

A GUIDE TO READING

How to grade story telling:

- Must be identifiably Australian in some way. This a core value from the origins of the competition. This could be a cultural, a setting, animal or anything that relates to Australia.
- Should read as if written by one writer; it has “one voice”
- Continuity is important for both story and characterisation
- Should be an engaging, entertaining, enjoyable read
- Appropriate for 10-16 years
- Audience is children in hospital so be mindful of storylines that include illness, hospitals, death
- Not acceptable: excessive/gratuitous/graphic violence, death/dying, suicide, sex, drugs, abuse, major swearing

How to grade use of competition 'Parameters':

- Parameters are 'situational'
- Human characters must be what they are, not just a mention e.g. the parameter 'farmer' must demonstrate some link to farming
- Non-human character has a bit more flexibility
- Setting is the major setting for the story
- Issue must drive the story



How to grade the use of illustrations:

- Should be illustrated on front cover, back cover, inside pages
- Illustrations must relate to story
- Please highlight if there's a particularly well-illustrated book, by using the 'additional comments' box to specify why/where in the book

How to grade spelling and grammar

- Somewhat relaxed approach, higher years should be better
- Not acceptable if it's quite bad even for a good story

THE GRADING SYSTEM

After reading the book, please grade as follows:

Parameters

- Select 'yes' if included, select 'no' if not included
- If you are not the first reader to receive the book for grading, you will not see the dropdown parameters list. You should still grade the book according to the parameters and if the book doesn't meet the parameter requirements, you can note this in the comments and disqualify the book.

Illustration award potential?

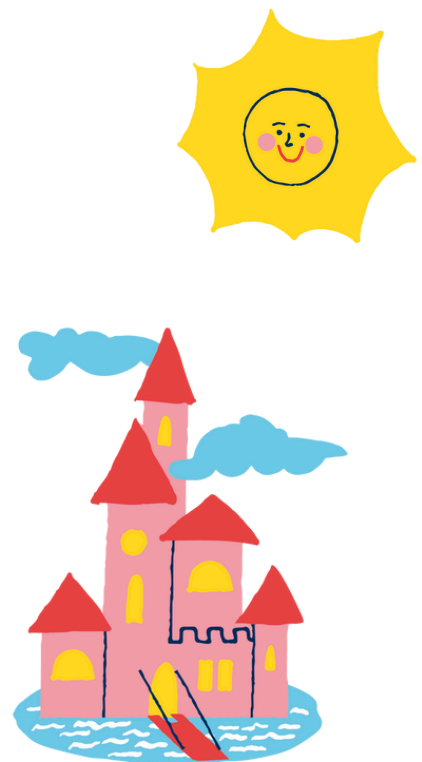
The front and back cover of the book must be illustrated, with further illustrations throughout the book. Illustrations may be created by hand or digitally. Illustrations should contribute to the story and be marked on technical competence and appeal.

If the book has good illustrations, please be sure to mark it as 'yes' in 'illustration award potential'.

Mature themes

If the book contains themes suitable for a student aged over 13, please check this box. A text box will appear where you can include what the specific mature theme is. Consider whether the concepts in the book may require guidance or an explanation from a parent/ guardian or teacher.

We ask that you please complete the reading and grading of books allocated within 7 days of receiving them.



Your Grade

Gold

A good book that meets all the above (must be as good, or better than the sample books provided on the readers dashboard on the reading portal)

Silver

An okay book that meets most of the above

Bronze

Not a good book, does not mean the minimum requirements as listed above

Disqualified

A book which includes excessive violence, swearing or inappropriate topics and isn't suitable for children aged 10 – 16. A text box will appear where you can include why the book is disqualified. Please complete this text box so we can review the book.



Next steps after grading

Once books have been graded, they will be shortlisted and sent to a select judging panel.

You will be issued more books to grade once you have finished an allotment.

Please contact Julia Bigland by phone 02 8394 7730 or email info@writeabookinaday.com if you have any questions or would like more books.

THANK YOU!

