



Winter Tale Season 4

About the Competition

Season 4 invites children to experiment with form, voice, and perspective. This season invites young writers to play with stories – their voices, their ideas, their imagination. Whether it's a short tale, a character-driven narrative, or a story told in a unique way, there's plenty of room to experiment. What matters most is the story you want to tell.

09 January to 31 January

Open to students across India

Eligibility

Age Group: 7–16 years

Category 1: Budding Writers

7-11 years

- The winter night of power cut / When the fog played hide-and-seek
- A conversation under the blanket
- Something strange happened during the school winter vacation

Category 2: Emerging Writers

12-16 years

- That winter, the rule was finally broken / That winter, a new rule was made
- The fog knew what everyone pretended not / The fog has a way of hiding things
- The homeless blanket.../ The first train on a winter morning...

Word Limit: 500 words

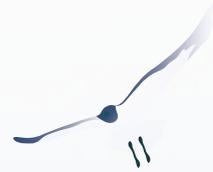


Submission Guidelines

- Only **one entry per participant**
- One entry allowed per **email ID/registration ID**
- Stories must be written in **English**
- Submissions can be typed (Word/PDF) or handwritten and scanned clearly
- Participant's **name, age, school, and contact details** must be mentioned

Important Rules

- The story must be **original** and unpublished
- Plagiarism or AI-generated content will lead to **disqualification**
- Offensive, inappropriate, or copied content will not be accepted
- Late submissions will not be considered
- The decision of the judges will be **final and binding**.



Judging Criteria

Stories will be judged on:

- Creativity and imagination
- Use of the winter theme
- Language and expression
- Structure and originality

Winners & Announcements

- All entries **must be original** and **written entirely by the participant**.
- The use of **artificial intelligence (AI) tools**, chatbots, story generators, or any software that creates or rewrites content is **strictly prohibited**.
- Stories should reflect the participant's **own ideas, imagination, and writing ability**, appropriate to their age group.
- Any entry found to be **copied, plagiarised, or generated wholly or partially using AI tools** will be **disqualified** without prior notice.
- Participants may take inspiration from prompts or cues shared on Collins' social media; however, the **final story must be independently written**.
- By submitting an entry, participants (and parents/guardians) **confirm and agree** that the work is original and not produced using AI or external writing assistance.

Consent

By submitting an entry, participants (and parents/guardians) consent to the use of names, photographs, and stories for promotional purposes related to the competition.

