

Southwest Olympiad Contest Rules

For the English composition contest, participants will be required to write a short, creative and original piece. The topic will be presented to students the day that they arrive for the contest. The story must include a plot line which refers to a descriptive beginning, middle, and end. Scoring will be primarily based on content such as the development of characters, the plot, setting, and creativity, with a minimum length of one page and maximum length of three hand-written pages (front side only). All participants are encouraged to arrive early and well-prepared with paper and pen/pencil. This contest will take place in a classroom setting and will begin promptly at 9:00 am and will end promptly at 10:00 am. There will be three contest winners, one at each categorical/grade level (Elementary, Middle, High School). All grades (4-12) are encouraged to participate for a chance to demonstrate their creative talents!

The English poetry contest will consist of an original free-lance poem based on one of three topics: love, peace/harmony, or nature. This poem **must** be written one of these three topics. The maximum length of the poem will be 2 pages hand-written (one-side). All participants are encouraged to arrive early and well-prepared with paper and pen/pencil. This contest will take place in a classroom setting and will begin promptly at 10:15 am and will end promptly at 11:00 am. These poems will be scored according to a rubric. The judging will include: organization and overall impact, grammar/spelling, and elements of poetry (such as rhyme, alliteration, onomatopoeia, etc.) There will be three contest winners, one at each categorical/grade level (Elementary, Middle, High School). All grades (4-12) are encouraged to participate for a chance to demonstrate their creative talents!