JAMAICA CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION 2024

COMPETITION OVERVIEW

In the beginning was the Word. The written Word is of great importance. Writing which is a foundation on which modern life is built produced the highest forms of human communication. Writing contributes to civilization by advancing written art forms, entertainment, history, learning and importantly, generating creations for commercial use. With the unearthing of Jamaican works as one main focus, the Jamaica Creative Writing Competition and Exhibition aims to highlight writers work and cause the outpouring of the writing talents of our people. The competition's main thrust is to propel writers to write "novel" and innovative Jamaican materials of international quality. This will engage publishers with works that are ready to be published in hard or electronic formats for world readership. This competition is open to Jamaican citizens and persons residing in Jamaica for at least two years.

CLASS

Entrants automatically fall within a specified class.

There are three classes; the age of the entrant determines the class that he/she will be entered in.

Juniors:	7 yrs. to 12 yrs.
Intermediates:	13 yrs. to 17 yrs.
Adults:	18 yrs. and older

READERSHIP/VIEWERSHIP

This refers to the audience that the work is intended for. The readership/viewership is divided into three segments

- Junior Readers   (readers at /or between the ages 7yrs and 12 yrs.)
- Intermediate Readers   (readers at /or between the ages of 13 yrs. and 17 yrs.)
- Adult Readers   (readers 18 yrs. and older)

CATEGORIES

There are six categories in this competition, namely:

1. Screenplays

2. Poetry

3. Plays

4. Essays

5. Short Stories

6. Novels

An entrant may enter as many categories with a maximum of three entries as per readership in Essays, Short Stories and Poetry; however, for Plays and Novels a writer may enter any number of works. Only one entry will be accepted from the screenwriter for Screenplays in the competition year.

THE ADJUDICATION PROCESS

The Competition is judged by a panel of at least three judges in each of the six (6) categories. These will be acclaimed individuals who are not associated with the competition except for marking.

The set of scripts is marked individually by each judge according to the marking scheme set and individual scores given. The panel of adjudicators for each category will then meet to compare and deliberate, with an aim of achieving the final score and award for each entry. A general report will be prepared by the panel and signed by each judge before handing over the scripts to the commission. All of this occurs over an approximate eight week period.

THE AWARDS SYSTEM

There are four award categories which are determined by the scores achieved by each individual work.

AWARDS CATEGORY	MARKING SCHEME
Gold	90 - 100
Silver	80 - 89
Bronze	70 - 79
Merit	65 - 69

CATEGORY AND CLASS AWARDS

There shall be eighteen awards covering the six categories and three classes. The award will be made to the piece of work with the highest score in each class and category earning at least a bronze medal.

CATEGORY AND CLASS AWARD
BEST JUNIOR – Screenwriter
BEST INTERMEDIATE – Screenwriter
BEST ADULT – Screenwriter
BEST JUNIOR -POET
BEST INTERMEDIATE- POET
BEST ADULT -POET
BEST JUNIOR – PLAYWRIGHT
BEST INTERMEDIATE – PLAYWRIGHT
BEST ADULT – PLAYWRIGHT
BEST JUNIOR -ESSAYIST
BEST INTERMEDIATE - ESSAYIST
BEST ADULT -ESSAYIST
BEST JUNIOR – SHORT STORY WRITER
BEST INTERMEDIATE -SHORT STORY WRITER
BEST ADULT -SHORT STORY WRITER
BEST JUNIOR - NOVELIST
BEST INTERMEDIATE - NOVELIST
BEST ADULT - NOVELIST

OVERALL AWARDS

This is aimed at awarding the most accomplished writer in that year. The individual who has amassed the most scores as per quality of awards received. Scores will be collated from each work by any gold awarded author then their total scores tallied.

Overall awards will be calculated on the following points systems: **Gold 10, Silver 5, Bronze 2.5 and Merit 1.25.**

THE TOP FIVE SCORERS WILL BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS, LISTING FROM HIGHEST SCORER TO THE FIFTH SCORER AS BELOW:

- ➢ 1ST **BEST OVERALL WRITER**
- ➢ 2ND **OUTSTANDING WRITER**
- ➢ 3RD **SPECIAL WRITER**
- ➢ 4TH **CHOICE WRITER**
- ➢ 5TH **NOTEWORTHY WRITER**

THE AWARDS CEREMONY AND LAUNCH OF VIRTUAL EXHIBITION TOUR

This is where the awarded entries will be recognized and presented with their awards. The Commission reserves the right to plan alongside the committee the format of the Awards Ceremony and Exhibition. The winning works once launched are revealed at this ceremony.

NB. The Commission reserves the right to amend these awards and or to add new awards dependent on the sponsorship attained.

THE EXHIBITION TOUR - JAMAICA

The Commission reserves the right to determine the items that will make the exhibition for any given year usually these are the awarded items. JCDC collaborates with The National Library and all Jamaica Library Service Libraries to host the exhibition. A schedule of the tour will be publicized before the exhibition begins.

GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES

1. ALL entries submitted must be only original creative works and absolutely NO adaptations will be accepted; should the work be proven to be an adaptation it will be immediately disqualified without prejudice.

2. Entries should be:
   a) Typewritten on plain un-ruled Bond Paper.
   b) Double-spaced.
   c) Identified by pseudonym (pen-name and age) only. *(This should also be present on the entry form)*
   d) Pseudonyms must be one word only and must be changed upon entry for each subsequent year.

NOTE: *HANDWRITTEN ITEMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ANY MANUSCRIPT BEARING THE NAME OF THE ENTRANT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.*

3. **An entrant may write on any theme however, they are encouraged to write about Jamaican themes or otherwise reflect contact with the Jamaican and or West Indian environment.**

4. Each entry must be accompanied by a properly completed entry form using the credential data given once they register on our website. Help can be sought from the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC) Head Office, Parish Offices or on our website. All entries must reflect the intended readership (i.e. Junior readers/ Intermediate readers / Adult readers)

5. All entries will be acknowledged with a receipt.

6. Entries in envelopes marked "Jamaica Creative Writing Competition" must reach the JCDC not later than the date specified on the website. . Each entry must also be emailed to info@jcdc.gov.jm

7. Entries/scripts must be submitted in TRIPLICATE (hard copies) and these entries will not be returned.

8. The Jamaica Cultural Development Commission reserves the right to have any entry broadcast and featured in the Jamaica Journal or other such publications for three (3) years from the receipt of the Award. Please see the legal information printed on the entry form.

9. THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

10. All entrants are invited to the virtual Awards Ceremony. However, winners specifically will be notified specially via online communication channels.

11. Awardees unable to attend the virtual awards ceremony must indicate this at the earliest.

12. Only Entrants gaining awards will be so informed before the date of the Ceremony. The date of the ceremony will be made public and all entrants may attend.

13. Top awardees may be invited to present by reading the winning written item(s) in full or excerpts from sections selected by the Judges.

MARKING SCHEMES

SCREENPLAYS

The Screenplay category allows only one entry.

Manuscripts with no limit amount for entry may be submitted for:

➢ Feature length screenplays   (80-120 pages)

PROPER FORMAT IS REQUIRED, THAT IS, like FINAL DRAFT.

Writers may utilize screenplay freeware (free software) such as:
StudioBinder, Prewrite, Kit Scenarist, Fade In, celtx, Arc Studio Pro.

Writers are allowed to choose what software they can access that provides the correct format.

GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT

➢ Originality
➢ Creativity
➢ Title
➢ Genre / Structure
➢ Theme / Tone
➢ Characters
➢ Format
➢ Appeal (Entertainment Value) / Plot
➢ Reach (Effectiveness of Message) / Visual Elements
➢ Dialogue
➢ Emotional Impact / Effective Communication

TOTAL 100%

GOLD 90-100

1. Excellently crafted with technical structures appropriately employed.

2. Characterization is convincing, dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Title is spot on.

4. Originality, credibility and creativity demonstrated.

5. Is perfectly suitable to genre.

6. Effective dramatic action observed with clever plot woven.

7. Dialogue is natural and emotive.

8. Displays excellent scope for production with exceptional visual elements

9. Displays excellent mechanics and formatting.

10. Powerful overall impact/entertainment appeal.

11. Appropriate, clear and consistent exploration of message/theme/premise.

12. Effectively reveals meaning and intent especially via emotional impact.

SILVER 80-89

1. Commendably crafted with technical structures appropriately employed.

2. Characterization is commendably convincing, dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Title is workable.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is commendably crafted.

5. Is commendably suitable to genre.

6. Commendable dramatic action observed with good plot woven.

7. Dialogue is commendably natural and emotive.

8. Displays commendable scope for production with good visual elements.

9. Displays commendable mechanics and formatting.

10. Commendable overall impact/entertainment appeal.

11. Commendable, clear and consistent exploration of message/theme/premise

12. Commendably reveals meaning and intent.

BRONZE 70-79

1. Adequately crafted with technical structures decently employed.

2. Characterization is adequate convincing, dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Title is adequate.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is adequately crafted.

5. Adequately suitable to genre.

6. Adequate dramatic action observed with adequate plot woven.

7. Dialogue is adequate natural and emotive.

8. Displays adequate scope for production with adequate visual elements.

9. Displays adequate mechanics and formatting.

10. Adequate overall impact/entertainment appeal.

11. Adequate exploration of message/theme/premise

12. Adequate reveals meaning and intent.

MERIT 65-69

1. Noticeably crafted with technical structures acceptably employed.

2. Characterization is partly convincing, dynamic and acceptably multidimensional.

3. Title is a work in progress.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is acceptably crafted.

5. Acceptably suitable to genre.

6. Acceptable dramatic action observed with some plot woven.

7. Dialogue is acceptably natural and somewhat emotive.

8. Displays some scope for production with some visual elements.

9. Displays some mechanics and formatting.

10. Some overall impact/entertainment appeal.

11. Some exploration of message/theme/premise.

12. Acceptably reveals meaning and intent.

NO AWARD (below 64)

1. Poorly crafted with little or no technical structures employed.

2. Characterization is unnatural, poorly drawn and flat.

3. Title is poorly conceived.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is poorly displayed or missing.

5. Barely or not at all suited to genre.

6. Little or no dramatic action observed with little or no plot evident.

7. Dialogue is unnatural and unemotional.

8. Displays little or no scope for production with poor visual elements.

9. Displays little or no mechanics and formatting.

10. Little or no overall impact/entertainment appeal.

11. Little or no exploration of message.

12. Barely or not at all reveals meaning and intent.

POETRY

The Poetry category allows each entrant a maximum of three:

- ➢ Three (3) Junior poems
- ➢ Three (3) Intermediate poems
- ➢ Three (3) Adult poems

GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT

In assessing entries in this category, emphasis will be placed on the following:

- ➢ Interpretation of the subject chosen
- ➢ Use of imagery and metaphor
- ➢ Originality and creativity
- ➢ Creative use of language i.e. not cliché usage
- ➢ Imaginative expression
- ➢ Use of literary devices (appropriate to level)
- ➢ Novelty and innovation
- ➢ Overall impact/presentation

TOTAL 100%

KEY TO COMMENTS

GOLD 90 – 100
1. Original and creative.
2. Appropriately employs literary devices.
3. Convincing interpretation.
4. Perfect use of language.
5. Great understanding displayed.
6. Unique exploration of subject matter.
7. Excellent handling of imagery, feeling and expression.
8. Excellent presentation.
9. Powerful overall impact.
10. Flawless composition.
11. Evokes potent interest in readership.
12. Appropriate for age of readership.

SILVER 80 – 89

1. Original and creative.

2. Appropriately employs literary devices.

 3. Convincing interpretation.

4. Perfect use of language.

5. Great understanding displayed.

6. Unique exploration of subject matter.

7. Excellent handling of imagery, feeling and expression.

8. Excellent presentation.

9. Powerful overall impact.

10. Flawless composition.

11. Evokes potent interest in readership.

12. Appropriate for age of readership.

13. Displays originality and creativity.

14. Commendable employment of literary devices.

15. Commendable interpretation.

16. Commendable use of language.

17. Commendable understanding displayed.

18. Commendable exploration of subject matter.

19. Commendable handling of imagery, feeling and expression.

20. Commendable presentation.

21. Commendable overall impact.

22. Commendable composition.

23. Evokes commendable interest in readership.

24. Good for age of readership.

BRONZE 70-79

1. Adequately creative.

2. Adequate employment of literary devices.

3. Adequate interpretation.

4. Adequate use of language.

5. Adequate understanding displayed.

6. Adequate exploration of subject matter.

7. Adequate handling of imagery, feeling and expression.

8. Adequate presentation.

9. Adequate overall impact.

10. Adequate composition.

11. Evokes adequate interest in readership.

12. Adequately appropriate for age of readership

MERIT 65- 69

1. Displays acceptable creativity.

2. Evidence of literary devices.

3. Evidence of interpretation.

4. Acceptable use of language.

5. Acceptable understanding displayed.

6. Acceptable exploration of subject matter.

7. Evidence of handling of imagery, feeling and expression.

8. Attempts at presentation evident.

9. Acceptable overall impact.

10. Acceptable composition evident.

11. Evokes acceptable interest in readership.

12. Acceptable for age of readership.

NO AWARD (below 64)
1. Cliché evident and uninteresting.
2. Limited or no use of literary devices.
3. Little or no interpretation evident.
4. Limited or ineffective use of language.
5. Limited understanding displayed.
6. Ineffective exploration of subject matter.
7. Limited or no useful handling of imagery, feeling and expression.
8. Limited presentation.
9. Little or no overall impact.
10. Little or no composition evident.
11. Evokes little or no interest in readership.
12. Inappropriate or irrelevant for age of readership.

PLAYS

The Play category allows any amount of entries.

Manuscripts with no limit amount for entry may be submitted for:

- Full-length Plays (1-2 hrs)
- One-act Plays (30-45 minutes)
- Radio Plays (5 minutes-½ hr)
- Television Plays (48 minutes script-60 minutes with advertisements)

Plays involving music and choreography will be judged on the merit of their dialogue only.

GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT

- Craft and structure
- Characterization
- Credibility
- Grasp of Human Emotion
- Originality/idea: Theme
- Suitability to genre intended
- Story/Plot
- Dialogue
- Scope for Production
- Novelty and innovation
- Overall Impact/presentation

TOTAL 100%

GOLD 90-100

 1. Excellently crafted with technical structures appropriately employed.

2. Characterization is convincing, dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Grasp of human emotion is flawless.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is excellently crafted.

5. Is perfectly suitable to genre.

6. Effective dramatic action observed with clever plot woven.

7. Dialogue is natural and emotive.

8. Displays excellent scope for production.

9. Displays appropriate mechanics and formatting.

10. Powerful overall impact.

11. Appropriate exploration of message.

12. Effectively reveals meaning and intent.

SILVER 80-89

1. Commendably crafted with technical structures appropriately employed.

2. Characterization is commendably convincing, dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Grasp of human emotion is good.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is commendably crafted.

5. Is commendably suitable to genre.

6. Commendable dramatic action observed with good plot woven.

7. Dialogue is commendably natural and emotive.

8. Displays commendable scope for production.

9. Displays commendable mechanics and formatting.

10. Commendable overall impact.

11. Commendable exploration of message.

12. Commendably reveals meaning and intent.

BRONZE 70-79

1. Adequately crafted with technical structures decently employed.

2. Characterization is adequate convincing, dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Grasp of human emotion is adequate.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is adequately crafted.

5. Adequately suitable to genre.

6. Adequate dramatic action observed with adequate plot woven.

7. Dialogue is adequate natural and emotive.

8. Displays adequate scope for production.

9. Displays adequate mechanics and formatting.

10. Adequate overall impact.

11. Adequate exploration of message.

12. Adequate reveals meaning and intent.

MERIT 65-69

1. Noticeably crafted with technical structures acceptably employed.

2. Characterization is partly convincing, dynamic and acceptably multidimensional.

3. Grasp of human emotion is acceptable.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is acceptably crafted.

5. Acceptably suitable to genre.

6. Acceptable dramatic action observed with some plot woven.

7. Dialogue is acceptably natural and somewhat emotive.

8. Displays some scope for production.

9. Displays some mechanics and formatting.

10. Some overall impact.

11. Some exploration of message.

12. Acceptably reveals meaning and intent.

NO AWARD (below 64)

1. Poorly crafted with little or no technical structures employed.

2. Characterization is unnatural, poorly drawn and flat.

3. Little or no grasp of human emotion.

4. Originality, credibility and theme is poorly displayed or missing.

5. Barely or not at all suited to genre.

6. Little or no dramatic action observed with little or no plot evident.

7. Dialogue is unnatural and unemotional.

8. Displays little or no scope for production.

9. Displays little or no mechanics and formatting.

10. Little or no overall impact.

11. Little or no exploration of message.

12. Barely or not at all reveals meaning and intent.

ESSAYS

The Essay category allows each entrant a maximum of:

- ➢ Three (3) Junior Essays
- ➢ Three (3) Intermediate Essays
- ➢ Three (3) Adult Essays

Entries shall normally be between 3,000 and 5,000 words excepting junior essays, which may be accepted with less words. No limit on entry amount.

Credit will be given for originality of thought and treatment of subject matter

Essays will be judged on the following criteria:

- ➢ Knowledge of the subject,
- ➢ Grammar, spelling, structure,
- ➢ Legibility, style and presentation

GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT

- ➢ Content and Organization
- ➢ Relevance and information
- ➢ Originality
- ➢ Presentation of arguments
- ➢ Organization of material within and among paragraphs
- ➢ Linking and sequencing of idea

USE OF LANGUAGE AND MECHANICS

- ➢ Appropriate use of language
- ➢ Use of literary devices (appropriate to level)
- ➢ Spelling/punctuation
- ➢ Sentence structure/paragraphs
- ➢ Concord
- ➢ Novelty and innovation
- ➢ Overall Impression/presentation

TOTAL 100%

GOLD 90 – 100

1. Meticulously presents theme/topic with full knowledge of subject.

2. Superbly displays content and organization.

3. Great presentation of information with relevance.

4. Successfully displays innovation, novelty and originality.

5. Flawless presentation of arguments.

6. Perfect organization of material within and among paragraphs.

7. Exceptional linking and sequencing of idea.

8. Brilliant use of language.

9. Imaginative use of literary devices.

10. Diligent adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Excellently constructed sentences, structure and paragraphs.

12. Impressive overall impact.

SILVER 80 – 89

1. Commendably presents theme/topic with good knowledge of subject.

2. Effective presentation of content

3. Accurate and relevant presentation of information

4. Remarkable aspects of innovation, novelty and originality.

5. Cogent presentation of arguments.

6. Structured organization of material within and among paragraphs.

7. Proper linking and sequencing of idea.

8. Careful use of language.

9. Commendable use of literary devices.

10. Consistent adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Effective and varied structure of sentences, and paragraphs.

12. Notable overall impact.

BRONZE 70 – 79

1. Adequately presents theme/topic with fairly good knowledge of subject.

2. Adequately displays content and organization.

3. Adequate presentation of information with some relevance.

4. Adequately displays innovation novelty and originality.

5. Adequate presentation of arguments.

6. Adequate organization of material within and among paragraphs.

7. Adequate linking and sequencing of idea.

8. Reasonable use of language.

9. Sensible use of literary devices.

10. Cogent adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Adequately constructed sentences, structure and paragraphs'.

12. Adequate overall impact.

MERIT 65 – 69

1. Positively presents theme/topic with some knowledge of subject.

2. Acceptably displays content and organization.

3. Acceptable presentation of information with implied relevance.

4. Acceptably displays innovation novelty and originality.

5. Acceptable presentation of arguments.

6. Acceptable organization of material within and among paragraphs.

7. Acceptable linking and sequencing of idea.

8. Basic use of language.

9. Basic use of literary devices.

10. Basic adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Simply constructed sentences, structure and paragraphs'.

12. Some overall impact.

NO AWARD (below 64)

1. Limited presentation of theme/topic with little or no knowledge of subject.

2. Limited display of content and organization.

3. Limited presentation of information with little relevance.

4. Displays little or no innovation, novelty and originality.

5. Limited presentation of arguments.

6. Limited organization of material within and among paragraphs.

7. Limited linking and sequencing of idea.

8. Limited use of language.

9. Little or no use of literary devices.

10. Little or no adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Limitedly constructed sentences, structure and paragraphs.

13. Limited overall impact.

SHORT STORIES

The Short Story category allows each entrant a maximum of:

➢ Three (3) Junior Short Stories
➢ Three (3) Intermediate Short Stories
➢ Three (3) Adult Short Stories

A. SEE GENERAL RULES.

B. There are three (3) classes. Entrants may enter in any of the following for the intended readership. Limit on entry amount: hence, **a total of nine (9) short stories are allowed by an entrant**: ⍰

➢ Junior Short Story
➢ Intermediate Short Story
➢ Adult Short Story

C. Be reminded that entrants are encouraged to write about Jamaican themes or otherwise reflect

contact with the Jamaican and or West Indian environment.

D. Entries should be prose and must not exceed 5,000 words with a minimum of 3000 words.

GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT

CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION

➢ Story line/plot
➢ Characterization
➢ Setting/atmosphere/mood
➢ Relevance
➢ Originality
➢ Logical development of story line
➢ Sequencing of events

USE OF LANGUAGE/MECHANICS

➢ Use of language to create mood/setting
➢ Use of dialogue to advance plot/feelings/reveal character etc
➢ Use of figurative language (appropriate to age)
➢ Spelling/punctuation
➢ Sentence/structure/paragraphs
➢ Concord (grammatical agreement)
➢ Novelty and innovation
➢ Overall Impact/presentation

TOTAL 100%

GOLD 90 – 100

1. Displays a skillfully crafted storyline and plot. *

2. Characterization is convincing, dynamic and multidimensional

3. Flawless crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

 4. Displays perfect relevance.

5. Enjoys novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Excellent development of storyline and sequencing of events while effectively utilizing the word

limit*.

7. Exceptional use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Brilliant use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Superb use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Diligent adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Excellently constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with perfect grammatical

agreement.

12. Impressive overall impact.

*(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)*

SILVER 80 – 89

1. Displays a commendably crafted storyline and plot. *

2. Characterization is satisfactorily convincing, dynamic and multidimensional

3. Commendable crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

4. Displays commendable relevance.

 5. Presents novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Commendable development of storyline and sequencing of events while capably utilizing the

word limit*.

7. Commendable use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Commendable use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Commendable use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Commendable adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Properly constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with commendable grammatical

agreement.

12. Commendable overall impact.

 *(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)*

BRONZE 70 – 79

1. Displays an adequately well-crafted storyline and plot*

2. Characterization is adequately convincing, dynamic and multidimensional

3. Adequate crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

4. Displays adequate relevance.

5. Suggests novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Adequate development of storyline and sequencing of events while adequately utilizing the word

limit*.

7. Adequate use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Adequate use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Adequate use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Adequate adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Adequately well-constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with adequate observance

of grammatical agreement.

12. Adequate overall impact.

(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)

MERIT 65 - 69

1. Displays an acceptably crafted storyline and plot. *

2. Characterization is somewhat convincing, acceptably dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Acceptable crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

4. Displays some relevance.

5. Tries at novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Some development of storyline and sequencing of events while somewhat utilizing the word

limit*. 7. Noticeable use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Acceptable use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Acceptable use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Some adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Simply constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with some grammatical agreement.

12. Acceptable overall impact.

(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)

NO AWARD (below 64)
1. Displays a poorly crafted storyline and plot. *
2. Characterization is unconvincing, unacceptably dynamic and one-dimensional.
3. Poor crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.
4. Displays little or no relevance.
5. Poor attempt at novelty, innovation and originality.
6. Poor development of storyline and sequencing of events while poorly utilizing the word limit*.
7. Poor use of language to create mood and setting.
8. Poor use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.
9. Poor use of figurative language (appropriate to age).
10. Poor adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.
11. Poor constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with some grammatical agreement.
12. Poor overall impact.
(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)

NOVELS

The Novel category allows any amount of entries.

➢ Three (3) Junior Novels
➢ Three (3) Intermediate Novels
➢ Three (3) Adult Short Novels

The novel should be of a forty thousand (40,000) word minimum length.

GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT

CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION

➢ Story line/plot
➢ Characterization
➢ Setting/atmosphere/mood
➢ Relevance
➢ Originality
➢ Logical development of story line
➢ Sequencing of events
➢ Novelty and innovation

USE OF LANGUAGE

➢ Use of language to create mood/setting
➢ Use of dialogue to advance plot/indicate feelings/reveal character etc.
➢ Use of figurative language (appropriate to age)
➢ Spelling/punctuation
➢ Sentence structure/paragraphs
➢ Concord (grammatical agreement)
➢ Overall impact and presentation

TOTAL 100%

GOLD 90 – 100

1. Displays a skillfully crafted storyline and plot. *

2. Characterization is convincing, dynamic and multidimensional

3. Flawless crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

4. Displays perfect relevance.

5. Enjoys novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Excellent development of storyline and sequencing of events while effectively utilizing the word limit*.

7. Exceptional use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Brilliant use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Superb use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Diligent adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Excellently constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with perfect grammatical agreement.

12. Impressive overall impact.

(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)

SILVER 80 – 89

1. Displays a commendably crafted storyline and plot. *

2. Characterization is satisfactorily convincing, dynamic and multidimensional

3. Commendable crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

4. Displays commendable relevance.

5. Presents novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Commendable development of storyline and sequencing of events while capably utilizing the word limit*.

7. Commendable use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Commendable use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Commendable use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Commendable adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Properly constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with commendable grammatical agreement.

12. Commendable overall impact.

(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)

BRONZE 70 – 79

1. Displays an adequately well-crafted storyline and plot*

2. Characterization is adequately convincing, dynamic and multidimensional

3. Adequate crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

4. Displays adequate relevance.

5. Suggests novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Adequate development of storyline and sequencing of events while adequately utilizing the word limit*.

7. Adequate use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Adequate use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Adequate use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Adequate adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Adequately well-constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with adequate observance of grammatical agreement.

12. Adequate overall impact.

(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)

MERIT 65-69

1. Displays an acceptably crafted storyline and plot. *

2. Characterization is somewhat convincing, acceptably dynamic and multi-dimensional.

3. Acceptable crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.

4. Displays some relevance.

5. Tries at novelty, innovation and originality.

6. Some development of storyline and sequencing of events while somewhat utilizing the word limit*. 7. Noticeable use of language to create mood and setting.

8. Acceptable use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.

9. Acceptable use of figurative language (appropriate to age).

10. Some adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.

11. Simply constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with some grammatical agreement.

12. Acceptable overall impact.

(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)

NO AWARD (below 64)
1. Displays a poorly crafted storyline and plot. *
2. Characterization is unconvincing, unacceptably dynamic and one-dimensional.
3. Poor crafting of setting, atmosphere and mood.
4. Displays little or no relevance.
5. Poor attempt at novelty, innovation and originality.
6. Poor development of storyline and sequencing of events while poorly utilizing the word limit*.
7. Poor use of language to create mood and setting.
8. Poor use of dialogue to advance plot, revelations of character(s) and feelings etc.
9. Poor use of figurative language (appropriate to age).
10. Poor adherence to correct spelling and punctuation.
11. Poor constructed sentences, structures and paragraphs with some grammatical agreement.
12. Poor overall impact.
(*BOTH COMMENTS ADDRESS THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN SHORT STORIES AND NOVELS)