

Can you write a first rate crime story?



That's the challenge issued to you by the Crime Writers' Association (CWA*).

You have up to **1000 words** to get the readers hooked, although you don't have to write as much as that – perhaps you can create such a brilliant story that even 100 words will be enough to knock the judges dead...

Crime novels include a very wide variety of material – detective stories, creepy psychological thrillers, historical whodunits, spies, terrorist plots... from cops and robbers to vigilantes and robots, the choice is yours and if you're short of inspiration, why not borrow some crime novels from the library and see how the professionals do it?

Read the rules carefully and make sure you complete your entry form correctly. Entries will be accepted at your local library from **10 January to 18 February**, so get writing **now**, because if your entry isn't handed in on time, it won't be included in the judging. In **April**, all short listed entrants from your area will be invited to a **regional award ceremony**, where the name of the winning entry from your area will be announced. That entry will go forward to the national shortlist, and the overall winner will be announced during **National Crime Writing Week** which runs from **13 - 19 June**. The national winner will receive some exciting prizes, including a ticket and accommodation package for him/herself and one companion for **Crimefest 2012**** an annual extravaganza of crime writing, where crime fiction fans rub shoulders with some of today's most famous crime writers.

If your entry is selected for the area shortlist, you will be notified no later than **2 April 2011**. Good writing and good luck!

*CWA members are all professionally published writers of crime fiction and non-fiction and the world famous crossed dagger logo is our emblem.

**To find out more about Crimefest go to www.crimefest.com



Young Crime Writers' Competition
sponsored by
The Crime Writers' Association



Please use block capitals and ensure that all sections of the form are completed in full.

NAME OF ENTRANT:

DATE OF BIRTH:

HOME ADDRESS:

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POST CODE: **TEL:**

LIBRARY WHERE ENTRY SUBMITTED:

TITLE OF ENTRY:

TOTAL NUMBER OF WORDS:

Rules:

1. Stories should have a crime theme. The maximum number of words per entry is 1000 – there is no minimum number of words. Entries which exceed the maximum number of words will be disqualified.
2. The competition is open to anyone born on or after 1 September 1992.
3. Entries must be the original, unaided work of the stated entrant.
4. Entries must be typewritten/word processed in 12 point, double spaced and on one side of the page only. Pages should be numbered. Please state the total number of words in the space provided.
6. All entries must be accompanied by a completed entry form which includes a home address & phone number.
7. Entries must be submitted to the entrant's library, by hand or by post, arriving no later than Friday, 18 February 2011. Any entries received after that date will not be considered.
8. Entries will not be returned. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
9. By entering the competition, entrants are deemed to have agreed that their names and their entries may be used by the Crime Writers' Association in publicity material associated with the competition.

SIGNATURE OF ENTRANT: