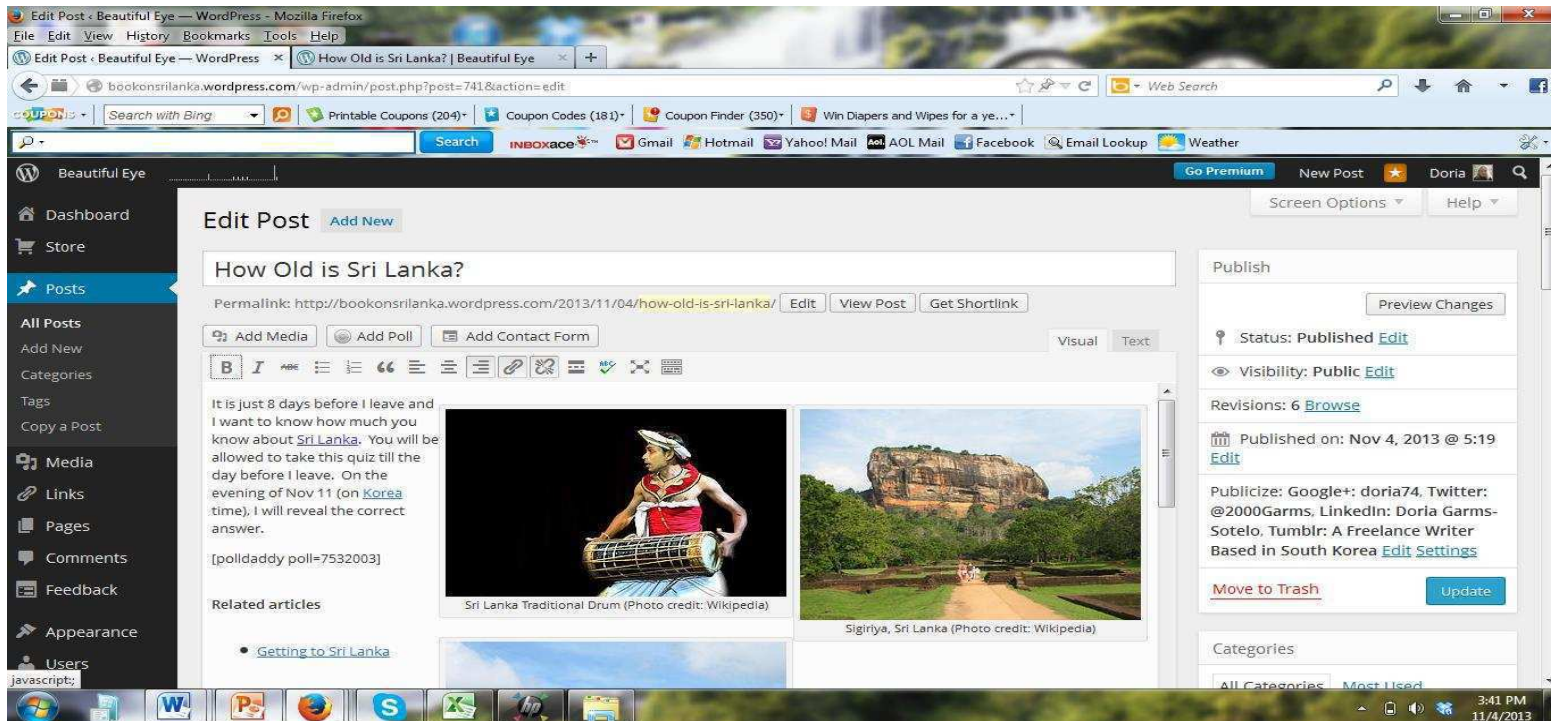
# Creating your First Post



The screenshot displays the WordPress admin interface for a user named 'Doria'. The main content area shows a list of posts under the 'Posts' section. The posts are listed in a table with columns for Title, Author, Categories, Tags, Stats, and Date. The first post, 'How Old is Sri Lanka?', is highlighted in blue and is the most recent, published 1 hour ago. Other posts include 'Hiking to Horton Plains', 'Getting to Sri Lanka', 'Sri Lankan Culture', and 'Revised Itinerary for Bangkok'.

| Title   | Author | Categories  | Tags  | Stats | Comments | Star | Date                 |
|---|--------|---|---|-------|----------|------|----------------------|
| <a href="#">How Old is Sri Lanka?</a>         | Doria  | Asia, culture, Indian Ocean, South Asia, Sri Lanka  | —   | 0     | 0        | 1    | 1 hour ago Published |
| <a href="#">Hiking to Horton Plains</a>       | Doria  | Asia, Colombo, culture, National Parks, Overseas School Colombo, Sri Lanka                            | —   | 0     | 0        | 2    | 2013/10/28 Published |
| <a href="#">Getting to Sri Lanka</a>          | Doria  | America, Asia, Bangkok, Colombo, Europe, Sri Lanka, visa  | Asia, BBC, British Airways, Government, List of Commonwealth Heads of Government, Sri Lanka, Travel and Tourism | 0     | 1        | 1    | 2013/10/27 Published |
| <a href="#">Sri Lankan Culture</a>            | Doria  | culture, Editor-In-Chief, India, Indian Ocean, newspaper companies, South Asia, Sri Lanka, Tamil Nadu | Asia, Colombo, Culture of Sri Lanka, History, Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan, Travel and Tourism, Wikipedia              | 0     | 0        | 1    | 2013/10/26 Published |
| <a href="#">Revised Itinerary for Bangkok</a> | Doria  | Bangkok, Colombo,   | Asia, Bangkok, Colombo,   | 0     | 0        | 1    | 2013/10/24           |

# Uploading a Picture



The screenshot displays the WordPress 'Edit Post' interface for a post titled "How Old is Sri Lanka?". The browser address bar shows the URL: `bookonsrilanka.wordpress.com/wp-admin/post.php?post=741&action=edit`. The post content includes a paragraph: "It is just 8 days before I leave and I want to know how much you know about [Sri Lanka](#). You will be allowed to take this quiz till the day before I leave. On the evening of Nov 11 (on [Korea](#) time), I will reveal the correct answer." Below the text, two images are inserted: "Sri Lanka Traditional Drum (Photo credit: Wikipedia)" and "Sigiriya, Sri Lanka (Photo credit: Wikipedia)". The right sidebar shows the post is published, public, and includes social media links for Google+, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Tumblr. The bottom of the screen shows a Windows taskbar with the time 3:41 PM on 11/4/2013.

# Embedding a Video

- \* Go to <http://www.youtube.com/> and right click on the video
- \* Copy and paste the code into your post



# Adding Users

The screenshot shows the WordPress admin interface for user management. The browser window title is "Users - Beautiful Eye - WordPress" and the URL is "bookonsrilanka.wordpress.com/wp-admin/users.php". The page header includes "Beautiful Eye" and "Go Premium". The left sidebar contains navigation links: Dashboard, Store, Posts, Media, Links, Pages, Comments, Feedback, Appearance, Users (selected), All Users, Invite New, My Profile, Personal Settings, and Tools.

The main content area is titled "Users" and includes an "Invite New" button. It shows a summary of "All (3) | Administrator (1) | Contributor (2)". Below this is a table of users with columns for Username, Name, E-mail, Role, and Posts. There are also "Bulk Actions" and "Apply" buttons above and below the table.

| Username     | Name  | E-mail                   | Role          | Posts |
|--------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------|-------|
| dgarms       | Doria | dgarms_2000@yahoo.com    | Administrator | 27    |
| gracecortney |       | cortneygrace.s@gmail.com | Contributor   | 0     |
| leila820     |       | leila820@aol.com         | Contributor   | 0     |

Below the table, there is another "Bulk Actions" and "Apply" section, and a note: "Use the invites feature to [invite new users to your WordPress.com blog.](#)"

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 1:11 PM on 11/8/2013.

# Blogs I Maintain

- \* <http://doriateacher.wordpress.com>
- \* <http://bookonsrilanka.wordpress.com>
- \* <http://doriafreelancewriter.wordpress.com>
- \* <http://bookonafrica.wordpress.com>
- \* <https://korealivingblog.wordpress.com/>

# Useful Websites

- \* <https://www.freeconferencing.com/>
- \* <http://www.trainingauthors.com/how-to-host-a-live-webinar-for-free-using-google-hangouts/>
- \* <https://www.google.com/analytics/>
- \* <http://www.qrstuff.com/>

# Contact Info

- \* [Dgarms\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:Dgarms_2000@yahoo.com)
- \* <https://www.facebook.com/doria.garmssotelo>
- \* <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/doria-garms-sotelo/71/217/4b>