

What Judges Will Be Looking For To Score Your Stories

Maximum scoring will be out of 100

SCORING from 0 to 10 marks per category

STORY JUDGING CRITERIA

10 Outstanding 8 Strong 6 Somewhat Strong 4 Somewhat Weak 2 Weak 0 Plagiarized

WRITING				
Technical Skill Grammar, spelling, syntax and balanced story framework	Writing fundamentals are thorough and impeccable	Solid writing fundamentals	Basic writing fundamentals, room for improvement	
Style Storytelling tone, humour & emotion, reader engagement	Strong sense of emotions. Reader is very moved.	Good sense of personal view point and voice in the story	Personal style and story voice has not yet developed	
Characters Character development, character relationships, are they memorable?	Highly memorable, original main and character relationships & behaviour	Well developed cast of characters	Basic characters, lacking development	Clear and obvious plagiarism of published work
Originality Original plot, positive message, well edited, strong ending	A truly original story is every way	Poignant and unique	Familiar storyline, or message	

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ILLUSTRATION				
Technical Skill Choice of use of art materials and/or execution	Art medium was very well executed and suited the story	Strong art skills, consistent and well executed	Material choice or execution needs improvement	
Style Unique POV; Is there a flow and/or visual impact?	Strong visual flow, POV and scenes have a strong impact of the reader	Good sense of personal artistic style, is a complement to the writing	Illustrations are not enhancing the story	
Characters Original appearance; is the design iconic? And memorable?	Highly memorable and original look to the characters. Iconic	Characters are well developed and look consistent through the illustrations	Inconsistencies and under - developed look for the characters	Copyright infringement of recognized, published artwork
Originality Do the illustrations tell the story or stand out?	Fresh, original illustrations that on their own could tell the story	Strong distinct illustrations that stand out	Obvious borrowed visual themes.	
OVERALL				
Storytelling Successful combination of writing & illustration	Perfection. Balance between strong story writing and illustration	Strong sense of the value of words and pictures together	Weak relationship between words and pictures	
Publishability Is this a story publishable in the treasury?	High quality story that sets high standards for other kids.	Has the merits of a publishable story.	Not ready for publication.	Not publishable

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