

20th October 2022

The Booker Prize has awarded its 2022 prize for the best UK-published novel to Sri Lankan author Shehan Karunatilaka. The book, titled *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*, is a fictional **thriller**. It is about the spirit of a dead war photographer called Maali. Maali is on a journey to let the living discover his hidden photos. The photos show the **horrors** of war in the writer's country. Karunatilaka won £50,000 for his **anti-war** ghost story and was presented with an award at a ceremony. In his speech he said, "I hope it's written in a Sri Lanka that learns from its stories". He also said he hopes that in ten years it will be in the bookshop section next to the dragons and unicorns and not politics. Head judge Neil MacGregor said the book "takes the reader on a rollercoaster journey through life and death". The judges reached the same **decision** on the winner. They said the theme of the shortlisted entries this year was "one question, and that is what's the point of an individual life?" Making a star guest appearance was Dua Lipa. She spoke about her **passion** for reading and the importance of books in her life. The singer-songwriter said she had read all six shortlisted books and she "absolutely loved" *Seven Moons*. She recommends the books she reads on social media and that reading helps her to "understand emotions and feelings".

Q1. _____

Writers, photographers, songwriters, or someone else – who are your favourite types of artists?

Finish this sentence so that it is true for you – "Reading helps me to..."

Q2. _____

Which bolded words in the text mean: *love* - a *genre of fiction* - *choice* - *peace* - *scary*

Q3. _____

"in the bookshop *section* next to the dragons"

What does the italicised word above mean: *area* - *floor* - *shelf*?

Q4. _____

Comprehension questions:

1. What is the Booker Prize awarded for?
2. What profession did the main character have in the book?
3. What is the book compared to?
4. What is important to Dua Lipa?
5. What does Dua Lipa post on social media?

Q5. _____

Link the five synonym pairs:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. novel | A. artist |
| 2. reach | B. get to |
| 3. recommend | C. story |
| 4. songwriter | D. love |
| 5. passion | E. speak well of |

Q6. _____

Spell the words correctly:

has **r a w d a e d** its 2022 prize

Maali is on a **y o r j e n u**

it will be in the **e t s i n c o** next to

the theme of the **s n i e r e t** this year

her **i a s p o n s** for reading

Q7. _____

Discussion questions / Writing practice:

Can you name a film that was a book first?
Have you read the book?

Do you have a favourite soundtrack? Why is it your favourite?

Which artist or artform best represents your culture to the world?

Q8. _____

10 B1 revision keywords: underlined in text.