



(Junior and Intermediate Divisions)

Topics for 2020

Your creative writing piece must relate to the theme *Deep Blue: innovations for the future of our oceans.*

Note: These are the ONLY topics that will be judged.

1. **The deep, deep ocean**
2. **SOS: Save our oceans!**
3. **Oceans of the future**
4. **Uncovering the secrets of the ocean**

✓ *Tick that you have satisfied each of the guidelines and criteria below.*

Entry guidelines

- ☐ Your creative writing must follow one of the above topics. Please indicate the topic on your **Entry Form** and **Face Sheet**.
- ☐ The creative writing must be done as an imaginative story (any genre: eg. detective, horror, drama, biography), in the format of an **essay** or any other style such as **comics, cartoons, graphic novels, diary, letter** and so on.
- ☐ You must incorporate scientific information in your story.
- ☐ A list of at least 5 key science ideas that you used in developing the story (with a brief 2-3 sentence explanation) must be included as an Appendix. The Judges will be looking for scientific content worked into the story.
- ☐ You must include a Bibliography at the end of your entry in which you list all the references (eg. books, journals, websites) you have used or referred to. Specific information from another source, when used, must be cited. See page 23 for methods of citing others' work. Note the guidelines for websites.
- ☐ Acknowledge people who gave you help (if any) and explain what ways they helped.
- ☐ Typed or printed scripts are easier to read, but this is not essential if your handwriting is clear. The Judges will take notice of presentation, so it is important that your entry is neat and looks attractive. Poor presentation will be penalised. Grammar and spelling should be correct.
- ☐ Illustrations may be hand drawn or produced on a computer. Clip Art or downloaded illustrations are not acceptable and may infringe copyright laws.



- ☐ Your writing should be 500 to 1000 words in length. Entries over the word limit will be penalised. A **word count** must be included at the end.
- ☐ Students are advised to keep an electronic copy of their work (scan a copy as back up).

Judging criteria

Your entry will be judged according to the following criteria:

Scientific content including:

- ☐ identification of basic scientific ideas
- ☐ appropriate amount of scientific content
- ☐ accuracy of scientific ideas
- ☐ integration of science ideas into your creative writing
- ☐ 5 key science ideas in Appendix (see STS website for examples).

Expression and Presentation including:

- ☐ grammar and spelling
- ☐ clarity of expression
- ☐ use of own words
- ☐ development of story line
- ☐ originality and creativity.

Format including:

- ☐ interest of introduction
- ☐ variety of resources used
- ☐ creativity of format
- ☐ interest and entertainment in reading the story
- ☐ quality of conclusion
- ☐ length within the maximum word count
- ☐ Bibliography (refer to page 23).

Entries must be electronically submitted:

Project files should be given to your teacher at least a week before the due date.

Online submission portal closes: 19 July 2020

All guidelines should be followed to avoid being disadvantaged during judging.