

Takshila in association with Bookworm presents

Winter Reading Challenge

Different stories, different destinations, and different genres!

Dear Participant,

Thank you for your interest in the Winter Reading Challenge 2026, brought to you by Takshila Educational Society (TES) and Bookworm, Goa. This Challenge is open to all students of grade VII and VIII across the four TES schools.

The theme for 2026 is *Different stories, different destinations, and different genres!* The reading list includes texts across the Global South spanning 20+ countries. The Challenge is designed with the opportunity to choose and select what you want to read, across categories as well as decide what track you want to engage with - competitive or non competitive tracks.

Your school librarians are your mentors and the school library is your source point.

Tracks

Track 1:

Challenger Track

Read widely. Read deeply.

Students will read at least 30 texts (pieces of literature)from the Winter Reading Challenge collection across seven different categories.

To complete the Challenger Track, students must:

- Read a minimum of 30 texts (pieces of literature)
- From each of the seven categories read the following number (min)
 - 1) Novels - Fiction (any 6)
 - 2) Novels - Non-Fiction (any 2)
 - 3) Picture Books - Fiction & Non Fiction (10)
 - 4) Essays & Journal Articles (4)
 - 5) Poems - Inheritance + any 3 poems from each Collection (10 poems = 5 texts)

6) Graphic Books (2)

7) Anthologies (1)

- Participate in three online Winter Reading Challenge interactions - over zoom.
- Maintain the team reading tracker sheet (available with Librarian)

Challenger track teams are eligible for the Inter school final quiz.

Track 2:

Combo Track*

One comfort zone + one new category

The Combo Track is designed for students who have a favourite kind of reading but are also willing to try at least one more new category and are not ready for the Challenger track as yet.

Students choose:

1 Favourite Category - a category they already enjoy or feel comfortable reading +

1 New Category - a category they have rarely or never explored before.

For example:

- Favourite: Graphic Books + New: Picture Books
- Favourite: Fiction Novels + New: Journal Articles

Maintain the team reading tracker sheet (available with Librarian) and participate in Librarian designed engagements.

* The combo track participants can choose to switch to the challenger track at any point during the challenge, prior to the semi final date.

Registration Process

1. This is a team challenge. So begin with forming a team of THREE persons.
2. Review the two track choices and pick a track.

3. Give your team a name

4. Fill in the registration form. Here is the link to register.

<https://forms.gle/ovD5sJz58EoTPcfB8>

Please remember that you must register only once as a team.

5. Individually take the [Reading Survey](#)

6. In your library, check the Participating Team list to find your team listed on the right Track by 15th November, 2026

Registration Dates

October 5th to November 12th

Challenge Dates

November 19th, 2026 - January, 25th, 2027

Challenger Rounds

A semi-final will be conducted, across four schools at a prescheduled time on January 23, 2027 to shortlist the final teams in each school. This will be administered as a google form, with a question bank for all texts in the Winter Reading Challenge List.

The team that scores the highest points represents the school in the Inter School Quiz Finals on **January 25, 2027**.

This will be conducted online via a digital platform.

The winning team wins a Winter Reading Challenge Rolling Trophy for their school.

The winning team also wins reading rewards and individual prizes to sustain their reading joy.

Welcome to the Winter Reading Challenge and Happy Reading!