



Circular No.: BBPS/GAR/PC/ 499 /2022-23

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Subject: CBSE Budding Authors Programme

Dear Parents and Students,

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 refocuses on the ideal path from **Learn-To Read to Read-To-Learn**. The policy clearly states that *languages will be taught in an enjoyable and interactive style, with plenty of vibrant and proactive conversations, early reading and subsequent writing.*

On the occasion of the second anniversary of the NEP 2020, CBSE announces the **CBSE Budding Authors Programme** in partnership with Central Square Foundation, 'Pratham Books' StoryWeaver and National Book Trust.

The *CBSE Budding Authors Programme* aims to provide students a platform to engage in reading different types of stories and learning to write effectively. As students write and submit short stories under this programme, they would have an opportunity to express their creativity and get a chance to see them published.

The students can submit their stories in Hindi or English in the following three categories:

Category	Classes	Length of Submissions
I	Classes 5-6	500- 600 words
II	Classes 7-8	600- 900 words
III	Classes 9-10	1000- 1500 words

Suggestive Cues

Create a theme-based storyline based on these cues or your own ideas.

Classes 5-6 (Word Limit: 500-600 words)

Theme	Story cues:	Hero Story Element
Adventure	An alien ship lands in school during maths period.	Plot
	The school garden is being raided by someone who leaves behind square footprints. Investigate.	Characters and Problem
	On a trek, a mysterious sound leads one of you away. What do you do next.	Plot and setting

Love (for pets, for nature, for your school, for yourself)	Monkeys appear in the lockdown in a building society.	Problem
	Someone is regularly bullying animals in school. A gang of kids stand up to them.	Problem, Characters
	A baby gets stuck in a locked house. Design a rescue scenario.	Problem, Setting
Heroes around us	A quarreling family meets a Kargil war hero in their building society.	Characters
	A child usually scared of the dark overcomes their fear in a crisis situation.	Characters, Setting, Solution
	A policewoman helps people in a new city who are unable to speak the language.	Problem, Solution
	A failed invention suddenly finds new use.	Plot
Science	Two magnets are sucking up the world's energies. Only one child can save the planet using science.	Character, Problem, Solution
	It's 2025 and the world has no electricity. What will life be like?	Character, Problem, Solution
	Your friend makes a robot that does whatever you need. What do you make him do?	Character, Plot

Classes 7-8 (Word Limit: 500-600 words)

Themes	Story cues:	Hero Story Element
When I... <i>(A theme that makes you fantasize or imagine about a certain point in time)</i>	When I found ancient treasure buried in my school playground.	Plot, Problem, Solution
When I... <i>(A theme that makes you fantasize or imagine about a certain point in time)</i>	When I dialed 100 by mistake and the police came rushing to my house.	Plot

When I... <i>(A theme that makes you fantasize or imagine about a certain point in time)</i>	When I got to be the Prime Minister of India for a day.	Problem, Solution
When I... <i>(A theme that makes you fantasize or imagine about a certain point in time)</i>	When I had to host a foreign exchange student from Spain at my house.	Characters
Weird and Whacky <i>(All things out of the ordinary)</i>	A strange island form in your bathroom. What can be done?	Character, Problem, Solution
Weird and Whacky <i>(All things out of the ordinary)</i>	My upside-down day, when I went to work and my mom went to school (in my classroom.)	Plot
Weird and Whacky <i>(All things out of the ordinary)</i>	Zombies take over your school while you are playing a game of zombies.	Character, Plot, Problem, Solution
Weird and Whacky <i>(All things out of the ordinary)</i>	You are in the forest when you come face to face with the snow dragon: an adorable, furry, and surprisingly tiny creature who breathes fire.	Plot
Kindness	A poacher who has a change of heart and devotes their life to helping animals.	Character

Kindness	A friend forgives another who makes a rash mistake, and what happens when the tables are turned.	Characters, Problem, Solution
Kindness	Being kind is hard, but worth it.	Problem, Solution
Self-confidence	Someone who always loses races but participates in them again and again.	Character (traits)
Self-confidence	I was terrified. Butterflies filled my stomach. But I took a deep breath and finally stepped out onto the stage	Character (traits/actions), problem, solution
Self-confidence	When I say it, I do it	Character, Problem, Solution
Self-confidence	One day a 14 year old teenager wakes up and realizes that they are 22.	Plot

Classes 9-10 (Word Limit: 1000-1500 words)

Themes	Story cues:	Hero Story Element
War and Peace	How a town rebuilds itself after war	Characters, Plot, Problem, Solution
War and Peace	There are two major groups of people who live on a mythical planet, the water people and the land people. Can they learn to co-exist peacefully when the lines start blurring?	Plot, Problem, Solution
War and Peace	Write a story about a child your age, and their contribution to an important event in India's struggle for independence.	Character, Plot
Fantasy <i>(All things out of the ordinary)</i>	You are at a Coin Show when you meet a coin dealer who specializes in collecting mythical currencies.	Character (appearance, traits, attitudes)
Fantasy <i>(All things out of the ordinary)</i>	Ghostly creatures have taken over a school.	Plot, Character
Fantasy (All things out of the ordinary)	The world has turned upside down, bats are sitting and humans are hanging by their toes. Mice are going to the office and cats are hiding in holes. How would a human being live in this world?	Plot, Problem, Solution

The (not so distant) Future	A typical day in 2030.	Problem, Solution
The (not so distant) Future	You see a cake in a photo, and can suddenly taste it. Is this a dream, or technology?	Plot
The (not so distant) Future	The adventures of my 3D printed car.	Character, Plot

Terms and Conditions (for participation)

Students are expected to submit an original, unpublished short story written in English or Hindi (Phase 2). This shall be certified by the head of the school. Plagiarism check and Principal recommendation would be taken before the winners are published.

Budding authors may submit short stories on all themes (all styles, genres, and types of

writing) in compliance with the content guidelines of the CBSE Budding Authors Program.

There is **NO FEE** for participation.

Two students from each category will be shortlisted for the second phase of the competition.

Submissions will be judged on **literary merit, originality, and readability**. All final decisions rest with CBSE.

Regards

Team BBPS Gadawara