

**COMPETITION
FOR WRITERS OF
CHILDREN'S
BOOKS
2019**

In English



Children's Book Trust, New Delhi

Born of Shankar's genius and vision, Children's Book Trust blazed a trail in publishing books for children. In its nearly six decades of publishing, CBT has brought to children a varied fare of picture books, mysteries, adventures, tales from old lore and history, cultural values, science and information. Healthy, rich in content, live in line and colour, and brought out with excellence, these books have become valued possessions of millions of children in all age groups. Quite a few of the titles have been entries in the Competitions held by CBT. They have, over the years, opened up new vistas and finer perceptions in the arena of children's books.

**Children’s Book Trust (CBT) invites manuscripts for the
XX Competition for Writers of Children’s Books 2019**

Category I Realistic Fiction (above 12 years): Comprises full-length girl/ boy centred stories on real themes woven around Indian cultural ethos. Could be contemporary fiction pertaining to present day life and scenario, or a portrayal of events that happened long ago. The plot must be bold and frank, complete with a strong story line and characters that are smart, brave or strong, and should have scope for pondering and discussion. **(25-30,000 words)**

Category II Kid-Friendly Non-fiction (A: 7-10 years / B: 11-13 years): Informational text, could focus on varied subjects ranging from World War II to Climate Change, notable men or women who made history to change makers who continue to advance social progress; about local cultures, foods, flora and fauna, even civic education; text must have scope to create age-appropriate visually-interesting books. The content must be such that it provides child readers new perspectives and life skills that can be used to address challenges in their lives; content that allows them to expand their horizons beyond the familiar, at the same time instils values and a spirit of inquiry; encourages critical thinking and self-expression so they can generate their own opinion; subjects that help educate and engage children, make them understand complex topics and make sense of the world. **(A: 5,000 words / B: 10,000 words)**

Category III Short Stories (9-12 years): Real life experiences; stories of kings, queens, princes, princesses; turning points in history; spirited tales of people coping with disability, disease, pain or loss; the pleasure and pain of growing up; sibling rivalries and buddy fun; sporty anecdotes that inspire confidence; light-hearted accounts of school life; strange happenings and occurrences; hill escapades or tales of abandoned forests and lonely terrains; value-based stories that reflect Indian way of life and thinking. **(3,000 words)**

Category IV Get Ready for a Magical Time (9-12 years): Exploring places and worlds one has never been to; stories of fairies, apsaras, mysterious mountains and enchanting forests; tales of magical spells and real-time magicians, infused possibly with a healthy dose of humour. Indulge in fantasy and allow the unthinkable to happen! **(5,000 words)**

Category V Read-aloud Books/Picture Books (5-8 years): Simple ideas, real time or imaginary situations; fun books with interesting themes and characters. The content should readily lend itself to a number of self-explanatory illustrations. Authors are not expected to submit illustrations / drawings along with the manuscripts. **(500-600 words)**

Category VI Social-Emotional Learning (A: 3-5 years / B: 5-8 years): Stories that help children understand emotions in themselves and in others and promote socio-emotional skills such as friendship, problem solving, dealing with grief and anger, overcoming fears and challenges, risk-taking, kindness, exercising self-control, and so on. The idea is to develop content that focuses on the positive, assuring the child that he/she is not alone but part of a family that loves and supports him/her and how it is okay to be ordinary among the extra-ordinary. **(A: 200-300 words / B: 500-600 words)**

Category VII Concept Books (3-5 years): Typically the first informational books a child will read, the approach to this category must be conceptual rather than factual and presented in a clever, creative way. The idea is to market these for pre-school and kindergarten, hence the content must be useful to introduce basic ideas, patterns, and help little children learn age-appropriate concepts like colours, shapes, time, life-cycles, words and their relationship to situations/things. Since concept books expand children’s understanding of an idea, relationship or theme, they may also be used for the development of their sensory and reasoning skills. Content could possess the quality of humour and rhythm. The idea is not to publish conventional material like rhymes, alphabets, numbers, or word books, but to develop creative literature using these elements which will make the little ones aware of their surroundings and aid their learning in a fun way. **(250 words max.)**

P R I Z E S

Category I: Realistic Fiction Above 12 years 25-30,000 words

First Prize	₹25,000
Second Prize	₹20,000

Category II (A): Kid-Friendly Non-Fiction 7-10 years 5,000 words

First Prize	₹9,000
Second Prize	₹8,000

Category II (B): Kid-Friendly Non Fiction 11-13 years 10,000 words

First Prize	₹10,000
Second Prize	₹9,000

Category III: Short Stories 9-12 years 3,000 words

20 Prizes	₹5,500 each
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Category IV: Get Ready for a Magical Time 9-12 years 5,000 words

First Prize	₹9,000
Second Prize	₹6,500

Category V: Read-Aloud Books/ Picture Books 5-8 years 500-600 words

First Prize	₹9,000
Second Prize	₹7,500

Category VI (A): Social-Emotional Learning 3-5 years 200-300 words

First Prize	₹7,000
Second Prize	₹5,500

Category VI (B): Social-Emotional Learning
5-8 years 500-600 words

First Prize	₹9,000
Second Prize	₹7,500

Category VII: Concept Books
3-5 years 250 words max.

First Prize	₹7,000
Second Prize	₹5,500

Rules

1. This competition is open to persons above 18 years.
2. The Trust is looking for manuscripts for books of interest to children as general readers and **not textbooks**.
3. **Each manuscript should indicate the number of words it carries.** A departure from the given length, beyond a marginal limit, would disqualify the manuscript.
4. **Facts, wherever mentioned, (especially in Category II A & B) must be accompanied by a list of references.**
5. The manuscripts submitted should be in English, typed in minimum double spacing on one side of the paper with not less than one inch margin on the left. A computer printout or a Photostat copy of the manuscript should be legible and readable. Two copies of each entry must be submitted. **Entries submitted via Internet shall not be considered.**
6. There is no entry fee. **A participant may submit no more than three entries under a category except in Category III (Short Stories) where up to five entries can be sent, each manuscript being treated as separate.**
7. The category should be clearly indicated on the manuscript. Each entry should be an original, unpublished work and must carry the Declaration that the author agrees to abide by the rules of the competition. In case of multiple entries a Photostat of the Declaration could be used.
8. The Declaration should carry the full name and address of the author in BLOCK LETTERS in English. The manuscript must not carry these details.
9. Entries submitted for any earlier competition held by CBT will not be considered.
10. All rights as prescribed under Section 14 of the Indian Copyright Act 1957 shall vest with the Trust on the author's signing the Memorandum of Agreement. Objection to/disagreement with any of its provisions by the author shall cause the award to be withdrawn and the manuscript returned to the author.
11. The prizewinning manuscript will, in the normal course, be published by CBT. The Trust's decision in this regard shall be final. The author would have to provide a copy of the prizewinning manuscript on a CD when asked for.

12. The prize money will be paid in Indian currency.
13. In the case of manuscripts written by more than one person, the prize money will be equally divided among the co-authors.
14. A manuscript that has won a prize and has received the payment will not be entitled to further payment under any head, on its publication.
15. CBT reserves to itself the right not to declare a particular prize if no entry is found suitable.
16. Manuscripts that do not win a prize may be considered for possible publication with the concurrence of the author(s), and at the sole discretion of CBT.
17. Entries should be addressed to:
Competition for Writers of Children's Books
Children's Book Trust
Nehru House
4, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002
18. The last date for receipt of entries is **September 30, 2019**.
19. Entries will be judged by a Jury appointed by CBT. The Jury's verdict shall be final. There will be no further correspondence in this regard.
20. The results are expected to be announced by **December 31, 2019**, or as soon thereafter as possible.
21. CBT shall not be responsible for any loss of or damage to the manuscripts in transit or otherwise.
22. CBT will not return the non-prizewinning manuscripts or retain these beyond three months of the announcement of the results.
23. Any legal dispute that may arise shall be settled under the jurisdiction of Delhi courts.



D E C L A R A T I O N

Vide Rule 7

(Please fill in BLOCK LETTERS)

I.....certify
that my manuscript entitled.....

.....
in the category.....

is an original writing and an unpublished work. It has not been
submitted elsewhere for publishing. I agree to abide by the rules
and conditions of the competition.



Date: (Signature)

Address.....

.....
State..... Pin.....

Telephone (Res.)..... Mobile.....

e-mail.....

This Declaration duly signed is to be attached to the manuscript.

