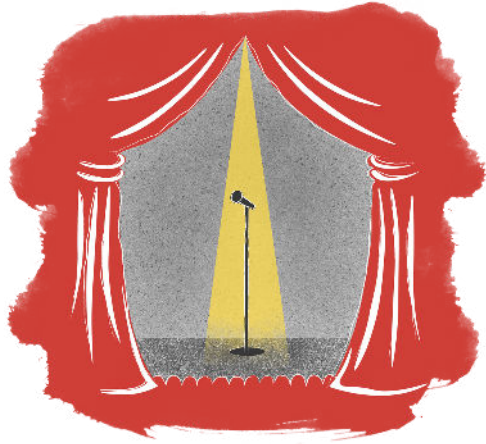


The Light



This year, we are inspired by the sources that brighten our world and our theme is **The Light**.



Light exists all around us. It can be natural: the sun, moon and stars, lightning splitting the clouds, or a single candle flickering in the dark. You might think about artificial light: a screen glowing in the dark, streetlights guiding you home, LEDs blinking on a machine or the lights of a fairground.

Do these lights help us see clearer or do they expose us? Are they beautiful or blinding? Do they bring hope and guidance, or surveillance and danger?

Perhaps it is a lighthouse standing alone in a storm, a spotlight on a stage, floodlights of a stadium, or even the lights of a UFO. You could start your story with a single beam of light in darkness. Are these lights magical or mythical? Have the lights always existed, or did they arrive mysteriously or suddenly?



Lights can be an event or celebration, from the candles of Diwali to the fireworks of Bonfire Night. Could you write about a celebration you know, or invent your own festival of light?

You could even write about the absence of light or what light could represent.

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

