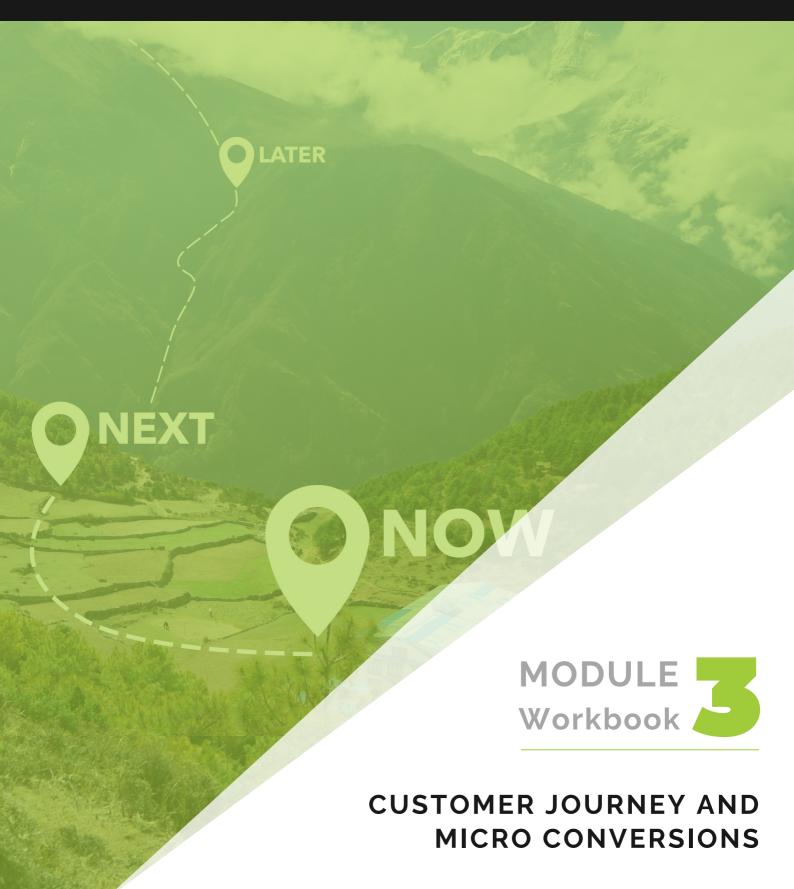






ACADEMY



UNDERSTANDING THE EXTERNAL STORY ARC

AKA YOUR MARKETING FUNNEL & CUSTOMER JOURNEY

Brand storytelling is a twolayered process:

On the one hand, there's your customers' internal arc - the story that's running through their head

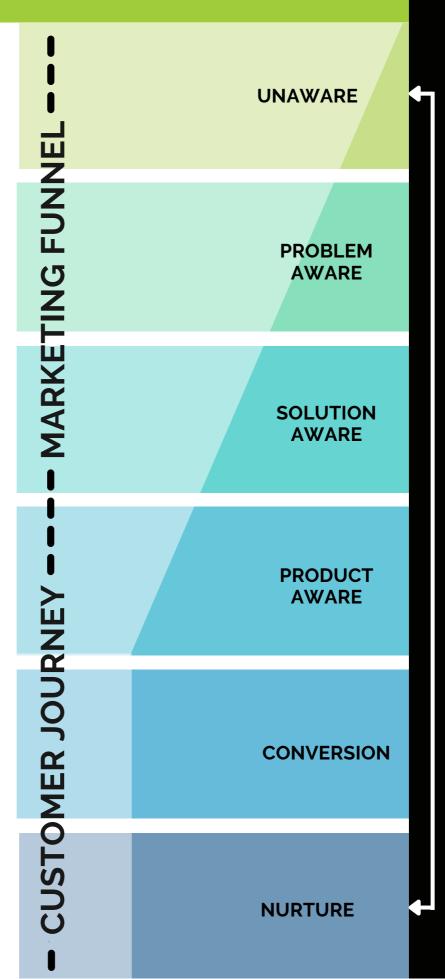
On the other hand, there's the external arc – where they are, operationally, in relation to your brand.

Which stage of awareness they are at, what questions they have, obstacles they face, and what they fundamentally need to understand at each step to move to the next step.

The following exercises are designed to help you understand the micro conversion you need to achieve at each step to help your customer move to the next step.

Because, later, your content marketing strategy will be designed to help you reach those micro conversions.

That's how to operationalise your story.

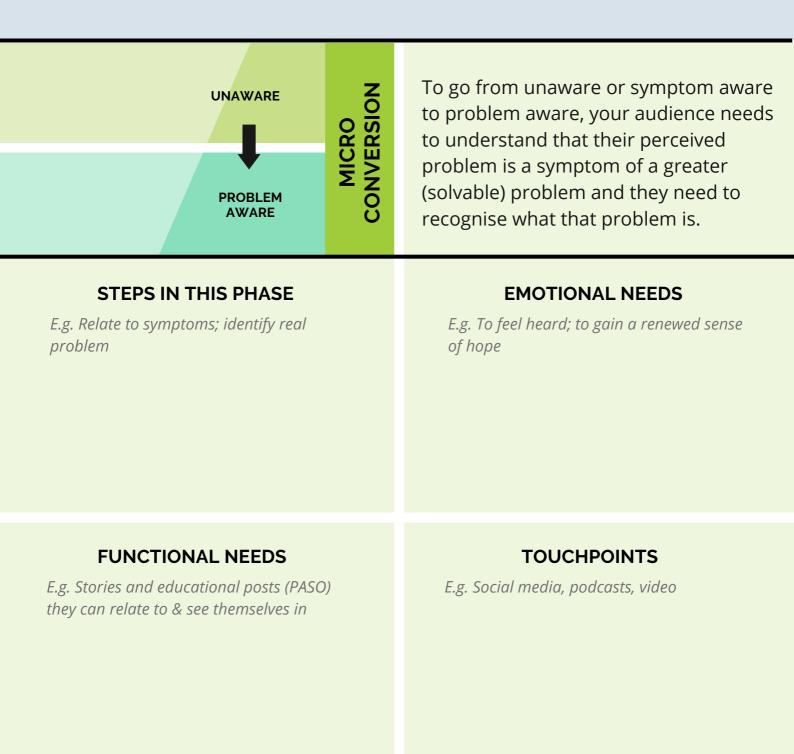




EXERCISE 1: Unaware to Problem Aware



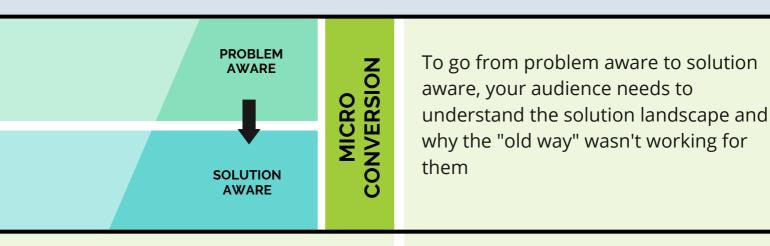
Assignment: Shift the paradigm by diagnosing their perceived problem as a symptom of a larger root problem



EXERCISE 2: Problem Aware to Solution Aware



Assignment: Help them let go of self-blame or judgement for past failures and empower them with a new set of empowering, action oriented beliefs and insights



STEPS IN THIS PHASE

E.g. Release burden of responsibility (list reasons why past solutions didn't work; list reasons why past failures weren't their fault; list reasons why their transformation is possible); Understand solution landscape; Commit to new outcome

EMOTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. Feel validated and inspired

FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. Stories, motivational posts, educational posts, reviews and comparisons

TOUCHPOINTS

E.g. Social media, podcasts, video, blog, website

EXERCISE 3: Solution Aware to Product Aware



Assignment: Introduce your product or service and show them how it helps them complete their transformation



STEPS IN THIS PHASE

E.g. Evaluate options; Clear understanding of how product fits their needs

EMOTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. Believe product delivers new outcome

FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. Features and benefits, case studies, clear outline of HOW you help them achieve WHAT

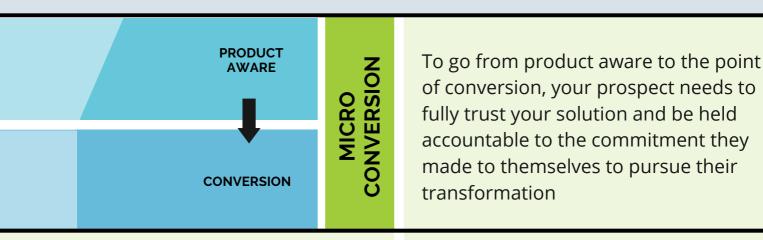
TOUCHPOINTS

E.g. Social media, blog, website, discovery call, product demo

EXERCISE 4: Product Aware to Conversion



Assignment: Reinforce risk of not taking action (what's at stake) and reinforce the core beliefs and outcomes you've been pitching with PROOF



STEPS IN THIS PHASE

E.g. Realise what's at stake; Trust solution; Follow through on commitment to outcome

EMOTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. Unwavering belief in outcome; Understand and risk of inaction

FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. Proof - testimonials, reviews, case studies, guarantees; Offer; Pricing information,

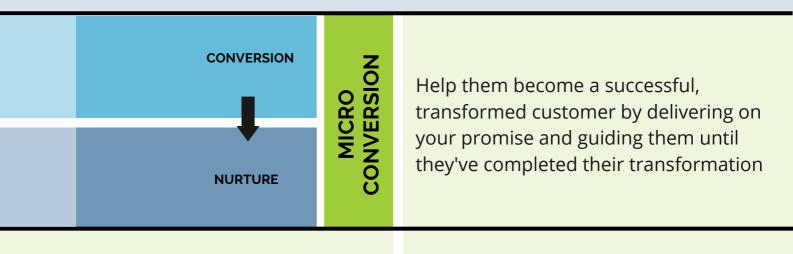
TOUCHPOINTS

E.g. Sales page; Phone call with customer service rep; Proposal & follow-up

EXERCISE 5: Nurturing the Customer Journey



Assignment: Deliver on your promise and truly guide them in achieving their outcome



STEPS IN THIS PHASE

E.g. Implement the solution; Track and measure to ensure it's effective; Feedback & optimise

EMOTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. To feel confident and supported in reaching their transformation

FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

E.g. Proactive communication; Clear point of contact / support person

TOUCHPOINTS

E.g. Delivery; Onboarding; Regular checkins; Customer service; Email newsletter