

# Sevensteps

## Narrative Writing Competition 2026

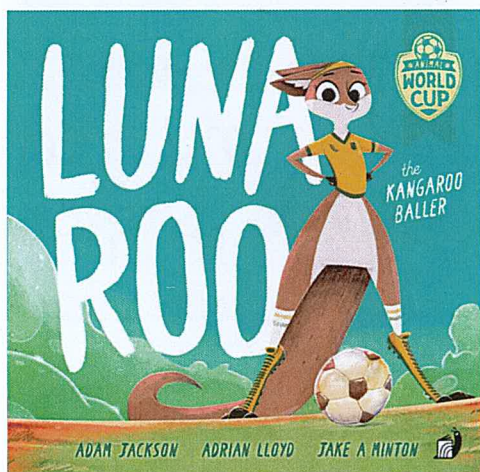
Name: Aiden Paul

Year: Year 4B

School: Christway College Wyndham

### Entries close 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Create an assessment called 'Narrative Writing Competition 2026' in our new AI-powered assessment tool and upload your entries for a chance to win!



We brainstormed and planned together, now it's time to turn those ideas into a story.

Write a short story (50-500 words) about how your character faced the challenge and proved themselves against all the odds, just like Luna Roo.

Name: ..... Aiden Paul

## Facing the Deep

Vroom! The boat roared off, as I tightened my harness. Splash - Bang - Crash! The scuba boat shook violently like a bucking horse as waves slammed against its hull. Brmm... brmm... the engine died. Silence. We were surrounded by vast blue ocean, which I had gotten ever since I was a child.

I wondered why I had even agreed to come. <sup>I had always been a frisk of deep water, but</sup> My friend Luca had convinced me to go scuba diving. I had only agreed to <sup>this</sup> as I wanted to show him that I wasn't controlled by fear.

Soon, the boat was working again and we reached the dive site. I put on my gear - Buckle, click, strap each sound sharpening my nerves. The man with hazel eyes all fixed and made his way back to his cabin.

I stood frozen. "You can do this!" Luca yelled

I jumped -  
WOOSHI!

me: ..... Aiden Paul

Dark blue silence engulfed everything. Bubbles floated past my mask as I flailed. Panic surged through me. For a second I thought I wouldn't make it.

Then I felt an arm on my shoulder. My instructor signalled: breath.

In. Out. In. Out.

I calmed down, and my breathing slowed. On my second try I discover a hidden world - schools of fish swimming like brightly coloured ribbons and coral garden bursting with colour.

When I surfaced, I shivered not from fear - but awe. Luca gave me a thumbs-up.

From that day on I realised fear is not a barrier you should obey but one you can choose to cross. If I hadn't gone I would have missed every thing beneath the surface.

THE END



## Step 1: Plan for Success

## Planning a Narrative – Story

## Part 1: Brainstorming and Selecting an Idea

**TOPIC:** *Overcoming a challenge*

Think of a time when you had to overcome a challenge and prove yourself. Share your ideas with the class and make a list. Aim for at least 10 ideas to get one great idea.

## Examples:

*Trying new food*

*Auditioning*

*Sports trials*

*Overcoming a fear*



1. Going skydiving.
2. Deep sea diving.
3. Going on a rollercoaster.
4. Doing cross country.
5. Starting a new school.
6. Playing your first Basketball match.
7. Moving to a new country.
8. Facing a bully.
9. Falling off a horse.
10. Starting a new job.

Circle the best idea. Aim for an original idea that's the right size (not a movie-length idea for a 500-word story).

# Sevensteps

## Part 2: Developing and Ordering Ideas

Once you have an idea, develop it further by brainstorming the key elements of your story.

Selected idea: Going Deep Sea Diving

Brainstorm 3-10 problems or events that could happen in your story.

1. You sink
2. The boat stops working
3. You don't want to go in the water.

Brainstorm 5-10 characters who could be in your story.

- 1 the narrator
- 2 Luca

Steps

Brainstorm 5-10 places where your story could be set.

1. The Great Barrier Reef
2. A boat
3. The ocean
4. The beach

**Choose your best ideas**

Circle the best ideas to use in a sensational story that will engage your reader. What problems are the strongest? How would you order them? What characters would work well? Which settings would be interesting? Discuss, debate and refine your plot.

Plot your best ideas on the Narrative Story Graph in point form to create your plan. Remember to escalate the problems or events to build tension (pebble, rock, boulder).

**How does it start and how will it end?**

Brainstorm ideas for a Sizzling Start and an Exciting Ending.

Sizzling Start: ~~The~~ The boat stops working.

Exciting Ending (action climax & emotional resolution): I overcome my fear of water.

Circle the best start and ending idea and add them to the story graph to complete your plan.

**Optional - Theme**

Brainstorm themes for your story. (Use a phrase or sentence to express your theme.)

Overcoming a challenge

# Narrative Story Graph

Plot your ideas on the story graph to visualise the structure of your story.

