

मीमांसा — Children's Literature Festival 2026
19-21 August (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
Venue: Conference Hall & Multipurpose Hall, Gaiety Theatre, Shimla

Participation Form

Name:
Class:
School/College/Univ:
WhatsApp number of Participant:
School Teacher Phone No:
Photo (to be attached/emailed):

Note: Students can participate in any two activities/competitions

1. Poetry Reading & Workshop (Classes 8 to 12)

(Original Poetry in Hindi/English; One poem; maximum time 2 mins)

Date: 19 August, 2026; Conference Hall

2. Storytelling Workshop – An Open Session

Classes 5 to 8: Open to students looking to enhance their writing abilities and master the art of crafting short stories with finesse.

Date: 20 August, 2026; MP Hall

Date: 21 August, 2026; MP Hall

3. Fun with Art (Cartoons in Books) Workshop

Conference Hall, Gaiety Complex, Shimla

Date: 20 August, Time: 1.30 – 2.30; (Classes 4 to 5)

Date: 20 August, Time: 3.00 – 4.00 (Classes 6 to 8)

4. Book Discussions: Invitation for Readers & Reviewers

(For each Book Review three students will be engaging with the Author. The Trust will provide the books, contact us to collect them; limited slots only; Preferably 1 to 3 readers per school, so all get an opportunity to participate. Dates & Schedule will be shared at a later date.)

List of Books:

- The Adventurous 6: The Sinister Summer Holiday – Anirban Bhattacharyya (Classes 6 to 8/College)
- Almost Adulthood – Probal J. Bhattacharyya (Classes 8 to 10/College)
- बाल काव्यधारा – ओम प्रकाश शर्मा (Classes 7 to 12/College)
- My Name Is Cinnamon – Vikas Prakash Joshi (Classes 6 to 12/College)
- The Missing Tile and Other Stories – Saeed Ibrahim (Classes 8 to 12/College)
- मैली कमीज – रणजोध सिंह (Classes 8 to 12/College)
- Let's Use Our Words & Haiku Me and You I Love You – Shobha T Srinivasan (Classes 6 to 8)

Inter-School Competitions (MP & Conference Hall, Gaiety)

1. Declamation – (2 entries per category | one each in Hindi/English; Judging Criteria – Theme Clarity /Diction /Presentation; Paper reading is not allowed, may only refer to points.)

19 August (Wednesday) Conference Hall – 9.30 to 11.30 noon: Junior Category Classes 5 to 7

20 August (Thursday) MP Hall – 12.55 to 2.00 pm; Middle Category Classes 8 to 10

20 August (Thursday) MP Hall – 2.30 to 4 pm Classes 11 & 12

Topics for Declamation Category wise, same topics can be used for Hindi/ English Delivery Classes 5–7 (Junior Category | Time 2 to 3 mins)

- A Child's Voice Can Change the World
- Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow
- The Future Belongs to Those Who Dare

- Character is More Important than Marks
- The Internet: A World of Opportunities
- Can Technology Replace Human Values?
- Why Every Child Should Have a Hobby
- Books vs. Screens: What Should We Choose?

Classes 8–10 (Middle Category | Time 3 to 4 mins)

- The Screen Addiction
- Artificial Intelligence - A Friend or A Foe
- What's More Fun? Reading A Book or Scrolling on the Internet
- Who's A Better Teacher? A Human or AI
- Do We Need the Limitation on the Use of Internet?
- Gaming - A Lucrative Career or Just a Waste of Time
- The Modern Day Hero – What it Takes Today?
- Education - Then vs Now

Classes 11–12 (Senior Category | Time 3 to 4 mins)

- Gen-Z's Obsession with Reels in Contrast to Fact Checking
- E Reader vs Paperback Reader: Impact on Authors and Reading Culture
- Shimla and Ghost Lore
- Media as the Fourth Pillar of Democracy
- The Artistic Rebellion
- Life With/Without Social Media
- Is Mindless Entertainment a Conspiracy?
- Validation Culture: Living for Likes or Living for Life?

2. Book to Script – Workshop & Competition

(An activity wherein children are taught how to write a script on day one followed by a competition on day two. Best 3 entries will be awarded a prize.)

19 August (Wednesday) Conference Hall – 12.00 to 1.30 pm | **Classes 8 to 12 | Workshop**

20 August (Thursday) Conference Hall – 12.00 to 1.00 pm | **Classes 8 to 12 | Competition**

3. Artists Interaction & Competition – Two Sessions

(Topic will be given on the Spot. We will provide A3 Sheets for the Workshop & Competition)

Date: 19 August, Time: 2.00 – 2.40 | 2.45 to 4.30; MP Hall

Age group for participation (4 entries per category)

Classes 2 to 4 | Classes 5 to 7 | Classes 8 to 10 | Classes 11 & 12 | College Level

4. Junior Poetry Competition (Poetry Recitation – Hindi; Children can choose any Poem)

Date: 21 August (Friday) Conference Hall – 9.30 to 12.00

Two categories – Classes: 2 & 3 | Classes 4 & 5 | Time: 3 mins

5. Vocabulary Skills Competition – Anagrams/Synonym/Antonyms/Idioms/Phrases and more

Competition will be in two parts – Hindi/English | written test (30 Mins) | Oral questions by Judges

Date: 20 August (Thursday) Conference Hall – 9.30 to 11.30 am | **Category – Classes 6 to 8**

*All entries on first come basis.

* **Deadline is for Book Discussants 1 July; book reviewers should contact us to collect the books.**

* **Deadline for filling the form 20 July**

* **Final Schedule will be shared after the deadline, in case there are any changes/updates.**

* **All Participants will receive a Certificate & a Gift Bag.**

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