

The Legend



This year, we are inspired by history, storytelling and trailblazers and our theme is **The Legend**.



Hercules, the lost city of Atlantis, Blackbeard's treasure – legends and myths are part of our culture.

Could you rewrite a famous legend with a twist, or from a different perspective? Maybe you could create your own myth, lost to history.

What myths and legends will people of the future tell?

Why do we tell them – do they inspire us, or warn us? Could a legend help explain our past, or hide it?

Legends could also be trailblazing figures in sports, science or art, inspiring individuals in history or in your own life.

What makes them a legend – hard work and determination to be the best, a lucky chance, or did they stand up for what they believed in.?

Remember, creativity and imagination are the most important part of any story and something that the judges will be looking for. **What makes your Legends-inspired story unique?**



Writing Tips



Here are some writing tips from bestselling and award-winning children's authors!

Write YOUR story

"Write what excites you and it will come across on the page."

Kevin & Katie Tsang advise writers to think about what you love and use that as the inspiration - your favourite stories, your hobbies, your friends and family – anything you feel passionate about.



Don't be scared of a messy first draft

Tolá Okogwu says not to worry about getting the perfect story first time.

"First drafts are supposed to be messy! No one is going to see it but you – just get all your ideas on the page. You can edit and find the perfect words later."



Just start writing!

Children's Laureate **Frank Cottrell-Boyce** says, "Don't worry about having a perfect idea before begin - just start writing and ideas will come!"

Even if you don't have the perfect idea, just writing will help to get your imagination going.

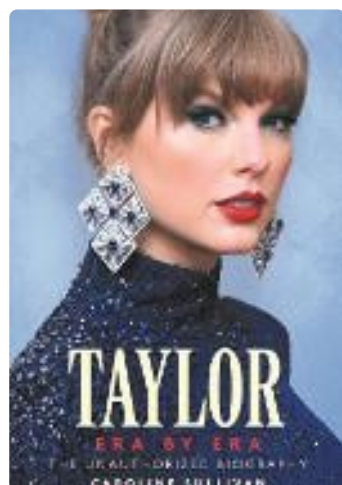
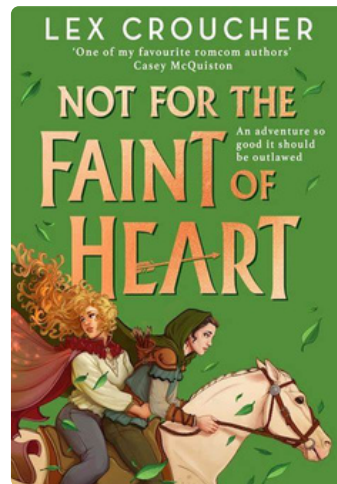
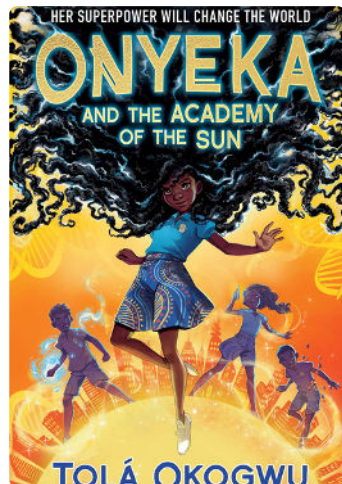
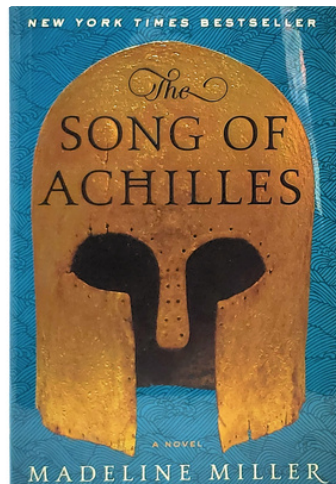
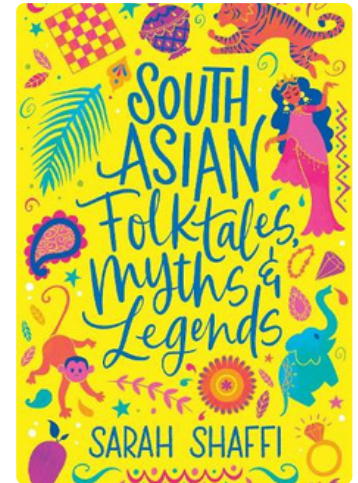
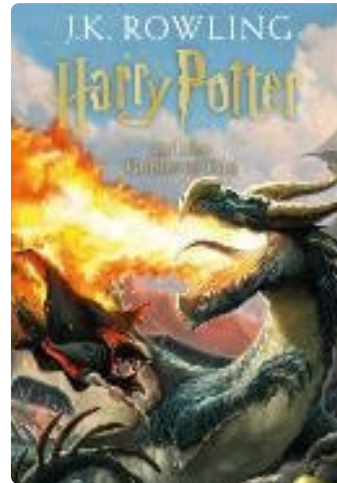
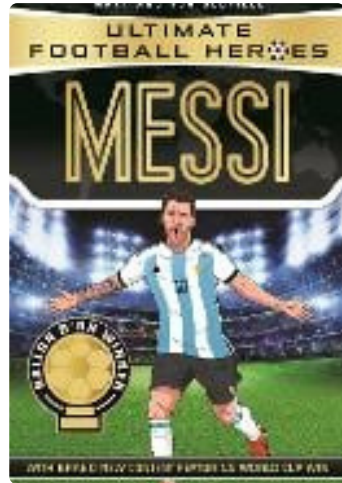
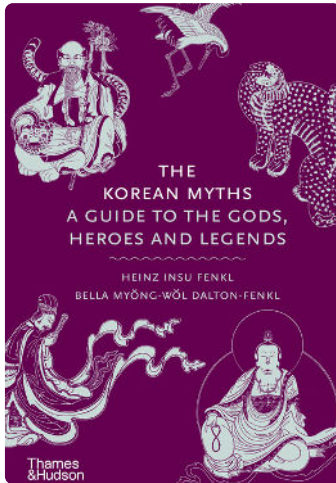


Reading Recommendations

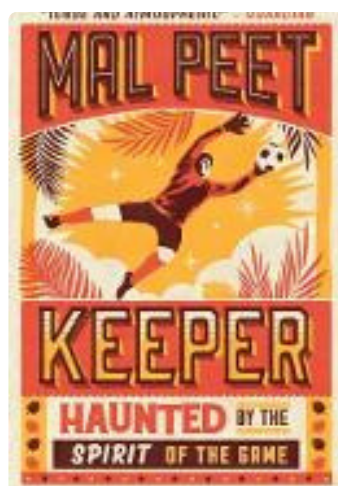
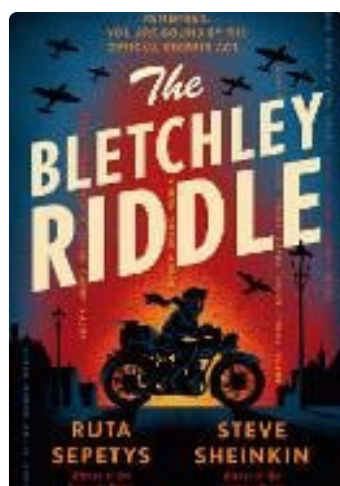
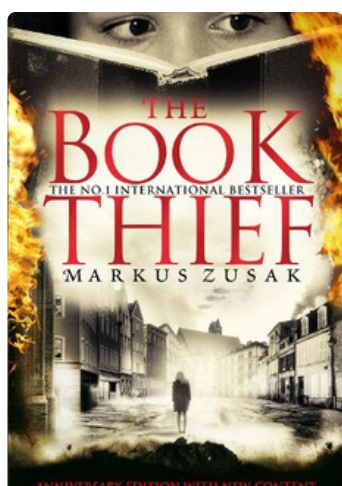
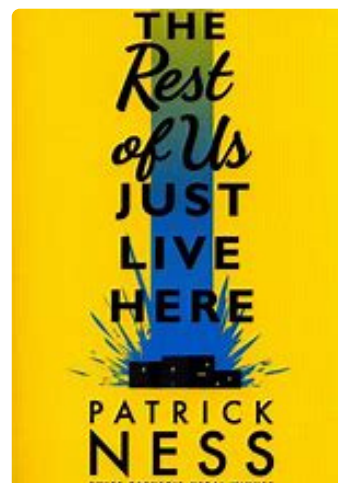
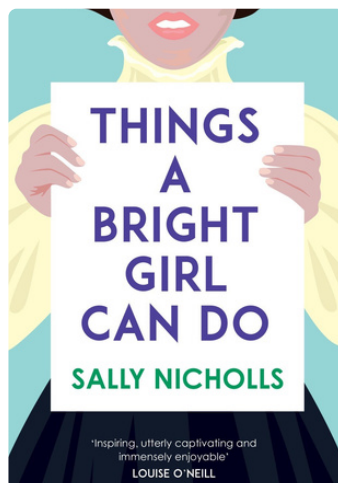
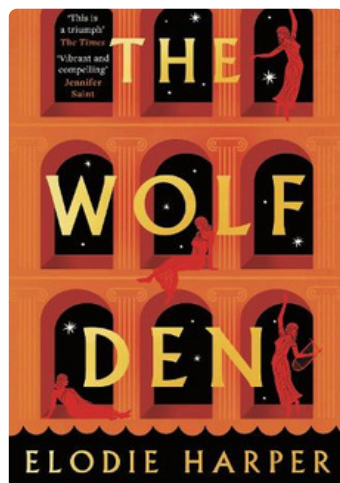
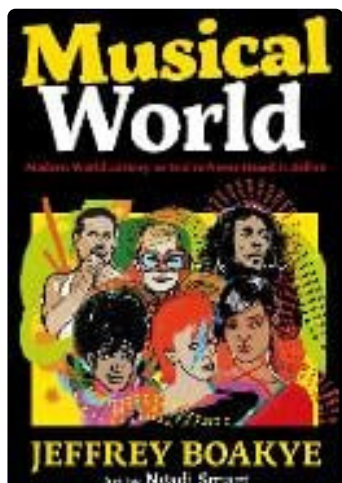
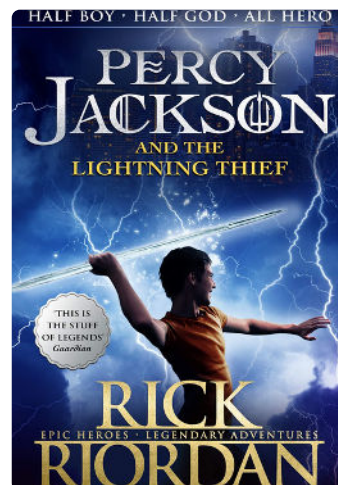
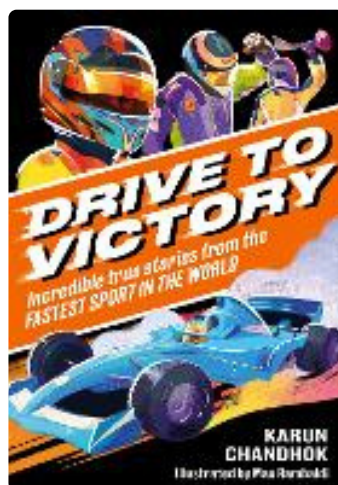
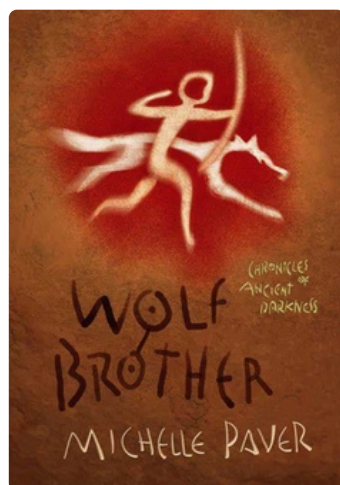
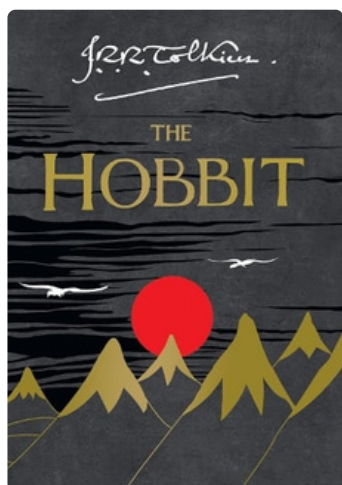


All the best writers are readers too!

Use these books to find inspiration for your story or poem.



Reading Recommendations



Writing Prompts



Stuck for ideas? Use our writing prompts and story starters to get your imagination flowing

The New Discovery

A journalist who just got the chance to interview a living legend. Who is it, and what secrets or stories do they reveal during the interview?

The Big Game

You are playing the biggest game of your life. Describe the game, the crowd, and how you feel. What happens, and how do you become a sports legend?

The True Myth

Try rewriting a famous myth or legend from a unique perspective or with an unexpected ending.

I Was There

Think of a famous historical event – what would it be like to have been there at the time? Did the history books get it right?

The Legend of the Starry Night

Imagine a legend about why the stars shine so brightly in the night sky. Write a story explaining the reason behind it.

The Time Traveler's Legend

A time traveler meets a legendary figure from the past. What do they ask them? What do they do together?

Making History

Write a story about the moment that someone made history – did they discover something? Or create a work of art? How are they remembered?

Story Starters

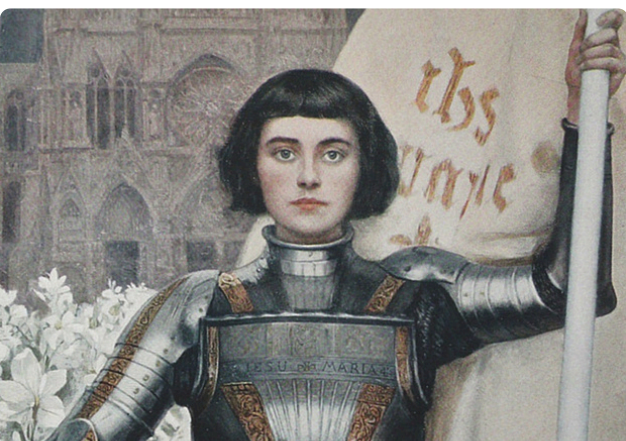
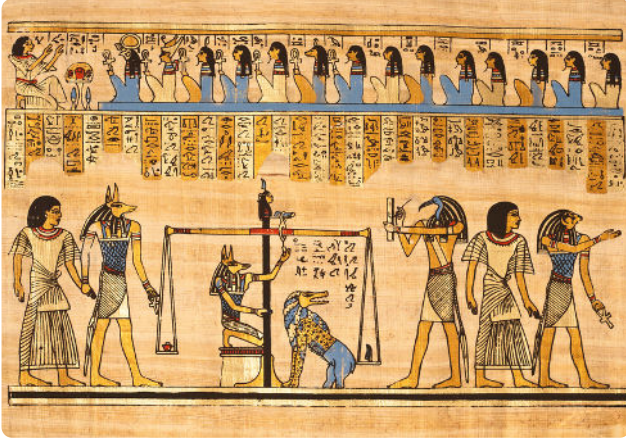


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1. Everyone knows him now as Robin Hood, the famous archer of Sherwood Forest. I just knew him as my neighbour, Robbie.
2. Others had tried and failed, but not me. I was going to be the first person to find the Loch Ness Monster.
3. As she opened the dusty diary, she couldn't believe her eyes—these were the untold secrets of the legendary artist.
4. In the dimly lit archive, he stumbled upon a forgotten letter from a renowned scientist that could change history.
5. Everyone knew the legend's public persona, but behind closed doors, a different story unfolded.
6. The night he found the old photograph, he realized his grandmother had been a world-renowned explorer.
7. A whispering breeze carried tales of old, and she couldn't help but listen as the legends came to life.
8. The crowd was silent as the new challenger lined up her serve against the world champion.
9. Balancing high school and my secret life as a superhero is harder than I ever thought it would be.
10. The family secret had been kept from me my whole life, until now. On the eve of my 16th birthday, it was time for me to know the truth.



Do any of these pictures spark your imagination?





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