

# THE 500 WORD

## MALALA YOUSAFZAI COMPETITION



**Youngest Nobel  
Peace Prize Winner &  
Education Activist**



## KEY DATES

Competition launch:	8 Sep 2020
Writing/closing deadline:	16 Nov 2020
Live voting opens:	1 - 15 Dec 2020
Winners and shortlist announced:	17 Dec 2020

## THE COMPETITION

### FREE TO ENTER

We are launching **The 500 Word Malala Yousafzai Competition** to celebrate and empower young people to self-publish their creative writing.

This is a unique creative writing competition. Once the competition has closed, pupils will vote for their favourite piece, through an interactive voting system on the Connected Creatives platform. The four pieces with the highest pupil votes will be the competition winners for 2020.

For more information please contact Yasmin at:  
**[yasmin@connectedcreatives.co.uk](mailto:yasmin@connectedcreatives.co.uk)**

## THE CREATIVE WRITING PLATFORM

Connected Creatives empowers young people to self-publish their creative writing (short stories, graphic novels, poems, journals) and share their work with their teachers, family and peers. It helps pupils to find their creative voice and improves literacy.

For more information on getting started with Connected Creatives, please refer to the accompanying information guide.

**[WWW.CONNECTEDCREATIVES.CO.UK](http://WWW.CONNECTEDCREATIVES.CO.UK)**



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## COMPETITION OVERVIEW

We are launching **The 500 Word Malala Yousafzai Competition** to celebrate and empower young people to self-publish their creative writing (short stories, graphic novels, poems, journals).

Once the competition has closed, pupils will vote for their favourite piece, through an interactive voting system on the platform. The four pieces with the highest pupil votes will be the competition winners for 2020!

## HOW TO PREPARE YOUR PUPILS' WORK

1. Create a Connected Creatives account
2. Teacher receives email and creates password
3. Teacher receives email with a unique class link
4. Forward link to pupils
5. Students register and login
6. You are ready to go!

Ask your pupils to submit a short piece of writing or graphic novel (fiction or nonfiction – in any genre) to you via the platform. Pupils can write on a subject or topic of their interest and have the opportunity to submit a front cover to complement their work. They can either illustrate their own cover using their own artwork or use a royalty-free image from sites such as Unsplash.

They can write and submit as many original pieces as they wish.

After they submit a piece of work, you can provide your pupils with feedback via the platform; their submission will then be published and visible for fellow classmates to read and review.

We ask you to encourage pupils to read lots of submissions from their classmates and provide them with constructive feedback.

## SUBMITTING YOUR PUPILS' WORK

From the published entries, we ask you to shortlist four entries per class. Once you have shortlisted, please ask the **four pupils to submit** their original creative stories via the live competition link on the platform by **Monday 16 November**.

All pupils can vote for their favourite pieces on the platform, with competition voting live from **1 - 15 Dec**. The four pieces with the highest pupil votes will be the competition winners for 2020 and will be announced on the platform on **Thursday 17 December**.

Best of luck! We hope your pupils enjoy writing their own creative stories and reading the stories submitted by their classmates!

### Competition enquiries:

[yasmin@connectedcreatives.co.uk](mailto:yasmin@connectedcreatives.co.uk)

### Technical support:

[support@connectedcreatives.co.uk](mailto:support@connectedcreatives.co.uk)



## MORE ABOUT CONNECTED CREATIVES



Connected Creatives is not purely a competitive platform, it is regularly used by schools to help encourage creative writing in the classroom and as a tool within extra-curricular creative writing clubs. It is an engaging safe space where pupils are free to create work, read, give feedback and become more confident writers.

### HOW IT WORKS

1. As a teacher, register your school in under five minutes. Simply go to **[www.connectedcreatives.co.uk](http://www.connectedcreatives.co.uk)**, search for your school, enter your name and email address.
2. Receive a link for pupils and forward it to your class. Pupils follow the link to log in and activate their accounts.
3. Pupils draft and publish original pieces of creative writing – stories, poems, journals or graphic novels. It could be a class exercise, an extracurricular activity or a competition entry.
4. Teachers review stories and moderate extended comments. Both teachers and peers can browse published stories and provide interactive feedback in a safe environment, which encourages pupils to carry on creating.

### HOW CAN CONNECTED CREATIVES HELP?



#### THE POWER OF IMAGINATION

Connected Creatives taps into the imagination of young people. It is a brilliant platform for creating and sharing content created by pupils.



#### CREATING FOR A PURPOSE

Self-publishing provides the opportunity to create content for a real audience and purpose – developing pride, confidence and motivation.



#### A COMMUNITY OF YOUNG CREATIVES

Connected Creatives provides a blank canvas for creative expression, a shared library of original content created by young people for young people, and key statistics for teachers.



#### FLEXIBLE AND FUN

The platform can be used during weekly sessions, setting homework tasks, in creative writing clubs or after-school activities.