

English Department

Short Story Writing Competition 2019-2020

All Dar Al Hanan students from Grades 7 to 12 are having the golden opportunity to take part in this highly creative competition. All you have to do is to fill the Registration Form . A big reward is waiting for you + 5 marks bonus .

Rules of the competition :

- 1- Once you register you should submit a summary of 10 lines of your story to the English class teacher by the 19th of Sep 2019.
- 2- After approval of the idea no changes should occur to the final submitted story.
- 3- Attention should be given to Plot – setting –time - characters – theme – Grammar – Vocab.
- 4- The story should be supported with pictures and sketches related to the events .

- 5- The story should have a 3 D cover including your name –class – section and certainly the **Title of the Story** .
 - 6- The story should have a clear **MORAL**
 - 7- The story should be around 5 to 10 pages.
 - 8- The story should be typed : Font used (Times New Roman size 20).
- Finally Good luck and wishing to see you all participating in this interesting contest.

Important Tips to Win a Writing Contest

How do you win a writing contest? Here are some tips:

1. First, recognize your Theme
2. Your main character must be fascinating

Good vs. evil. A good hero battling the evil in the world. A normal person battling the evil inside themselves. An evil person drawn, despite themselves, to a moment of goodness.

Life vs. death. A woman's struggle against illness, against a villain that wants to kill her, against the deathly banality of modern life.

Male vs. female.

Neat vs. messy.

Contrast is fascinating. Does your main character have contrast? If you want to win a writing contest, he or she should.

3. Surprise endings

A good surprise ending can be predicted from the very beginning. A bad surprise ending cannot be predicted and feels like the writer is simply trying to give the reader something they would never expect. This is lazy.

Please surprise me. Please don't make up the most shocking ending without providing the clues to this ending earlier in the story.

4. Repeat with a twist

In the last few lines of your story, repeat something from earlier in the story with a twist. This echoed ending will reverberate with your reader giving closure and emotional power.

For example, you might **repeat the opening image**. If the snow is falling in the first lines of the story, you might say, "As night closed, the snow continued to fall. He thought it would fall for all his life."

You might repeat an action. E.g : If your character is eating at a diner with his wife in the first scene.

5- Make it Colorful

Illustrate your story with pictures that explain and support the events and incidents.

The story should have a very attractive colorful 3D hard cover.