

Criteria

(Source: 'Carnegie medal criteria'. Available from:
<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/carnegie/crit.html>
[Accessed 4 June 2004].)

The book that wins the Carnegie Medal should be a book of outstanding literary quality. The whole work should provide pleasure, not merely from the surface enjoyment of a good read, but also the deeper subconscious satisfaction of having gone through a vicarious, but at the time of reading, a **real** experience that is retained afterwards.

All criteria will not necessarily be relevant to every title nominated. Where appropriate, consider and assess the following:

The plot:

Is it well-constructed?

Does the author appear in control of the plot, making definite and positive decisions about the direction events take and the conclusions they reach?

Do events happen, not necessarily logically, but acceptably within the limits set by the theme?

Is the final resolution of the plot credible in relation to the rest of the book?

Characterisation:

Are the characters believable and convincing?

Are they well-rounded, and do they develop during the course of the book?

Do they interact with each other convincingly?

Are the characters' behaviour and patterns of speech consistent with their known background and environment?

Do they act consistently in character throughout the book?

How effectively are the characters revealed through narration, dialogue, action, inner dialogue and through the thoughts, reactions and responses of others?

Style:

Is the style or styles appropriate to the subject and theme?

How successfully has the author created mood, and how appropriate is it to the theme?

Do dialogue and narrative work effectively together?

How effective is the author's use of literary techniques and conventions?

How effective is the author's use of language in conveying setting, atmosphere, characters, action etc.?

Where rhyme or rhythm are used, is their use accomplished and imaginative?

Where factual information is presented, is this accurate and clear?