



Writing Events

JUDGE'S BALLOT

___ CREATIVE WRITING

___ READY WRITING

___ EDITORIAL WRITING

INSTRUCTIONS

Each judge should use a copy of this form to rank each contestant's entry. Refer to the *Constitution and Contest Rules* or *Evaluation Sheet* for the criteria used to evaluate each contest.

SITE _____

DATE _____

GRADE 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

CONTESTANT

JUDGE

NUMBER/CODE

TITLE OF COMPOSITION

RANK

PLACE WINNER*

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* PLACE WINNER indicates the final ranking (first through sixth place) of the contestants if several judges evaluate the papers.

Judge's signature _____



Ready Writing

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND JUNIOR HIGH EVALUATION SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read from the *Constitution and Contest Rules* or the *A+ Handbook* the instructions for evaluating the ready writing essays. Judges should read the paragraph prompts that are given to the contestants. The compositions are to be evaluated as to relative excellence in interest (50%), organization (35%) and correctness of style (15%). While judges are to consider all three elements in selecting the most effective compositions, they should weigh interest more than organization and organization more than correctness of style.

CONTESTANT NUMBER _____ **TITLE OF COMPOSITION** _____

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS FOR THE CONTESTANT:

AREAS NEEDING IMPROVEMENT:

Judge's signature _____



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

INVITATIONAL

INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

Topic: *New Holiday*

Holidays come with their own traditions, rituals, food, and activities. Think about a new holiday you would like to create. Write an essay explaining this new holiday.

Topic: *Broken Toy*

Imagine you received a toy that was broken. Write a letter to the company who made the toy. Describe what is wrong and how the company can fix the problem. Remember not to include your name or school name in the letter.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

INVITATIONAL

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FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

Topic: *Standing Up*

The author J.K. Rowling once said that, "It takes a great deal of courage to stand up to your enemies, but even more to stand up to your friends." Think about what this quote means, and then write an essay about when you stood up to your friend or friends.

Topic: *Bravery Story*

Begin a story with the words, "Once upon a time." In your story, write about a character whose action demonstrates bravery.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

INVITATIONAL

INSTRUCTIONS

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SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

Topic: *Not Be Forgotten*

Author Isabel Allende once said that people should, "Write what should not be forgotten." Think about books you have read. Write about a book that covered a topic, person, idea, or event that should not be forgotten.

Topic: *Photographic Memory*

Think about what it would be like to have a photographic memory. Write a story about a day in the life of a character who has a photographic memory. You may be as creative as you like.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS

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THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

Topic: *Medicine of Laughter* There is a common saying that, "Laughter is the best medicine." Think about your own life. Write an essay describing when laughter made you or someone you know feel better.

Topic: *Funny Event* Using your imagination, create a story where something funny happens to a character or characters. Write your story being as creative as you would like.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

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FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

Topic: *Money and Happiness?*

There is a saying that money cannot buy happiness. Think about what that saying means. Do you believe that money can or cannot buy happiness? Write an essay persuading your reader about your opinion.

Topic: *Spreading Happiness*

Write a story about a character who decides to make other people feel happy for one week. Make sure to develop your characters and provide details about what this character does.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

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SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

Topic: *New Idea*

Someone once said that, "A person's mind stretched to a new idea never goes back to its original dimensions." Think about a time in your life when you or someone you know was affected and changed in some way by a new idea. Write an essay explaining this event.

Topic: *Something I Learned*

Think about the last couple years of your life. Write an essay about something important you have learned during this period and how that knowledge has affected you.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

SPRING DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS

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THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

Topic: *Best Part of
My Day*

Most likely, you have a similar daily routine. Think about your typical day. Write an essay that describes your favorite part of the day.

Topic: *Chore Giveaway*

Think about a chore you do not like doing. Write a letter to a sibling or a friend persuading that person to do the chore for you. Remember not to include your name or school name in the letter.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

SPRING DISTRICT

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FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

Topic: *Preparation or
Regret*

A famous athlete once said, "it is better to look ahead and prepare, than to look back and regret." Think about what this quote means. Write an essay explaining your thoughts using specific examples to support your ideas.

Topic: *Remote Control*

If you had the ability to use a remote to either pause or rewind your life, what would you choose? Think about this opportunity and write an essay explaining your decision.



2017-18 A+ Ready Writing

SPRING DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS

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SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

Topic: *Fear Versus
Hope*

John F. Kennedy once said, "We should not let our fears hold us back from pursuing our hopes." Think about your own life. Write about a time when you or someone you know let go of a fear to pursue a hope.

Topic: *Letter of Advice*

Imagine you have a friend who is nervous about an upcoming competition. Think about some advice you would offer your friend to help him or her prepare for the competition. Write a letter to your friend offering the advice. Make sure not to include your name or the name of your school.