

World Citizen Essay Contest 2010 Rubric

	4 Excellent	3 Proficient	2 Partial	1 Minimal
<p>Content: Essay provides clear and rich description and explanation of why they chose a country and covered an issue.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vividly describes an issue of international importance. Provides clear, real-world examples for every point. It is evident that the student conducted thorough research in order to choose a country and striking issue that they wished to cover as an international journalist and learn about relevant details. Persuasively explains why they were compelled to cover the country and the issue, supporting their desire with specific examples, details and/or evidence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describes an issue of international importance. Provides an acceptable level of detail about the issue and the country they wished to cover as an international journalist and provides real-world examples for most points. It is evident that the student conducted adequate research in order to choose a country and an issue and learn about some details. Explains why the country and issue are important, using at least one specific example, detail or piece of evidence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description seems incomplete or lacks detail. Lacks real-world examples of examples do not connect with the issue described. It appears that the student has not conducted adequate research. Partially explains why the issue and country are important. May lack specific examples, details and/or evidence. It appears that the student has not conducted adequate research. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description is incomplete or unclear. Fails to provide any real-world examples or examples do not connect with the issue described. It appears that the student has not conducted adequate research. Fails to explain why the issue is important. Does not provide specific examples, details and/or evidence.
<p>Voice: Essay provides clear and original vision and provides the reader with the sense that the author cares deeply about the topics addressed.</p> <p><i>The student's sincere interest comes through in the writing.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing is suffused with vivid images, evocative word choice, and/or other devices that effectively inspire and intrigue the reader. The reader is conveyed the sense that this piece was written by a sincere person who cares deeply about the topic(s) addressed. The tone is personal and the flavor is original. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing includes at least one or two examples of vivid images, evocative word choice, or other devices that inspire and intrigue the reader. The reader at least occasionally has the sense that this piece was written by a sincere person. The reader can sometimes sense a passion for the topic(s) addressed. The writing may be clear, yet lack originality and personal flavor. The writer may seem distant from the topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing seems flat or dull. Lacks devices that would inspire and intrigue the reader. The piece often seems as if it was written almost mechanically. Passion for the topic(s) is lacking. The writing lacks originality or personal flair. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing is very vague or unclear and fails to inspire and intrigue the reader. The reader gets no sense at all that there is a sincere person behind this piece of writing.

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<p>Conventions: The mechanical correctness of the piece shows great care and attention to detail.</p> <p><i>Spelling, punctuation, syntax, grammar, and organization</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay is well organized with an introduction, conclusion, and well-structured body paragraphs. • Essay is free of errors in spelling, punctuation, syntax and grammar. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay is organized with an introduction, conclusion, and body paragraphs. • There are few errors in spelling, punctuation, syntax and/or grammar. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay is loosely organized or lacks clear introduction or conclusion. • Contains multiple errors in spelling, punctuation, syntax and/or grammar. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay lacks consistent organization. • Essay contains many spelling, punctuation, syntax and/or grammatical errors that interfere with its comprehensibility.
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Despite the ever increasing importance of understanding the histories, governments, and cultures, of people from all over the world, many news organizations in recent years have had to cut their foreign correspondent staff. If you were a journalist on an international assignment, where would you like to go, what issue would you cover, and why?