

[Stephen Spender Prize](#) for poetry in translation **2025 prize is open for submissions!**

Details can also be found in the [Stephen Spender Prize 2025 launch newsletter](#),

Main web address is: [www.stephen-spender.org/stephen-spender-prize/](http://www.stephen-spender.org/stephen-spender-prize/).

The deadline for entries is midnight BST on **Thursday 31st July**.

**Calling MFL, EAL and English teachers! Bring creative translation into the classroom this summer with the Stephen Spender Prize 2025**

**Open for entries 1 May to 31 July | Free entry for all young people and teachers in the UK and Ireland**

The [Stephen Spender Prize](#) is an annual competition for poetry in translation that celebrates the creativity of young people across the UK and Ireland – and their teachers! The Prize has categories [schools](#), [teachers](#) and [individual young people](#), which welcome translations from all languages, as well as a special ‘[Spotlight](#)’ strand that each year focuses on a different widely spoken home or heritage language.

Whether you’re an **MFL, EAL or English** teacher, and whatever the languages taught and spoken in your school community, the prize is a perfect way to engage **students of all ages** this summer term.

Teachers can register [here](#) to receive classroom inspiration and activity ideas throughout the prize window, and you can follow all the latest news on our website and social media channels below.

Ready to start planning and working on your entries? Visit our [Guide for Teachers](#) page for all the key information about **the prize at a glance**, and explore our [Stephen Spender Prize Resources](#) hub for [Teaching Resources](#) and [Student Resources](#) to guide you and your pupils through every step of entering the prize.

Questions? Email [prize@stephen-spender.org](mailto:prize@stephen-spender.org).

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### **Overview of 2025 categories:**

#### **Ø Schools Laureate Prize**

Our dedicated strand for schools, designed **for teachers submitting entries on behalf of students**. Open to **all schools in the UK and Ireland**, including homework clubs, Saturday schools, private tutor groups and home-schools, as well as British schools overseas. The strand features **age categories at KS1-5 / P1-S6** and a [bank of suggested poems in over 50 languages](#), along with a choice of creative response formats to enable students to practise different creative skills.

The rules are simple: translate **ANY poem from ANY language** and produce an accompanying commentary, reading, artwork or creative writing response, for the chance to join the Stephen Spender Prize hall of eternal fame!

Full details: <https://www.stephen-spender.org/stephen-spender-prize/schools-laureate-prize/>

#### **Ø Individual Youth Entry**

If your **students** would like to **submit their own entries**, our Individual Youth Entry strand is for them! With categories at 18-and-under and 14-and-under, and no minimum age limit, the strand welcomes **unlimited translations** from **any language** accompanied by a short written commentary.

Full details: <https://www.stephen-spender.org/stephen-spender-prize/individual-youth-entry/>

#### Ø **Portuguese Spotlight**

Alongside the prize's multilingual school and individual youth strands, this year our language Spotlight celebrates **poetry from the Lusophone world**.

Entrants are invited to translate a poem from the selection in the [Portuguese Spotlight 2025 Booklet](#) and produce an accompanying commentary, artwork, reading or creative writing response. There's **no need to be fluent in Portuguese to enter** – the competition is open to pupils of all ages interested in trying their hand at poetry translation!

Full details: <https://www.stephen-spender.org/stephen-spender-prize/portuguese-spotlight/>

#### Ø **Teacher Laureate Prize**

Fancy translating a poem yourself? Teachers across the land are invited to get creative with our **free-to-enter translation competition for teachers**, open to **all teachers** at schools that have submitted entries for the Schools Laureate Prize or the Portuguese Spotlight 2025.

The winner will receive an **annual print subscription to Modern Poetry in Translation**, plus a **Stephen Spender Prize workshop for their school** during the 2025-26 academic year. Translations of poems from all languages are welcome, and no prior translation experience is required!

Full details: <https://www.stephen-spender.org/stephen-spender-prize/teacher-laureate-prize/>