

Listening Section 1: Short Story Competition

You will hear a telephone conversation between the organiser of a short story competition and someone who wishes to take part in the competition. Listen and answer questions 7-10.

A: Um can you tell me a bit about how the competition is judged and what the prizes are?

B: Yes of course. Well, once we have all the entries I send them to all the judges. Our competition is quite popular so we are lucky to be able to use famous authors who are very interested in the competition.

A: That's fantastic. It's great to know that someone famous will be reading my story!

B: Yes that's right. It takes them quite a while to read through the entries but eventually they decide on the top five stories.

A: I see – and what happens then?

B: Well, they will be published online so everyone can read them. They will not be in any order at this point. They will just be the five stories that the judges think are the best.

A: And do all the top five stories get prizes?

B: No – it's just the top story and the runner-up.

A: So how is the top story decided?

B: Well once the top five stories are available, it will be the public who will vote for their favourite story.

A: Right – I see. So I need to get all my friends to vote for me then!

B: Er, yes – that's a good idea.

A: And what is the prize?

B: Well, the runner-up gets a prize of £300, but the winner gets a trip to Spain to attend a workshop for writers.

A: Wow – that's brilliant! I'd better get writing straight away.

B: Yes – good luck!

A: Thanks.

That is the end of Section 1. You now have half a minute to check your answers.