



2006 World Citizen Essay Contest

Imagine that you are a diplomat whose mission it is to represent a country to the world community. You and your fellow diplomats are working towards a better world for your citizens and others.

Which country would you represent and what issue would you want to address? Why is this important and what are some possible solutions?

Contest Rules

ESSAY LENGTH:

1,000 words or less, typed and double-spaced.

DEADLINE:

March 20, 2006 (postmarked). All essays must be submitted in **4 copies** with an Essay Cover Form.

ELIGIBILITY:

Washington residents in 2nd through 12th grades.

AWARDS:

Awards will be granted in each of the three categories (grades 2-5, 6-8, and 9-12).

First prize: \$200 and recognition at a World Affairs Council event

Second prize: \$100

Third prize: \$50

JUDGING:

A panel of judges will select winning essays. They will use the criteria to evaluate essays according to three categories of equal weight: content, analysis, and style. Please see the judging criteria for detailed information.

NOTE: English language learners are encouraged to participate.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Content

Thorough research of your topic is necessary to allow you to provide strong factual evidence to support your argument.

- Provide clear, real-world examples for every point you make.
- Provide rich details to illuminate every example.
- Ensure that all your evidence is accurate and relevant.

Analysis

Your essay must provide your clear and original vision, and it must use this vision to help make sense of the examples you use.

- Provide a concise and arguable thesis that addresses the topic.
- Explain how each of your examples helps support your thesis.
- Consider your topic from a variety of perspectives.

Style

The clarity and power of your language is essential to making your essay convincing.

- Organize your essay with an introduction, a conclusion, and well-structured body paragraphs.
- Use powerful language that expresses your ideas coherently, precisely, and persuasively.
- Ensure that your essay is free of errors in spelling, punctuation, syntax, and grammar.

This year, the World Affairs Council hosts the 8th annual World Citizen Essay Contest for Washington State students in second through twelfth grades. The goal of the World Citizen Essay Contest is to promote discussion among students, teachers, families, and community members about the ways that individuals can effect positive change in the global community. This coincides with the World Affairs Council's mission to promote dialogue and debate about international issues of critical importance to our region and world.

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