



Dharma Inc. International

NINTH! Annual Creative Writing Contest

ENTRANT TITLE PAGE

Please Attach This Page to the Front of Your Essay

Entrant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____

E-mail (optional): _____

Qualifying Age Category:

Age (select ONE)

Topic

Ten and Under
(200 – 300 words)

“A Day of Virtual School”

Let us know what happens during a day of distance learning and how you feel about it.

Eleven to Fourteen
(350-550 words)

“My Family's Most Important Tradition”

Family traditions can be as simple as a yearly trip. It can also be a custom related to your family, your country or your beliefs. Share your most significant or memorable one and why it is so.

Fifteen to Eighteen
(700-900 words)

“Is School Overrated?”

In 1960, UNESCO CADE or "The UNESCO Convention Against Discrimination in Education" was passed to entitle every child in the world the right to free education. But does school cover it all? Write about what school might prepare or not prepare people for.

Over Eighteen
(850-1,100 words)

“The One Trait One Cannot Afford to Lose”

The world is filled with codes of living. We use some of them as a guide to life and call them values. Some traits are more valuable than others. Identify the one trait one cannot afford to lose.

Number of Pages in your Essay: _____ Number of Words in your Essay: _____



NINTH Annual Creative Writing Contest

GENERAL RULES

- Entrants must write on the official topic.
- Entry should be composed in standard English.
- Entrants may use a dialect, Hindi or any cultural words, phrases or expressions as enhancements.
- **Each entrant should complete one's title page (containing):**
 - The title of your entry**
 - Entrant's name, address, phone number and date of birth**
 - Number of words in entry**
 - Total number of pages of entry**
- **NOTE: *This information should be present only on the title page, not every page.***
- Entry should contain at least the minimum required word count and should not exceed the maximum. Verbiage exceeding the maximum word count may not be judged.
- **Each page of the entry should be numbered, starting with the first page of your essay (not the title page) and should be numbered at the bottom right of each page.**
- Please BIND/staple/collate your entry: it's in your best interest to do so.
- **PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ON YOUR PAGES** – Just number them.

CONTEST REGULATIONS

Essays should comply with the following regulations before submission:

- No literary form other than the one specified for your category will qualify for judging.
- Entries should reflect the entrant's own research and/or writing (no plagiarism).
- **Essays are considered "point of view" which means there is no "correct" or "wrong" answer. Do not be afraid to express yourself, to agree, disagree, or take a side in your essays. Freely and fearlessly express yourself 😊**
- Pictures or illustrations may accompany writing and may be considered at Judges' discretion.
- Entrants may write in, or above their age category - but not below.
- Entries must be typed or hand-written and **lines should be double-spaced.**
- **YOUTH CATEGORIES: Parental assistance must not be to the extent that it constitutes an unfair advantage to the entrant. ALL Entrants must sufficiently demonstrate that they have composed their entries in order to qualify for placement.**

ALL ENTRANTS should ensure:

- You are competing in only one (1) category.
- **You have attached a completed title page with your submission.**

- Your submission title, but not your name, appears at the top of each page of your submission
- You submit your entry by **email, upload or hard copy**.
- If you are submitting by email, please email: info@Dharmainc.net
- If you are uploading, please visit: www.dharmainc.net/essay/submit.htm
- If submitting hard copies, please ensure:
 You submit **THREE (3) hard copies** of your essay to: *(only if mailing)*
 Dharma Inc. International
 3858 Shoreview Drive,
 Kissimmee, FL 34744
-- or -- You have **hand delivered THREE (3) hard copies** to a member of the Education Committee, a member of the board or Our Spiritual Leader.
- Your submission is received or postmarked **on or before Sunday, August 2nd, 2020.**

JUDGING

- Judging will be by a panel of three.
- **To guarantee fairness, no identifiable information about the entrant will be available to the Judges.**
- Judging shall be on three areas: **grammar, presentation and content**. These three categories will be allotted points of 20, 25 and 55 respectively, for a total possible score of 100 points from each judge.
- The entrant with the highest cumulative score will be declared the winner.
- Second and third places will be awarded for second and third highest cumulative scores respectively.

~~~ RUBRIC ~~~

Use this guide to assist in understanding requirements and obtaining maximum points

Grammar: Maximum 20 points

How well the essay conforms to rules and standards of English grammar, punctuation and spelling. Appropriate language style (story, poetry or essay) for your entry type.

Presentation: Maximum 25 points

The overall presentation of the essay, writing style, double spacing, writing structure, logical flow and the progression of ideas, references, whether conclusions follow sequentially and logically from arguments. **SPECIFICALLY ANSWERING THE QUESTION of the topic.**

Content: Maximum 55 points

ESSAYS:

- Age appropriate knowledge.
- Evidence of independent ideas, experiences, creativity, analysis and a thesis, if applicable.
- Must contain an opinion and/or point(s) of view.
- Stay in the **FIRST PERSON** point of view (make yourself the narrator).
- *(continued on next page)*

- Pay particular attention to support your point of view with words and phrases such as (but not limited to): ‘because’, ‘as a result of’, ‘if’ and ‘then’, ‘therefore’, ‘in light of’, ‘it is evident’, ‘I submit that...’, ‘in conclusion’
- If using references or statistics: Please cite sources (book, journal or webpage) in standard reference formats, i.e. footnotes or endnotes.

AWARDS SCHEDULE

In the NINTH edition, awards will be offered as follows:

Category	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	ALL Entrants
Under 10:	First Place Plaque	Trophy	Trophy	Certificate of participation
11-14 Yrs.:	First Place Plaque & \$50	Plaque & \$50	Trophy	Certificate of participation
15-18 Yrs.:	\$250 Grant	\$150 Grant	Trophy	Certificate of participation
19 & Older:	\$500 Grant	\$250 Grant	Trophy	Certificate of participation
Bonus:	Spiritual Leader’s Choice Award (Trophy)			

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- All prizes should be claimed in person on the appointed date and time. If it is not possible to do so and you desire a representative to claim on your behalf this arrangement must be made, beforehand, with Dharma Inc.’s consent.
- Winning entries may be read on the appointed date and time.
- Dharma Inc. may publish selected entries on its media portals, with credit to entrants.
- Prizes should be claimed within 180 days of announcement of winners on **09/06/2020**.
- **Judges’ decision is final.**
- **GOOD LUCK!** 😊