

‘Stories on Stage’ Script Writing Competition 2019/20

The ‘Stories on Stage’ Drama Competition has been relaunched as the **‘Stories on Stage’ Script Writing Competition** in this school year to be in line with the “Preparedness and Response Plan for Novel Infectious Disease of Public Health Significance” issued by the Centre of Health Protection in January 2020, which calls for the avoidance of large gatherings of people.

The aims of the ‘Stories on Stage’ Script Writing Competition are to:

- provide **students** with an opportunity to collaborate on writing a drama script based on a short story; and
- provide **teachers** with teaching strategies suitable for teaching short stories and script writing as part of the English Language Curriculum at the junior secondary (KS3) or senior secondary (KS4) level.

About the Competition

The ‘Stories on Stage’ Script Writing Competition is open **ONLY** to schools that have submitted an entry form for the ‘Stories on Stage’ Drama Competition.

Aims

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- provide **students** with an opportunity to collaborate on writing a drama script based on a short story; and
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Description of the Competition

In the ‘Stories on Stage’ Script Writing Competition, students will work in teams of two to four. Students will select a short story from the list of options on the entry form. These stories cover a range of genres and themes. Students may also select a short story from the school-based curriculum on the condition that it meets the criteria for the competition, e.g. it must be fictional, age-appropriate and adaptable for a staged performance. Students will collaborate (online or face-to-face) on writing a drama script adapted from the short story and are encouraged to make use of technology tools like Zoom, Edmodo, Google Drive/Docs and One Drive/Word to facilitate collaboration while classes are suspended.

Schedule of Events

Schedule	Event	Related Documents
Late March 2020	Re-launch of 'Stories on Stage' as a script-writing competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditions and Regulations • The Pledge
29 May 2020 (Fri) 5 p.m.	Deadline for submission of drama script and related documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pledge
12 June 2020 (Fri) 5 p.m.	Deadline for entering student names in the online name list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name List (Google Form)
Late June / Early July 2020	NET Section 'Stories on Stage' Script Writing Competition 2020 Awards Ceremony (TBC)	Email invitation from the NET Section to prize-winning teams

Conditions and Regulations

Conditions for Entry

- The 'Stories on Stage' Script Writing Competition is open only to secondary schools that have submitted an entry form for the 'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition.
- Students must select a short story from the list provided on the entry form or a short story from the school-based curriculum that meets the criteria for the competition, e.g. the short story must be fictional, age-appropriate and adaptable for a staged performance.
- For the 'Stories on Stage' Script Writing Competition, each team must have two to four students.
- Students in each team may come from the same or different year levels.
- A school that entered one team in the 'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition may enter up to eight students in the 'Stories on Stage' Script Writing Competition. These eight students can work in teams of two to four.
- A school that entered two teams in the 'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition may enter up to 16 students in the 'Stories on Stage' Script Writing Competition. These 16 students can work in teams of two to four.
- Each team must submit a drama script and the Pledge on or before the submission deadline.

Regulations

- Two to four students in a team must collaborate on writing a drama script based on the short story selected for the competition.
- The length of the drama scripts must be suitable for a 5 to 8 minute drama performance.
- The drama script must be typed with a standard 12 pt. font, 1.15 line spacing and normal margins (top/bottom: 2.54 cm; left/right: 3.18 cm).
- The drama script must include a title and all pages should be numbered.
- The school name must NOT appear in the drama script.
- The drama script must be submitted as a Microsoft Word document.
- The Pledge must be signed by the contact teacher and submitted as a PDF file.

Adjudication

The judging panels will include representatives from the EDB, creative writing or drama instructors and front-line English teachers with a background in creative writing or drama.

Student drama scripts should follow the conventions of script writing and include:

- a **cast of characters** with a brief description of each character, e.g. gender, age, anything else essential to casting;
- **stage directions** to set the scene(s) and inform the director about the set, costumes, props, lighting, sound effects, special effects and how the actors exit, enter and move on the stage;
- **stage directives** in brackets to inform the director how the characters feel or act while they are speaking their lines; and
- **lines of dialogue** that express the thoughts, feelings and motivations of the characters and that move the action of the story forward.

Students will be assessed on the following criteria:

A. Cast of characters, stage directions and stage directives	Script contains well-written cast of the characters, stage directions and stage directives.
B. Lines of dialogue	Script contains well-developed lines of dialogue.
C. Adaptation of the original story	Script is a creative adaptation of the original story. Any changes to the characters, setting, narrative structure, point of view or story ending enhance the potential for a dramatic performance on stage.

D. Use of language	Script contains appropriate use of vocabulary, expressions and grammar and is accurate in spelling and mechanics. Use of literary devices like metaphor, simile, hyperbole, irony or symbolism is an advantage.
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Note: The decision of the judging panels will be considered final. No correspondence will be entered into after the results are announced.

Awards and Certificates

For the 'Stories on Stage' Script Writing Competition, the prizes are as follows.

Prizes	Awards
1 st Prize	Trophy + certificates + book coupons
2 nd Prize	Trophy + certificates + book coupons
3 rd Prize	Trophy + certificates + book coupons
Certificate of Merit (Up to 5 teams)	Certificates + book coupons
Certificate of Participation	Certificates

Submission of the Drama Script and The Pledge

Please email the drama script (Word document) and the signed pledge (PDF) to Stephen Cooley at <cooley@edb.gov.hk>.