

**COMPETITION  
FOR WRITERS OF  
CHILDREN'S  
BOOKS  
2016**

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 XIX Competition for Writers of Children's Books 2016**

**Category I Fiction (above 12 years):** Comprises full-length girl/boy centered stories on realistic 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 should have scope for pondering and discussion. (25-30,000 words)

**Category II Science Fiction (above 12 years):** Distinct from realistic fiction, stories in this category include imaginative renderings that reflect scientific thought; stories that have scope to transport us beyond the horizons of current technologies; stories that prompt us to glimpse not only the future but have potential to help us observe possible incarnations of scientific progress. (20-25,000 words)

**Category III Creative Non-Fiction (9-12 years):** This category includes real life stories of ordinary people pulling through a crisis; stories of contemporary heroes who have contributed back to life and society; stories that highlight efforts being made for the preservation and conservation of environment and its accompanying challenges; current developmental efforts/ strides made in the field of science and technology, and so on. The purpose is to bring to light the positive results that can be achieved with simple efforts; to instill in children a passion for the outdoors and nature and to encourage self-motivation. (3,000 words)

**Category IV 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; humorous/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 and enthuse the child to think beyond its narrow boundaries. (3,000 words)

**Category V Get Ready for a Magical Time (9-12 years):** Stories of fairies, apsaras, mysterious mountains and enchanting

forests; tales of magical spells and real-time magicians. Indulge in fantasy and allow the unthinkable to happen! (5,000 words)

**Category VI Short Plays, Dramas (9-12 years):** Each play should be complete with stage directions, costumes to be worn, the age of the characters and so on. As they will be enacted in schools or at home, the sets need to be simple and dialogues easy to deliver. (3,000 words)

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

**Category VIII Concept Books (3-5 years):** Largely in the genre of non-fiction, the approach to this category must be conceptual rather than factual. The idea is to make children understand words and their relationship to situations/things and may be used for the development of their sensory and reasoning skills. 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: Fiction**

#### **Above 12 years      25-30,000 words**

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

### **Category II: Science Fiction**

#### **Above 12 years      20-25,000 words**

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

### **Category III: Creative Non-Fiction**

#### **9-12 years      3,000 words**

10 Prizes	₹5,000 each
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#### Category IV: Short Stories

9-12 years      3,000 words

20 Prizes      ₹5,000 each

#### Category V: Get Ready for a Magical Time

9-12 years      5,000 words

First Prize      ₹8,500

Second Prize      ₹6,000

#### Category VI: Short Plays, Dramas

9-12 years      3,000 words

5 Prizes      ₹5,000 each

#### Category VII: Read-aloud Books/ Picture Books

5-8 years      500-600 words

First Prize      ₹9,000

Second Prize      ₹7,000

#### Category VIII: Concept Books

3-5 years      250 words max.

First Prize      ₹6,500

Second Prize      ₹5,000

### 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 Category III: Creative Non-Fiction) must be accompanied by a list of references/websites.**
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**

**IV (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, 2016**.
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, 2016**, 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.



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