

Creative Writing Competition

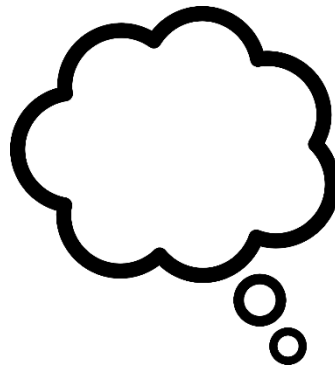
Top tips to make the most out of your story writing...



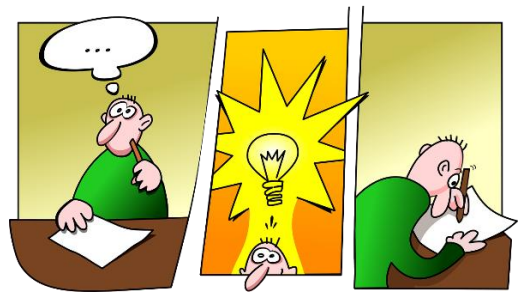
1. **Start from an idea:** look at the theme of the competition and pick an aspect that you would like to focus on (E.G: The Ocean→the feelings you have when you walk by the sea); don't worry about the title, that can be decided at the end.



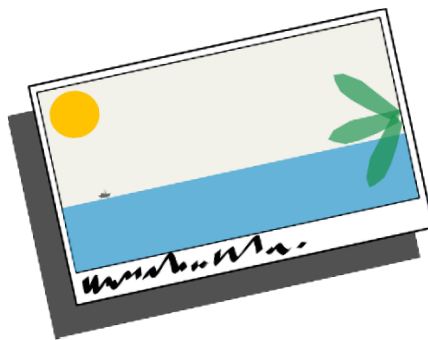
2. Follow the submissions guidelines and try to **stick to the number of words indicated**, so before going too much into details think of “how much” you are allowed to write and build the story with this in mind.
3. **Let your imagination wander**, in this story or poem anything can happen, as long as its related to the general theme indicated (Marine Environment, the Sea)



4. **Its ok to ask for help;** obviously, the work must be your original piece but if you're stuck you can always ask for a sneaky suggestion from an adult (your teachers or your parents) even though adults often struggle with fantasy way more than kids.
5. **Do not worry if the story / poem is not written all in one go.** You can start one day, stop, give it a think, and go back to it, if on the other hand you want to surf the wave of the moment you can do that too, every writer has different styles and experiences.



6. **Let the theme inspire you:** if the sea is easily accessible to you, a beach visit before starting to write your story could be useful and fun, or just focus on a memory that you made by the sea, look at a picture, play some ocean sounds to bring back memories, and then start writing. YouTube has a wide choice of ocean soundtracks, you just need to type "ocean sounds" and look for the one that works best for you.



7. **Choose the perspective you want to use in your story / poem:** it could be your point of view or not, the story could be narrated from the sea itself, from the point of view of a fish (or whatever other marine creature) from the wind, the sun, another human, anything.
8. **IF you are writing by hand make sure that your handwriting is clear,** you want the reader to be able to understand what you are writing about.
9. **Don't stress about it,** enjoy your writing and make the most out of it!