

SHORT STORY

Prompt: Write a short story that explores a subject of your choice. Your story can be fictional or nonfictional, but it should express a personal view or interpretation of an issue or topic.

Requirements:

1. Submission:

- Submit one notarized copy of your short story by [Deadline].
- Each page must include your name, page number, and the competition name.

2. Story Guidelines:

- Length: 1500-3000 words
- Format: Typed, double-spaced
- Content:
 - Single storyline
 - No more than 3-4 characters
 - Single point of view
 - Short time frame

3. Oral Presentation:

- Be prepared to answer questions from the judges about your story.

Judging Criteria

Category	Weight	Description
General Merit	25%	
* Ideas *		Originality, unique perspective, clear storyline, focused time frame
* Organization & Clarity *		Consistent writing style, mood, and tone
* Wording *		Effective use of language for expression, realism, and emphasis
* Flavor *		Strong author's voice, style, and depth
Mechanics	25%	
* Usage *		Correct grammar and syntax
* Punctuation, Capitalization, & Spelling *		Accurate use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling
* Story Elements *		Well-developed plot, setting, characters, and point of view
Overall Effect	50%	
* Conciseness *		Minimal background information and concise dialogue
* Ending *		Satisfying conclusion that aligns with the plot and resonates with the reader

Tips for Contestants:

- Choose a topic you're passionate about. This will make the writing process more enjoyable and help you create a more compelling story.

- Develop strong characters. Give your characters depth and complexity to make them more believable and relatable.
- Create a vivid setting. Use descriptive language to transport your reader to another world.
- Use strong language. Choose your words carefully to create the desired effect.
- Edit and revise. Don't be afraid to rewrite and edit your work until it's perfect.
- Proofread carefully. Check for errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- Practice your presentation skills. Be prepared to answer questions about your story.