

Oxford Big Read 2026 - Terms and Conditions

1. These terms and conditions apply to “Oxford Big Read” competition, 2026. By entering this competition, the entrant (that is, a teacher or student) will be deemed to have read and understood these terms and conditions and be bound by them.
2. This competition is organized by Oxford University Press Kabushiki Kaisha, 3F Sotetsu Tamachi Building, 4-17-5 Shiba, Minato-Ku, Tokyo 108-8386, Japan (“OUP”).

Participation

3. The competition is held in the following four categories:
 - 1) Elementary School (Grades 1-3)
 - 2) Elementary School (Grades 4-6)
 - 3) Junior High School
 - 4) High School
4. The competition is open to students in elementary schools, junior high schools, senior high schools, technical colleges (Kosen), and private language schools in Japan. Students must be registered by a teacher employed at an elementary school, junior high school, senior high school, technical college, or private language school in Japan.
5. Elementary school students should enter the Elementary School category; Junior high school students should enter the Junior High School category; senior high school and technical college students should enter the High School category. Private language school students should enter the category for their grade level.
6. For participants under the age of 18, parental/guardian consent must be confirmed by their teacher.
7. To enter the competition, students must choose and read one graded reader from any of the following series:
 - i. *Reading Stars*
 - ii. *Dolphin Readers*
 - iii. *Let's Go Readers*
 - iv. *Oxford Phonics World Readers*
 - v. *Reading with Phinnie*
 - vi. *Happy Readers*
 - vii. *Tick Tock Readers*
 - viii. *Classic Tales 2nd Edition*
 - ix. *Oxford Read and Imagine*
 - x. *Dominoes 2nd Edition*

- xi. *Speedy Readers*
 - xii. *Oxford Bookworms Library 3rd Edition*
 - xiii. *Oxford Bookworms Library 3rd Edition Factfiles*
 - xiv. *Oxford Read and Discover*
 - xv. *Oxford Reading Tree – Main Stories*
 - xvi. *Oxford Reading Tree – inFact*
 - xvii. *Oxford Reading Tree – Explore with Biff, Chip and Kipper*
 - xviii. *Oxford Reading Tree – Decode and Develop*
 - xix. *Oxford Reading Tree – Traditional Tales*
 - xx. *Oxford Reading Tree – Green Sparks*
8. After reading, students should create their poster which should cover all of the following criteria:
- 1) Includes the title of the book in English,
 - 2) Includes a summary of the story in English,
 - 3) **Fiction titles:** Includes a brief recommendation of the story explaining why the student liked it and why others should read it in English. **Non-fiction titles:** Includes the student's opinion on the topic of the book in English,
 - 4) Includes the following number of sentences in total.
 Elementary School (Grades 1-3): approximately 2-5 sentences
 Elementary School (Grades 4-6): approximately 6-8 sentences or more
 Junior High School/ High School: 8 sentences or more
 - 5) Includes some drawn pictures, artwork or creative images related to the topic of the book or which describe the story.
 *All text and artwork should be the student's original work. Entries which have text copied straight from the book, the back cover, or the internet, as well as those which include copyrighted movie/animation characters will be disqualified.
9. The poster should be a 2-D item. It should be anything from B5 to A3 at a maximum. The Project Template in the Starter Pack is to be used as a guide to help students brainstorm ideas in a stage of preparation. Please use separate paper to create a poster.
10. The created item should be handwritten and drawn and should be the student's own original work. Students can use illustration software with a PC or a pen tablet to create their work, but any copied text or artwork is NOT acceptable. The entries which have replicated movie/animation characters are also disqualified. Collages etc. are acceptable, but students cannot photocopy illustrations from the book.
11. The use of artificial intelligence or similar tools or technologies (collectively "AI") in the creation of an entry shall not be permitted. OUP reserves the right to check each entry

for plagiarism and/or use of AI and OUP may disqualify any entry which it determines, in its sole discretion, not to be original.

12. The created item must be written in English only.
13. It is up to the teacher to assign the Big Read as an assignment or homework. The teacher is encouraged to help his/her students, but the work should be created by the student.
14. The teacher must select no more than five entries from each class, grade, or institution (depending on how the teacher has registered the students) to submit to the OUP judges.
15. To help administer the assignment, please use the items in the starter pack. The starter pack consists of photocopiable materials to help guide students with the project:
 - *Project Template* – to be used as a guide to help students brainstorm ideas. Students should not use it to create their final entry.
 - *Certificate of participation* – teachers can award to students who complete the project.
 - *Reading Diary* – to help the students prepare, including questions to guide students in writing their English summary or recommendation.
 - *Parents' letter* – teachers can send this to parents of participating students to inform them about the competition and help get parental involvement in the project.

The starter pack is available at the following URL:

www.oupjapan.co.jp/bigread

16. The competition is open to any students who meets the eligibility criteria outlined above and submits an entry in accordance with these terms. Those not eligible to compete are employees of OUP and their dependents, the judging committee members and their dependents, or anyone connected to the products being given away as prizes. Teachers may only participate with their students and not with their dependents.

Registration & Submission

17. Before starting a project, please complete the pre-registration to participate in the competition via the URL below:
<https://r1.dotdigital-pages.com/p/5OKF-PXU/jp-big-read-2026-pre-registration>
18. Entries should be submitted on a class, grade, or institution basis. For each participating category, please enter the artwork information for all classes, grades, or schools in the

Entry Form.

19. Up to five works may be submitted per submission form. When submitting entries from multiple classes or grades, please use separate submission forms for each group.
20. The teacher decides how to group students to submit entries, by class, grade, or institution. The teacher can then submit up to five entries per grouping (i.e., class, grade, or institution).
21. Please input the required information correctly into the Entry Form, as the information submitted will be used to administer final awards and certifications.
22. The information the teacher provides during registration and submission will not be shared with third parties. OUP may contact the teacher based on this information. The teacher will be deemed to have given this permission when he/she fills in the registration form.
23. Entries should be submitted via the URL below. Please be sure to complete the required information on both the Entry Form and the Consent Form and submit them through the online submission form.

Submission Form:

<https://oupeltemail.com/p/5OKF-PT2/jp-big-read-2026> (Max 5MB per file)

24. Final submissions must be received by midnight on **October 30, 2026**.
25. The entrants warrant and represent that their entries will not infringe the intellectual property rights of any third party; nor will their entries include any material that is obscene, offensive, or defamatory.

Use of entries and personal data by OUP

26. You grant OUP the right (and the right to grant to other parties the right to) to use, publish, show, copy and edit submitted entries in various forms of print and digital media worldwide including www.oupjapan.co.jp for any purpose whatsoever.
27. OUP reserves the right to use the names of participating students and schools in various forms of print and digital media including www.oupjapan.co.jp for the purpose of announcing winners and honorable mentions.

Judging

28. Judging submissions will take place in the following two stages: OUP will review all submissions and select a shortlist. The judging panel chosen by OUP will then select the winners and runners-up from the shortlisted entries.

29. The jury will evaluate the reviews through three phases of assessment, as applicable.

Phase 1: Criterion-based Assessment

- Spelling, punctuation, and layout
- Grammatical accuracy
- Vocabulary range
- Fluency and appropriacy of style
- Originality of thought and expression
- Word count
- Relevance to the topic
- Organization of the content

Phase 2: General Impression Assessment

- Mention of title, author, story (genre), time and place, and setting of the story
- Description of the main characters
- Summary of the plot
- Personal evaluation of the story
- Evaluation of the story's appeal for peers
- Graphic elements and color scheme
- Layout and design
- Overall attractiveness
- Justification for artwork

Phase 3: Final total

- The 'criterion-based' and 'general impression' subtotals will be combined to get a final total.

Disqualification

30. The entries that do not meet the criteria set out on the competition website or included in these terms and conditions will be disqualified.

Prizes

31. Winners:

Four students will be selected as Winners (one winner from each category chosen by a panel of judges selected by OUP).

Winners will receive a certificate as well as the following two:

- a. Dictionary of their choice from the following: *Oxford Reading Tree Dictionary with CD*, *Oxford Children's Picture Dictionary*, *Oxford First Dictionary*, *Oxford First Thesaurus*, *Oxford Picture dictionary 3e*, *Oxford Essential Dictionary 3e*, *Oxford Wordpower Dictionary 4e*, or *Oxford Student's Dictionary 4e*. (¥3,000–¥6,500 value)
- b. Oxford Reading Club digital library access code. The code grants access for 12 months from date of redemption. Registration at the website is required to use the service.

Teachers:

One teacher for each of the four Winners will receive a readers set from Oxford Bookworms, Dominoes, Oxford Reading Tree series, Reading Stars PAW Patrol series, and Dolphin Readers. *The prize will be given to the institution.

For a complete list, see our website:

<https://www.oupjapan.co.jp/en/campaigns/bigread2026/prizes.shtml>

Institutions:

The Institution of each of the four Winners will receive a trophy of excellence with the student, teacher, and institution names, and posters with the winning item.

32. Runners-up:

Twenty students will be selected as Runners-up (five from each category chosen by a panel of judges selected by OUP) and receive a certificate as well as the following:

- a. Oxford Reading Club digital library access code. The code grants access for 6 months from date of redemption. Registration at the website is required to use the service.

Teachers:

One teacher for each of the twenty Runners up winners will receive a readers set from Oxford Bookworms, Dominoes, Oxford Reading Tree series, Reading Stars PAW Patrol series, and Dolphin Readers. *The prize will be given to the institution.

For a complete list, see our website:

<https://www.oupjapan.co.jp/en/campaigns/bigread2026/prizes.shtml>

Institutions:

The institution of each of the twenty Runners up winners will receive posters with the

winning item.

Delivery of the Prizes

33. OUP aims to deliver prizes through the OUP staff following the announcement of the winners. The winners will be notified and invited to accept the prizes within 7 days of being contacted via their email addresses. If a notified winner does not respond within 7 days of notification, another winner will be selected from the remaining entries and contacted as previously stated. Once a subsequent winner has been selected, the previous winner is no longer entitled to the prize. In the unlikely event that no (or insufficient) entries are received before the closing date, the prize will not be awarded.
34. Prizes are not transferable to another person.

Timeline

35. 25 May 2026 – Competition begins
Midnight on Friday, 30 October 2026 – Deadline to submit entries
November 2026 – December 2026 – Judging period
Late December 2026 – Winners announced via email to participating teachers
January 2027 – Winning entries and/or honorable mentions displayed at
www.oupjapan.com

Other

36. OUP may withdraw or cancel the competition for any reason and at any time and may change the prize to a prize of a similar value. There is no cash alternative.
37. OUP reserves the right to amend these terms and conditions without prior notice. Any changes will be posted at www.oupjapan.co.jp/bigread
38. These terms and conditions shall be governed by Japanese law.
39. If you have any questions about the competition, please contact newsletter.japan@oup.com call us at 03-5444-5454, or contact your local ELT consultant.