



5 TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR FIRST SHORT STORY

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The recent month of February not only had the first day of Spring, but also, the International Mother Language Day. We remembered all the struggles that the Bangladeshis went through for our mother tongue with love and respect, and in this regard, we paid visits to the place of knowledge – the Ekushey Book Fair. Different aspiring authors also came out with their publications in the fair.

Such aspiring writers would know that, no author is born overnight. Writing short stories can be a great gateway to writing prose for beginners. As a way of encouraging more creative people to put on their thinking caps and pen their thoughts to make an impact in the realm of literature

with their stories, here are five things to consider when writing your first short story.

Have an attention-grabbing title

The title of a story is important in every case, because, it is what attracts your readers to your story and gives them a feel of what it is about. Therefore, it will be advantageous if the title is catchy, but, still based on a main element in the story. For example, The Signalman by Charles Dickens is centered on the main character who works as a signalman.

Keep it simple

In the case of a short story, you are expected to have an introduction, a middle, and a conclusion. So, you may be tempted to really expand on your idea. However, a crucial flaw is making it too

complex by adding numerous sub-plots and unnecessary twists. So, follow the traditional structure of a story, using elements such as flashbacks only when it adds to the plot development.

Remember that less is more

Keeping the number of characters and core themes to a minimum will surely improve the quality of your writing. The concentration of few characters playing out to present a limited number of themes will both be easier to follow and will help strengthen the impact of your message. Therefore, make sure each word and dialogue is purposeful.

Include an important message

Before you start writing, think of a cause that is important to you and introduce it

in the form of a story to add to the beauty of the process. If you find yourself lacking inspiration, writing about modern issues you are informed about can also be a good place to start.

Maintain a flow

Your state of mind is reflected in your writing and it is more apparent than you think. So, along with a clear mind, writing in one sitting is also recommended because the tone may become disjointed when you take frequent breaks.

The opportunities a good short story has are vast. It can even open up an entirely new form of self-expression for you. So, follow these tips tailored to your needs and it will take your writing to a whole new level.

ILLUSTRATION: OISHIK JAWAD



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Youth Opportunities

USTC Chinese Government Scholarship 2018 [Fully Funded]

Ministry of Education (MOE) authorised USTC to recruit full-time Master's and Doctoral students under the Chinese Government Scholarship since 2008.



Deadline: March 15, 2018 | Scholarship

Vacancy for Project Executive at Asia-Europe Foundation



The Political and Economic Department of ASEF is looking for a staff member to coordinate the implementation of the Asia-Europe Public Diplomacy Training Initiative and

the ASEF Perceptions Study – Europe through the Eyes of Asia, as well as to contribute to the Informal ASEM Human Rights seminar.

Deadline: March 11, 2018 | Miscellaneous

Call for Photos- Photo Fest Asia 2018

Photographers around the world are encouraged to take part in this exhibition by expressing their thoughtful approaches throughout their photographs.



Deadline: March 5, 2018 | Awards

SHOPUP SUPERSSELLERS WORKSHOP

"Build a business leveraging Facebook"

MOHUA MOULI

On February 23, 2018, ShopUp hosted their first SuperSellers workshop, powered by The Daily Star, with Star Youth, The Daily Star, as the youth engagement partner.

The event took place in the Daily Star premises, with various online business owners taking part in it to get valuable insights on the possibilities of online marketing and how they can use various methods to enhance their businesses.

The event kicked off with a speech from Tajdin Hassan, Head of Marketing, The Daily Star, who spoke about the importance of customer-centric approach in business and explained the "5 As" of content marketing and how business owners can use it to deliver

great customer services and become sustainable in the long run.

Archita Kundu Ripa, Business Development Manager at We are X, took the stage to talk about how to approach online marketing using various available tools to target the right customer base. She also explained how to invest on various methods to get the most effective results in terms of sales revenue. By the end of her speech, she shared various tips and answered questions from the audience of business owners.

The final speech came from Kushagra Sagar, SMB Business Development Lead at Facebook, who helped the audience gain a broader understanding of their customer behaviour and how they can use this knowledge to apply to their businesses. He spoke of the importance



PHOTO: STAR

of creating mobile phone based content and how content should be created to attract customers to purchase their product. In the end, he also answered many questions from the audience.

The workshop ended with a group

picture with all the SuperSellers of ShopUp and the speakers, along with Siffat Sarwar, Co-Founder and COO, ShopUp, followed by refreshments for all attendees, who all took away great ideas for growing their business.



PHOTO: COURTESY

The World HR Congress and CHRO jointly awarded Ajeyo Rohitashwo ~ Al Quazi, aamra's Group Chief People Officer (CPO), with three awards recently. Ajeyo was honoured with "100 Top HR Tech Minds" award, which was given for Ajeyo's contribution in aligning HR activities with the technology. Ajeyo received the second award for being in the "100 Top Global HR Minds",

which came as a result of his remarkable works in bridging the gap between 4th Industrial Revolution and existing HR practices. Lastly, Ajeyo won the "HR Star Award" for his contribution in the HR arena of Bangladesh as the country's leading HR professional. The award ceremony was held at Hotel Taj Lands End, Mumbai, India, on February 15 and 16, 2018.

Registration for Astro-Olympiad 2018 closes on March 9, 2018

The regional level competition of the National Museum of Science and Technology Astro-Olympiad 2018 is going to be arranged on March 10, 2018, followed by the national level competition on March 23, 2018.

The Olympiad is being organised for the 13th time, jointly by the National Museum of Science and Technology, The Daily Samakal and Bangladesh Astronomical Association; and is supported by the Biggan Andolon Moncho and the Cultural Department of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Bangladesh.

Students born between January 1, 1999, and November 1, 2004, are eligible to apply.

On completion of Astro-Olympiad 2018, five awardees would get a chance to attend the XXIII International Astronomy Olympiad, four awardees would attend the XIV Asian-Pacific Astronomy Olympiad and two more would be awarded with scholarships by the Russian Government to study on Astronomy in Russia.

To take part in the competition, contact 01717947580, or register online: www.astronomybangla.com

