

Spanish Language Writing Competition 2014

ENTRY GUIDELINES

1. AIM

The aim of this writing competition is to promote students developing their writing skills in a practical way and to encourage and develop a better understanding of the Spanish-speaking world.

2. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- The contest is open to all Victorian Secondary Schools (VCE or IB programs), Primary schools, playgroups (and kindergarten aged children) and Ethnic schools, both public and private.
- The entry level at which a student is eligible to participate is in accordance with the school year she/he is presently in. (see **Divisions** below)

DIVISION A (Playgroup to Year 2): Students may enter with a drawing, painting or a collage with captions in Spanish including one to two sentences. Paintings without captions are not accepted.

DIVISION B (Years 3 to 6): Students may write one of two choices: 1. a poem or 2. an illustrated children's short story. Short stories without any writing are not accepted.

Divisions A and B are inclusive of Primary students in an IB Primary School program

DIVISION C (Years 7-10): Students may write one of three choices: 1. an article, 2. a short story or 3. a poem.

DIVISION D (Years 11-12): Students may write one of three choices: 1. an article, 2. a short story or 3. a poem.

DIVISION E (IB SECONDARY STUDENTS ONLY): Students may write one of three choices: 1. an informal letter, 2. an article or 3. a diary entry.

3. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA, CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES

- a. The closing date for entries is **Monday, August 25th 2014**.
- b. When submitting your entry please ensure that you include a fully completed *Cover Sheet*, **which includes, your exact word count**. The *Cover Sheet* should be filled-in by the author, and then checked and signed by the **author's teacher**.

c. Length of writing pieces:

- **For Division A only:** a drawing, painting or a collage with captions in Spanish from one to two sentences.

➤ **For Division B only:**

- the illustrated story must include between 50 and 100 words in Spanish
- the poem, between 2 to 5 verses in Spanish

➤ **For Division C and D*:**

- the article must include between 300 and 500 words in Spanish
- the short story must contain between 300 and 500 words in Spanish.
- the minimum number of verses for the poem is 100.

*The topics and writing style should be reflected of the level of complexity expected to be mastered in accordance with the Spanish Language skills required to the specific study level, that is, Division C (7-10) and D (11 and 12)

➤ **For Division E only:**

- the informal letter, article and diary entry must include between 250 and 300 words in Spanish.

d. All writing entries must be in Spanish in clear hand-writing or typed. The topic should be relevant to today's reality in the Spanish speaking world. For example:

- The popularity of Latin American music.
- The importance of learning Spanish.
- Life in a Spanish-speaking country.
- The Spanish-speaking communities in Australia.
- Migration from a Spanish-speaking country, etc.

If typed, please include: 12-point sized Arial font at 1.5 spacing. Please, keep a copy of the entry for your own records. Material will not be returned.

e. Pieces of writing **must** conform to the word limit as specified above and include a bibliography, in the case of articles, to be eligible for a prize.

f. Your entry must be received by **Monday, August 25th 2014**. The official results, date and place of award ceremony will be advised to your teacher.

4. JUDGES

The assessing panel will be drawn from prominent Spanish-speaking representatives from varied academic fields and geographical communities.

5. PRIZES

DIVISION A (Playgroup to Year 2) first Prize \$100, second prize \$70 and third prize \$30

DIVISION B (Years 3 to 6) first Prize \$100, second prize \$70 and third prize \$30

DIVISION C (Years 7-10) First Prize \$100, second prize \$70 and third prize \$30

DIVISION D (Years 11-12) first Prize \$100, second prize \$70 and third prize \$30

DIVISION E (IB SECONDARY STUDENTS ONLY) First Prize \$100, second prize \$70 and third prize \$30

SUGGESTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

Division A only: *a drawing, painting or a collage with captions from one to two sentences in Spanish. Drawings without writing are not accepted.*

1. Before starting to do your drawing, painting or collage, make sure that you know what you want to express. If you are not sure, ask your teacher to explain to you how to start.
2. Before you start to write your captions, you should think carefully about the topic or what you want to say in one or two sentences and discuss it with your teacher, if necessary. Your caption must be related to the drawing, painting or collage. **The topic is free but it has to be relevant to the Spanish speaking world and the illustrations should represent the Spanish-speaking world, too.**
3. Remember that your drawing, painting or collage **must be your own. And should be done in the presence of your teacher.**
4. **Please note that your work must conform to the word limit as specified.**

Please note that your teacher must fill-in and attach an official *Cover Sheet* to your story. The *Cover Sheet* must also be checked and signed by your parent/guardian and teacher.

Division B only : *an illustrated children's short story between 50 and 100 words in Spanish. Illustrated story without writing are not accepted.*

1. Before starting to write your story, make sure that you know how to write a story. If you are not sure, ask your teacher to explain to you how a story should be written.
5. Before you start to write your story, you should think carefully about the topic for a while and the characters you are going to use to illustrate the story. **The topic is free but it has to be relevant to the Spanish speaking world and the illustration should represent the Spanish-speaking world.**
6. The next step is to plan your story. Remember that a good story should have an introduction, a body and a conclusion. Write a plan, organising all your ideas so that they are all included and fit together in a logical way. **You must write your story in your own words.** Do not copy things from books, Internet or magazines.
7. **Please note that your story must conform to the word limit as specified.**

Please note that you must fill-in and attach an official *Cover Sheet* to your story. The *Cover Sheet* must also be checked and signed by your parent/guardian and teacher.

A poem between 2 and 5 verses in Spanish

1. Before starting to write your poem, make sure that you know how to write a poem. If you are not sure, ask your teacher to explain to you how a poem should be written.
2. Before you start to write your poem, you should think carefully about the topic. Any kind of topic is accepted as long as it is relevant to the Spanish-speaking world.

3. **You must write your poem in your own words. It must be your original poem.** You can read a lot of poems in Spanish to get ideas but cannot copy them.

4. **Please note that your poem must conform to the length between 2 and 5 verses as specified**

Please note that you must fill-in and attach an official *Cover Sheet* to your poem. The *Cover Sheet* must be checked and signed by your parent/guardian and teacher.

An article: between 300 and 500 words in Spanish

1. Before starting to write your article, make sure that you know how to write one. The article can be informative, persuasive or evaluative. Your article should have ideas and opinions of your own backed up with evidence and research, where appropriate. If you are not sure about how to write an article with the appropriate characteristic in Spanish, ask your teacher of Spanish.

2. Before you start to write your article, you should think carefully about the topic for a while. **The topic should be relevant to today's reality in the Spanish-speaking world.** For example:

- a. The popularity of the Latin American music.
- b. The importance of learning Spanish.
- c. Life in a Spanish-speaking country.
- d. The Spanish-speaking communities in Australia.
- e. Migration from a Spanish-speaking country, etc.

When you think of good points to put in your article, write them down. After a while, you will find that you have collected quite a lot of good ideas for your article.

3. The next step is to plan your article. Remember that a good article should have an introduction, a body and a conclusion. Plan your article, organising all your ideas so that they are all included and fit together in a logical way. Follow your plan while writing your article. **You must write your article in your own words.** Do not copy things from books, Internet or magazines.

4. Please note that if your article includes material from other sources, then you must include a **bibliography**, which is a list of books, articles or other sources you have used in your article. If you do not know how to write a bibliography, ask your teacher. **Please note that your article must conform to the word limit as specified and you must write the exact word number of your article on the cover sheet.**

Please note that you must fill-in and attach an official *Cover Sheet* to your article. The *Cover Sheet* must also be checked and signed by your parent/guardian and teacher.

A story between 300 and 500 words in Spanish.

1. Before starting to write your story, make sure that you know how to write a story. If you are not sure, ask your teacher to explain to you how a story should be written.

2. Before you start to write your story, you should think carefully about the topic for a while. **The topic is free but it has to be relevant to the Spanish speaking-world.** When you think of good points to put in your story, write them down.

3. The next step is to plan your story. Remember that a good story should have an introduction, a body and a conclusion. Write a plan, organising all your ideas so that they are all included and fit

