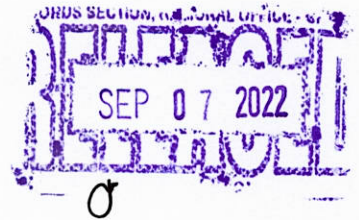




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CARAGA REGION



September 6, 2022

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 0761, s. 2022

To: ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT
This Region

CONDUCT OF THE 4TH NATIONAL COMPETITION ON STORYBOOK WRITING

1. The Department of Education Caraga Region, through the Regional Learning Resources Management Section (LRMS), announces the Conduct of the 4th National Competition on Storybook Writing.
2. The competition cultivates the creativity and literary interests of teachers & non-teaching personnel. As such, its nature is external to the regular function and capacity of teacher and non-teaching personnel. Writing and illustration of stories shall be voluntary and shall be done outside office hours, relative to DepEd Order 34, s. 2022.
3. Official entries of the divisions for categories 1, 2, and 3 shall be submitted in both printed and soft copy on or before November 23, 2022 at 11:30 PM. Soft copies of the final printed version of the submitted entries shall likewise be emailed to caragalr@deped.gov.ph. All schedules of activities before the indicated regional deadline shall be decided upon by the Division Technical Working Committees.
4. Registration to Category 4 shall be through Google Form with the link bit.ly/4thNCSW-LRMSRegistration. Only DepEd email addresses can access the form. The deadline for registration is September 30, 2022, while the deadline for submission is December 2, 2022. Instructions for the submission of entries shall be sent exclusively to registered email addresses.
5. For the details, refer to the Official Guidelines and Mechanics, required documents, essential standards, and advisory hereby enclosed.
6. Immediate dissemination and compliance of this Memorandum is desired.

for: *cmiguel*
MA. GEMMA MERCADO LEDESMA
Regional Director *LM*

Encls. as stated

Reference: DM No. 078, s. 2022 dated Aug. 30, 2022 and Advisory dated Sept. 5, 2022

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

COMPETITION STORYBOOK WRITING

CLM/mfm
09/6/2022



Address: J.P. Rosales Avenue,
Butuan City
Trunkline No: (085) 342-8207
Telefax No: (085) 342-5969
Email: caraga@deped.gov.ph



2022-09-11684

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

September 5, 2022

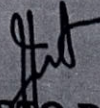
ADVISORY

Relative to DepEd Memorandum 78, series 2022 on the Conduct of the 4th National Competition on Storybook Writing, the following are additional information and reiteration of facts:

- (1) The Competition cultivates the creativity and literary interest of teachers and non-teaching personnel. As such, its nature is external to the regular function and capacity of teacher or non-teaching personnel. Writing and illustration of stories shall be voluntary and shall be done outside office hours, relative to DepEd Order 34, s 2022.
- (2) Deadline for submission to the Bureau of Learning Resources for Categories 1, 2, and 3 is set on December 9, 2022. All schedules of activities before this shall be decided upon by the Regional and Division Technical Working Committees.
- (3) Registration to Category 4 shall be through Google Form with the link bit.ly/4thNCSW-LRMSRegistration. Only DepEd email addresses can access the form. The deadline for registration is September 30, 2022, while the deadline for submission is December 2, 2022. Instructions for the submission of entries shall be sent exclusively to registered email addresses.
- (4) Qualified participants for Category 4 are Education Program Supervisors or any other personnel officially given the officer-in-charge function of the Learning Resource Management Section (LRMS) of the Regional Office and Schools Division Office; Project Development Officers; Librarians; Teaching Aide Specialists; and Administrative Assistants of the same unit, functioning as such for at least one (1) year from the issuance of DepEd Memorandum 78, s 2022. In cases of unfilled positions or deviations from the rationalization plan (DepEd Order 52, s 2015), functioning personnel of LRMS shall submit a signed organizational chart reflecting their full-time assignment at the LRMS or concurrent assignments within the Curriculum and Learning Management Section (CLMD) and Curriculum Implementation Division (CID).

All other provisions in the Official Guidelines and Mechanics of the Competition remain in effect.

For information and guidance.


JOSE ERNESTO B. GAVIOLA
Undersecretary for Curriculum and Instruction



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

30 AUG 2022

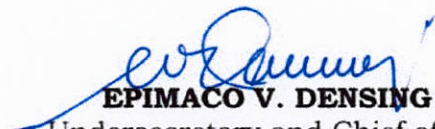
DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **078**, s. 2022

CONDUCT OF THE 4th NATIONAL COMPETITION ON STORYBOOK WRITING

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education, through the Bureau of Learning Resources, announces the **Conduct of the 4th National Competition on Storybook Writing**.
2. The Official Guidelines and Mechanics, required documents, and essential standards are enclosed.
3. For more information, please contact **Dr. Besy C. Agamata**, Chief Education Program Specialist, Bureau of Learning Resources-Learning Resources Production Division (BLR-LRPD) through email at blr.lrpdpd@deped.gov.ph or at telephone numbers (02) 8632-3690 and (02) 8634-0901.
4. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

By Authority of the Secretary:


EPIMACO V. DENISING III
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

Encl.: As stated
Reference: DepEd Memorandum No. 090, s. 2019
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CONTESTS
CURRICULUM
LEARNERS
PROGRAMS





The 4th National Competition on Storybook Writing
OFFICIAL GUIDELINES AND MECHANICS

I. Background

The Department of Education, through the Bureau of Learning Resources, continues to work on harvesting the best reading resources to support several reading programs such as the “Hamon: Bawat Bata Bumabasa” or DepEd Memo 173, series of 2019, the multi-sectoral “Brigada Pagbasa”, among other reading initiatives in all governance levels of the system.

Furthermore, engaging reading resources, particularly storybooks for children, play a vital role in closing the gaps in reading and literacy, such as the identified ranking of the Philippines in international reading and literacy surveys.

After the successful First Volume of the National Competition on Storybook Writing (NCSW), comprising the first (2017), second (2018), and third (2019) editions, the Department was able to collect 492 storybooks addressing the learning competencies of Kindergarten to Grade 3 levels. Finalized storybooks were made available through the DepEd Learning Resources Portal (lrmds.deped.gov.ph) and were transformed into storytelling videos, audiobooks, animations, and multimedia for various programs promoting the love of reading.

As the next step, the Second Volume of the NCSW aims to address the need for engaging stories appropriate for visual readers through wordless storybooks for Kindergarten; stories for beginning readers of Grades 1, 2, and 3; and illustrated storybooks for intermediate and hobby readers of Grades 4, 5, and 6.

II. Objectives

The Competition aims to:

- 2.1 appreciate the role of stories and illustrated storybooks as a tool in the development of reading and of learning curricular content standards;
- 2.2 harvest original stories that demonstrate learning competencies of the K to 12 basic education curriculum;
- 2.3 recognize the skills and talents of classroom teachers and non-teaching personnel in the production of storybooks for basic education; and
- 2.4 contribute to the treasury of content materials for utilization as reading resources and transformation to engaging media.

III. Mechanics for Category 1: Storybooks for Grades 4, 5, and 6

- 3.1 **Description:** This Category is aimed at the production of storybook packages addressing one or a combination of the most essential learning competencies for Grades 4, 5, and 6.
- 3.2 **Qualifications:** This Category is open to all DepEd teaching and non-teaching personnel with permanent status and with no membership in any committee of the Competition.
- 3.3 **Mechanics:**
 - 3.3.1 **Division Manuscript Screening**
 - a. Interested participants may submit one (1) entry per grade level.
 - b. Entries submitted for one level may not be submitted in another grade level.
 - c. Only one writer is allowed in each story.
 - d. There shall be no editor or auxiliary development team at this level of the Competition.
 - e. The Division Technical Working Committee (TWC), as approved by the Division Management Committee, has the autonomy to conduct activities relevant to the conduct of this level of the competition (e.g., campaign drive, training, submission of entries, the conduct of district-level screening, and awarding ceremonies for winners).

- f. The Division Screening Committee (SC) as facilitated by the Division TWC, shall select the best three (3) manuscripts per grade level. In cases of a tie, the head of the Division SC shall determine the final list of winners.
- g. Non-winning entries may be subjected to quality assurance for possible illustration and/or uploading to the DepEd Learning Resource Portal by the Division LRMS.
- h. Certificate of Recognition shall be issued to the winners, while a Certificate of Participation shall be given to all writers of participating entries compliant with the rules of the Competition.

3.3.2 Division Manuscript Illustration

- a. The best three (3) winning stories per grade level shall be illustrated through any of the following options:
 Option 1: Division Contest on Manuscript Illustration
 Option 2: Illustration by illustrators chosen and managed by winning writers
 Option 3: Illustration by illustrators chosen and managed by the Division TWC
- b. Illustrators may submit up to two (2) entries, regardless of grade level.
- c. There shall only be one illustrator per story.
- d. Only one layout artist may be added as an auxiliary member of the development team. The same qualifications as those of the illustrators are applied to layout artists. Recognition of such is limited to being a member of the development team.
- e. The Division Screening Committee (SC) as facilitated by the Division TWC, shall select the best three (3) illustrated stories for children per grade level. In cases of a tie, the head of the Division SC shall determine the final list of winners.
- f. Certificate of Recognition shall be issued to the winners, while a Certificate of Participation shall be given to all writers of participating entries compliant with the rules of the Competition.
- g. All winning storybooks, along with competition reports, shall be transmitted to the Regional TWC for the next phase of the Competition.

3.3.3 Judging at the Regional Level

- a. Only the best three (3) storybooks per grade level officially endorsed by the Division TWCs are considered official entries in this level of the Competition.
- b. The Regional TWC shall screen the entries in terms of compliance with the standards, specifications, and mechanics of the Competition.
- c. The Regional SC, as facilitated by the Regional TWC, shall select the best three (3) storybooks per grade level. In cases of a tie, the head of the Regional SC shall determine the final list of winners.
- d. Certificate of Recognition shall be issued to the winners, while a Certificate of Participation shall be given to all writers of participating entries compliant with the rules of the Competition.
- e. Non-winning storybooks may be subjected to quality assurance for possible uploading to the DepEd LR Portal by the Regional LRMS.

3.3.4 Transmittal to the National Technical Working Committee

- a. The Regional TWC shall prepare the following for official transmittal:
 - ✓ Five (5) printed final copies of the winning storybooks per title
 - ✓ Official Entry Forms of writers and illustrators duly accomplished
 - ✓ One (1) flash drive containing the PDF **and** editable copies of the storybooks
 - ✓ Duly signed Competition Reports
 - ✓ Composition of Committees in the Division and Regional Levels
- b. Printing through commercial printing presses or professional printers is not recommended. Personal printers or printers readily available at home and in offices may be used.

- c. Any type of durable binding may be used (e.g., saddle stitch, smyth sewn, perfect, or glued).
- d. Transmittal to the National TWC shall be through the fastest courier service available, with a date stamp reflecting the deadline or prior.
- e. An option to transmit by personal submission may be communicated to the National TWC, and may only be accepted from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the last day of submission.

3.3.5 Judging at the National Level

- a. The National TWC shall code all submitted entries to adhere to blind screening.
- b. An elimination round shall be conducted by the National TWC. Such shall be limited to checking compliance to competition mechanics and technical standards.
- c. Members of the National SC shall individually select an indefinite number of storybooks to present to the panel.
- d. Entries selected by at least two (2) members of the National SC shall be considered finalists. These finalists shall be called ReadEx Picks and are exhibited during the Reading Exhibit, an activity concurrent with the Awarding Ceremonies.
- e. All ReadEx Picks are considered for the final deliberations of the National SC.
- f. The Top Five (5) storybooks per grade level shall be determined through the final deliberations.
- g. The National SC shall determine the Best Illustrator among the illustrators of the Top Five (5) regardless of the ranking of their winning storybooks. All the other four winning illustrators shall receive an Illustrator's Prize.

IV. Mechanics for Category 2: Manuscripts for Grades 1, 2, and 3

4.1 **Description:** This Category is aimed at the writing of stories for children, addressing one or a combination of the most essential learning competencies in Grades 1, 2, and 3.

4.2 **Qualifications:** This Category is open to all full-time teachers in the private and non-DepEd schools teaching basic education, with no teaching load at the college or undergraduate level, and with no membership in the Division and Regional Screening Committees.

4.3 Mechanics:

4.3.1 Division Manuscript Screening

- a. Interested participants may submit one (1) entry per grade level.
- b. Entries submitted for one level may not be submitted for another grade level.
- c. Only one writer is allowed for each story.
- d. There shall be no editor or auxiliary development team at this level of the Competition.
- e. The Division Technical Working Committee (TWC), as approved by the Management Committee, has the autonomy to conduct activities relevant to the conduct of this level of the competition (e.g., campaign drive, training, submission of entries, the conduct of district-level screening, and awarding ceremonies for winners).
- f. The Division Screening Committee (SC), as facilitated by the Division TWC, shall select the best three (3) stories for children per grade level. In cases of a tie, the head of the Division SC shall determine the final list of winners.
- g. Non-winning entries may be subjected to quality assurance for possible illustration and/or uploading to the DepEd Learning Resource Portal by the Division LRMS.
- h. Certificate of Recognition shall be issued to the winners, while a Certificate of Participation shall be given to all writers of participating entries compliant with the rules of the Competition.

4.3.2 Judging at the Regional Level

- a. Only the best three (3) stories per grade level officially endorsed by the Division TWCs are considered official entries in this level of the Competition.
- b. The Regional TWC shall screen the entries in terms of timeliness, standards and specifications, and compliance with the mechanics of the Competition. All adhering entries shall proceed with the judging phase.
- c. The Regional SC, as facilitated by the Regional TWC, shall select the best three (3) stories per grade level. In cases of a tie, the head of the Regional SC shall determine the final list of winners.
- d. Certificate of Recognition shall be issued to the winners, while a Certificate of Participation shall be given to all writers of participating entries compliant with the rules of the Competition.
- e. Non-winning stories may be subjected to quality assurance for possible uploading to the DepEd LR Portal by the Regional LRMS.

4.3.3 Transmittal to the National Technical Working Committee

- a. The Regional TWC shall prepare the following for official transmittal:
 - ✓ Five (5) printed final copies of the winning stories per title
 - ✓ Official Entry Forms of writers duly accomplished
 - ✓ One (1) flash drive containing the PDF **and** editable copies of the stories
 - ✓ Duly signed Competition Reports
 - ✓ Composition of Committees in the Division and Regional Levels
- b. Transmittal to the National TWC shall be through the fastest courier service available, with a date stamp reflecting the deadline or prior.
- c. An option to transmit by personal submission may be communicated to the National TWC, and may only be accepted from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the last day of submission.

4.3.4 Judging at the National Level

- a. A The National TWC shall code all submitted entries to adhere to blind screening.
- b. An elimination round shall be conducted by the National TWC. Such shall be limited to checking compliance to competition mechanics and technical standards.
- c. Members of the National SC shall individually select an indefinite number of storybooks to present to the panel.
- d. The Top Five (5) storybooks per grade level shall be determined through the final deliberations.

V. Mechanics for Category 3: Wordless Storybooks for Kindergarten

5.1 **Description:** This Category is aimed at the production of a wordless storybook addressing one or a combination of the most essential learning competencies for Kindergarten.

5.2 **Qualifications:** This Category is open to all DepEd teaching and non-teaching personnel with permanent status and with no membership in any committee of the Competition.

5.3 Mechanics:

5.3.1 Judging at the Division Level

- a. Interested participants may submit only one (1) entry for this category.
- b. Only one (1) creator is allowed per storybook, serving as both the writer and illustrator of the same.
- c. There shall be no editor or auxiliary development team at this level of the Competition.
- d. The Division Technical Working Committee (TWC), as approved by the Management Committee, has the autonomy to conduct activities relevant to the conduct of this level of the competition (e.g., campaign drive, training, submission of entries, the conduct of district-level screening, and awarding ceremonies for winners).

- e. The Division Screening Committee (SC) as facilitated by the Division TWC, shall select the best three (3) wordless storybooks. In cases of a tie, the head of the Division SC shall determine the final list of winners.
- f. Non-winning entries may be subjected to quality assurance for possible illustration and/or uploading to the DepEd Learning Resource Portal by the Division LRMS.
- g. Certificate of Recognition shall be issued to the winners, while a Certificate of Participation shall be given to all writers of participating entries compliant with the rules of the Competition.
- h. All winning wordless storybooks, along with competition reports, shall be transmitted to the Regional TWC for the next phase of the Competition.

5.3.2 Judging at the Regional Level

- a. Only the best three (3) wordless storybooks in this category officially endorsed by the Division TWCs are considered official entries in this level of the Competition.
- b. The Regional TWC shall screen the entries in terms of timeliness, standards and specifications, and compliance with the mechanics of the Competition. All adhering entries shall proceed with the judging phase.
- c. The Regional SC, as facilitated by the Regional TWC, shall select the best three (3) wordless storybooks. In cases of a tie, the head of the Regional SC shall determine the final list of winners.
- d. Certificate of Recognition shall be issued to the winners, while a Certificate of Participation shall be given to all writers of participating entries compliant with the rules of the Competition.
- e. Non-winning storybooks may be subjected to quality assurance for possible uploading to the DepEd LR Portal by the Regional LRMS.

5.3.3 Transmittal to the National Technical Working Committee

- a. The Regional TWC shall prepare the following for official transmittal:
 - ✓ Five (5) printed final copies of the winning storybooks per title
 - ✓ Official Entry Forms of writers and illustrators duly accomplished
 - ✓ One (1) flash drive containing the PDF **and** editable copies of the storybooks
 - ✓ Duly signed Competition Reports
 - ✓ Composition of Committees in the Division and Regional Levels
- b. Printing through commercial printing presses or professional printers is not recommended. Personal printers or printers readily available at home and in offices may be used.
- c. Any type of durable binding may be used (e.g., saddle stitch, smyth sewn, perfect, or glued).
- d. Transmittal to the National TWC shall be through the fastest courier service available, with a date stamp reflecting the deadline or prior.
- e. An option to transmit by personal submission may be communicated to the National TWC, and may only be accepted from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the last day of submission.

5.3.4 Judging at the National Level

- a. The National TWC shall code all submitted entries to adhere to blind screening.
- b. An elimination round shall be conducted by the National TWC. Such shall be limited to checking compliance to competition mechanics and technical standards.
- c. Members of the National SC shall individually select an indefinite number of storybooks to present to the panel.
- d. Entries selected by at least two (2) members of the National SC shall be considered finalists. These finalists shall be called ReadEx Picks and are exhibited during the Reading Exhibit, an activity concurrent with the Awarding Ceremonies.

- e. All ReadEx Picks advance to the final deliberations of the National SC.
- f. The Top Five (5) storybooks per grade level shall be determined through the final deliberations.
- g. The National SC shall determine the Best Illustrator among the illustrators of the Top Five (5) regardless of the ranking of their winning storybooks. All the other four winning illustrators shall receive an Illustrator's Prize.

VI. Mechanics for Category 4: Manuscripts for Grades 4, 5, and 6

- 6.1 **Description:** This Category is aimed at the production of stories for children addressing one or a combination of the most essential learning competencies for Grades 4, 5, and 6.
- 6.2 **Qualifications:** This Category is open to all permanent DepEd personnel of the Learning Resource Management Section (LRMS) with at least one year of experience in the official assignment as indicated in the Entry Form.
- 6.3 **Mechanics:**
 - 6.3.1 The National TWC shall create a pre-registration survey form to be filled out by interested and qualified participants.
 - 6.3.2 The code generated through pre-registration shall be the only information to be used in the submission of entries. All other identifying marks shall be subject to disqualification of the entry submitted.
 - 6.3.3 Interested participants may submit one (1) entry per grade level.
 - 6.3.4 Entries submitted for one level may not be submitted for another grade level.
 - 6.3.5 Only one writer is allowed in each story. There shall be no editor or auxiliary development team in this category.
 - 6.3.6 All submissions shall be through an online survey form (e.g., Google Form), to be announced by the Bureau of Learning Resources.
 - 6.3.7 Members of the National TWC shall serve as members of the National SC but are only limited to conformance with competition mechanics, technical standards, the substantiality of learning competencies reflected and addressed, and overall literary value.
 - 6.3.8 The National SC shall select the best five (5) stories per grade level.
 - 6.3.9 Only one story is considered the Best Children's Story per category, with all other four as DepEd Originals Prize.

VII. Honorary Awards

- 7.1 Gawad Teodora Alonso
 - 7.1.1 The Gawad Teodora Alonso is awarded to three-time winning writers of the Second Volume in Category 1, the main category of the Competition. Teodora Alonso, the namesake of the award, was the mother and first teacher of Jose Rizal, inculcating in him values and learning through reading stories from the Bible and children's books.
 - 7.1.2 Winning writers of the Top 5 entries in Category 1, regardless of ranking, shall be given one (1) point per winning storybook.
 - 7.1.3 The point system is cumulative across the Second Volume. The 4th National Competition on Storybook Writing is the first edition of the Second Volume.
 - 7.1.4 All points accumulated during the First Volume are refreshed.
 - 7.1.5 Former winners of the Gawad Teodora Alonso are no longer eligible for this honorary award.
 - 7.1.6 Only the writers of the winning storybooks are eligible for the Gawad Teodora Alonso.
- 7.2 Gawad Fernando Amorsolo
 - 7.2.1 The inaugural Gawad Fernando Amorsolo is awarded to three-time winning illustrators of the Second Volume in Categories 1 and 3. Fernando Amorsolo, the namesake of the award, was the first Filipino to be conferred as a National Artist of the Philippines for his significant contributions to the development of visual arts in the country.

- 7.2.2 Winning illustrators of the Top 5 storybooks in Categories 1 and 3, regardless of ranking, shall be given one (1) point per winning storybook.
- 7.2.3 The point system is cumulative across the Second Volume.
- 7.2.4 Illustrators who also serve as writers of the winning storybooks will only be credited for their work as illustrators.

VIII. Timeline of Activities:

8.1 The following is the recommended timeline of activities:

	Category 1 Storybooks for Grades 4, 5, and 6	Category 2 Manuscripts for Grades 1, 2, and 3	Category 3 Wordless Storybooks for Kindergarten	Category 4 Manuscripts for Grades 4, 5, and 6
Deadline of Submission to Division TWC	September 2	October 14	October 14	
Division Manuscript Screening	September 9			
Deadline for Manuscript Illustration	October 20			
Judging at the Division Level	October 21	October 21	October 21	
Deadline of Submission to Regional TWC	October 24	October 24	October 24	
Judging at the Regional Level	November 4	November 4	November 4	
Deadline of Submission to National TWC	November 11	November 11	November 11	November 11
Judging at the National Level	November 18	November 18	November 18	November 18
Awarding Ceremonies and Reading Exhibit	December 13	December 13	December 13	December 13

- 8.2 The Regional TWC must convene all respective Division TWCs to prepare a local calendar of activities for their Competition.
- 8.3 Deadline of submission to the National TWC, set on **November 11, 2022**, and all other activities from thereon may not be subjected to rescheduling by the Regional and Division TWCs.

IX. Standards and Specifications

- 9.1 All works submitted in the Competition shall be unpublished and have not been entered in other competitions.
- 9.2 All entries shall not reflect the names of author, illustrator, layout artist, school, or any other identifiers.
- 9.3 Stories must be original. Adaptation of local stories may be done with respect, sensibility, and with consideration of indigenous and local traditions.
- 9.4 Stories must be written in **Filipino**. The choice of the Filipino language is limited to logistical considerations, and shall not reflect the Competition’s bias toward the said language. Judging stories written in languages other than Filipino requires a set of judges who are well-versed in submitted languages. Furthermore, all harvested stories will be subjected to post-competition activities, which include, among others, the contextualization of stories and rendering to diglot or bilingual versions of these stories.
- 9.5 Stories must be based on one or a combination of most essential learning competencies (MELCs) in any learning area.
- 9.6 Stories shall contain the themes and motifs of tradition, culture, and art, and a basic understanding of local concepts. This set of themes and motifs supports the official tagline of #KuwentoNgBayanKo.
- 9.7 Stories and illustrations shall adhere to the provisions of the DepEd Social Content Guidelines (see Enclosure 6).
- 9.8 There shall be no accompanying processing questions and supplementary activities in the storybook.
- 9.9 For styling and orthographic purposes, it is recommended to follow the latest version of the Ortograpiyang Pambansa published by the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino. For other styling

concerns not addressed by the said publication, it is recommended to follow the Chicago Manual of Style 17th Edition.

9.10 The following are the specifications for manuscript submission:

- 9.10.1 Number of words for Grades 1, 2, and 3 must not exceed 2,000.
- 9.10.2 Number of words for Grades 4, 5, and 6 must not exceed 5,000.
- 9.10.3 All entries must be typed in a word processing service (e.g., MS Word) using Times New Roman, Garamond, Bookman Old, and other serif typefaces in double space, size 12.
- 9.10.4 There shall be no identification on submitted entries, other than the title and the story itself.
- 9.10.5 Learning competencies covered shall be placed in the last part of the manuscript, written in italics, flushed right.

9.11 The following are the specifications for illustration:

- 9.11.1 Page extent shall be any of the following: **20, 28, 36, or 44 pages**. The breakdown of the page extent follows 4 cover pages (front cover, inside front cover, inside back cover, back cover) and a varying number of pages divisible by 8.
- 9.11.2 The Front Cover Page shall reflect the following information:
 - ✓ Title of the storybook, styled in headline case
 - ✓ Cover art
 - ✓ Provision for the logo of the Department of Education and the National Competition on Storybook Writing
- 9.11.3 Front matters include the following:
 - ✓ Inside front cover (blank)
 - ✓ Title page, containing stripped down version of the Cover Page and the list of learning competencies covered
 - ✓ Copyright page
 - ✓ Story teaser, containing a character, plot device, scene, or other elements that serve as the springboard in reading the story
 - ✓ All stories must start on the verso (left) page
- 9.11.4 The presentation of the story shall be by the panel, utilizing either the whole-page style or the two-page-spread style.
 - ✓ Option 1: For each panel sequence (two-page spread), text may be placed on one page and the illustration on the adjacent page to facilitate picture-aided reading.
 - ✓ Option 2: For each panel sequence (two-page spread), text and illustration may be placed together to facilitate a visually comprehensible story reading.
 - ✓ Option 3: For each panel (whole page), text and illustrations may be placed together to facilitate a visually comprehensible story reading.
- 9.11.5 All stories must start on a verso (left) page and end on a recto (right) page.
- 9.11.6 The Back Cover Page shall contain a short synopsis and/or a teaser to the story. The synopsis shall introduce the plot of the story without giving away the whole storyline.

9.12 The following are the specifications for wordless storybooks:

- 9.12.1 Page extent shall be any of the following: **20 or 28 pages**. The breakdown of the page extent follows 4 cover pages (front cover, inside front cover, inside back cover, back cover) and a varying number of pages divisible by 8.
- 9.12.2 Only one (1) word is allowed for a wordless storybook, including in the count any label, fancy fonts placed in conspicuous spaces, items, and objects, and any other text necessary for the development of the story.
- 9.12.3 The Back Cover Page shall contain a synopsis or a teaser to the story in illustration, with no text.
- 9.12.4 The presentation of the story shall be by the panel.
- 9.12.5 All other standards and specifications in the Illustration (Item 9.8 of this Guidelines) shall be followed in the preparation of wordless storybooks.