



## **SAWAU 2027**

### **WRITING**

**Subject: Story for a toddler.**

#### **Requirements**

- ❖ A story for a toddler aged 3 – 5 years.
- ❖ Number of words 450-500.
- ❖ Indicate the word count at the end of the story.
- ❖ Use Calibri 12 font with 1.5 spacing and print on A4-size paper or board.
- ❖ Article not to be older than two years, your own work and unpublished

#### **Guidelines:**

- ❖ A story for preschool children is requested.
- ❖ Create relatable characters. Characters must have strengths, weaknesses, and dreams together with the willpower to overcome problems so as to fulfil the dreams.
- ❖ The structure is simple with short but powerful sentences.
- ❖ A clear beginning, middle and end is important.
- ❖ The story must be compelling from the start, take the child on an exciting journey, and must have a happy ending.
- ❖ Choose a fun but simple subject that the child will relate to.
- ❖ The content must be credible, in other words, paint a picture from a child's perspective.
- ❖ The theme is your own choice.

#### **Hints:**

- ❖ Keep the interest, level of development and the age of the audience in mind.
- ❖ Be careful with fantasy. Children in this age group cannot always differentiate between fantasy and reality.
- ❖ Superheroes are not a suitable subject for this age group. Their sense of danger is not sufficiently developed to make decisions about their own and others safety.
- ❖ Repeat phrases, rhyming words or sounds for fun and to support language development.
- ❖ Stories about children of the same age and similar challenges are always in demand, especially where the hero has the same struggles as the toddler (fear, anxiety, a disability, etc.).
- ❖ Make use of direct speech to create interest and make the story more credible.
- ❖ Don't forget to add some humour.



### Guidelines for judging

<b>Language and technical aspects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Word order</li><li>- Sentence construction</li><li>- Punctuation</li><li>- Time</li><li>- Descriptive words (adjectives)</li></ul>	<b>Content and creativity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Setting</li><li>- Imagery and sound imitation</li><li>- Story elements, (conflict, action, tone)</li><li>- Dialog</li><li>- Elements of surprise</li><li>- Character development</li><li>- Impact of ending</li></ul>
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### Presentation:

- ❖ Stick a small envelope on the back, with your name, branch, area, and province.
- ❖ Place in a plastic filling sleeve.
- ❖ Attach the SAWAU judging card to the writing piece with a long enough crochet thread.