



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*

* 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 _____



2016-17 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: *Hero in My Life*



A hero is someone who is admired for his or her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities. Think of someone in your life who has these qualities. Write an essay explaining how that person is a hero.

Topic: *Favorite Tradition*

Many people celebrate traditions, such as eating turkey on Thanksgiving. Think about your own traditions. Write a letter to your friend describing your favorite tradition. Do not write your name in the letter.



2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

INVITATIONAL

INSTRUCTIONS

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FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

Topic: *Best Advice*

Think about the best advice you ever received or the best advice you ever gave. Write an essay explaining the advice and how it changed you or someone else's life.

Topic: *Inspiration*

People can be inspired for a variety of reasons. Write a story in which a character is inspired by someone or something.



2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

INVITATIONAL

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SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

Topic: *An Object*

Think about objects you use so frequently you never think about them. Choose one object and write persuasively about its importance describing it as if you are seeing it for the first time.

Topic: *Interest in Details*

The novelist and poet William Morris once said, "The true secret of happiness lies in taking a genuine interest in all the details of daily life." Think about your daily life. Write an essay describing part of your daily life that makes you truly happy.



2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS

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THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

Topic: *Activity I Love*

People love to do many different activities. Think about what you really enjoy doing such as reading, singing, building something, or riding your bike. Write an essay convincing readers to try the activity that you love most.

Topic: *An Achievement*

Throughout your life, you will achieve many things. Think of something you have already achieved and write an essay about your experience.





2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS

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FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

Topic: *Pursuing Dreams*

Walt Disney once said, "All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them." Think what this quote means, and then write an essay about a dream or goal you have. Explain how you plan to accomplish that dream or goal.

Topic: *Indestructible Day*

If you were given one whole day where you were unable to feel pain and were completely indestructible, what would you do for that day? Write a story describing what you decided to do and how your ability affected those around you.



2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS

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SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

Topic: *Not Judging*

Think about the following Native American proverb: Do not judge your neighbor until you walk two moons in his moccasins. Write an essay describing an experience you or someone you know had that relates to the meaning of the proverb.

Topic: *Eradicating an Issue*

If you could eradicate one issue in the world, which issue would you choose? Write a persuasive essay explaining the importance of ending the issue and how you would go about getting rid of it.



2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

SPRING DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS

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THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

Topic: *Castle in the Forest*

Write a story entitled, "My Journey to the Castle in the Forest." Be creative about your story making sure to include interesting details.

Topic: *A New Skill*

There are many skills to learn in life such as playing an instrument or learning a language. Think about a skill you would like to learn. Write an essay explaining the skill and the reasons why you want to learn it.





2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

SPRING DISTRICT

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FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

Topic: *Grocery Adventure*

Imagine you are walking into a grocery store. Write a story about this grocery trip as if you are on a journey to a foreign country. In your story, include as many details as you can about your strange and interesting trip.

Topic: *Cost of Calories*

Imagine that calories found in food cost money. If each calorie cost one cent, a large vanilla shake at Sonic would cost \$11.00 because it has 1,100 calories (instead of the real cost, which is around \$3). In your opinion, do you think charging people based on calories would improve what people ate? Write an essay explaining your opinion.



2016-17 A+ Ready Writing

SPRING DISTRICT

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SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

Topic: *More than a Passenger*

Amelia Earhart once said, "There's more to life than being a passenger." Think about what this quote means. Write a persuasive essay arguing your opinion about the quote's meaning. Make sure to give specific examples to prove your opinion.

Topic: *Refuting an Opinion*

In your lifetime, you have heard various people in authority such as a parent or teacher tell you an opinion. Think about something you have heard that you do not agree with and explain why you do not agree with that opinion.