



# GOLD COUNTRY WRITERS

## Short Story Contest

### Judging Rubric Overview

To be eligible for judging, a story must follow all Contest Rules as available online at <https://goldcountrywriters.com/nonfiction-short-story-contest-rules/>.

Judges will score stories “blind”—without information to identify the author and will assess a score from 1 (Low) to 5 (High) for each of these categories:

1. Opening
2. Closing
3. Story Arc
4. Story Impact
5. Characters
6. Description
7. Language
8. Theme
9. Mechanics
10. Flow
11. Spelling
12. Grammar

Only the stories with the highest scores will be submitted to the Guest Judge for final selection.