



INDEPENDENT
S C H O O L S
A S S O C I A T I O N

Essay competition 2019

The ISA Essay Competition is the annual opportunity for pupils at ISA Members' schools to allow their writing skills to shine.

Wordsmiths are invited to submit entries for a range of competition prizes aimed at age groups from Year 5 through to sixth form.

For the sixth form competition students can choose to write about any topic or genre.

For the other three age groups there are a range of titles to choose from.

Schools may submit a maximum of one female entry and one male entry for each of the three competition levels (Junior, Intermediate and Senior). Sixth Forms may enter six essays in total.

- Horsey (Junior: yrs 5 & 6)
- Max Gate (Intermediate: yrs 7 & 8)
- Favonius (Senior: yrs 9-11)
- Sixth Form (yrs 12-13)

Except for Sixth Form, submissions must be written in the candidate's own handwriting, unless there are special medical or other circumstances (about which brief details must be given on the entry form).

Entries should be unaided work, written under supervision at school; signed by the relevant teacher. From the entries, adjudicators will choose a winning boy and girl, and a second place boy and girl.

To enter the competition, complete the entry form directly on our website.

Deadline Thursday 28 March 2019

This competition is only open to Members' Schools.

www.isaschools.org.uk

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Horseley Junior Essay prize 2019

Entries are now open for the 2019 ISA Horseley Junior Essay Prize. Candidates should submit an original piece of writing in response to one of the following titles:

- 1 Imaginative**
"As the north east winds, like knives pierce us.
I lie, beyond the fractured fence, alone"
Write an imaginative account of being homeless.
- 2 Poetry**
"In cavalry charges, we'd drink
full-blooded measures, claret rich."
2019 was a special year in commemorating our dead. It marks a hundred years since the end of world war one. Write a short poem in either rhyme or free verse, no longer than 14 lines
- 3 Science fiction**
Write a story with the title "the portal."
- 4 Description**
"Hands now age-wrinkle like brittle leaves,
webbed by russet veins that twist arms"
Choose an autumn scene and recreate using vivid descriptive techniques.
- 5 Persuasion**
Write a letter to your year group at school, persuading them to support a charity of your choice. For example, Children in need, Shelter or Comic relief are possible themes or a local hospice.
- 6 Autobiography**
"A pet is not just for Christmas, but for life"
Describe how a pet has enriched your life.

Schools may submit a maximum of one female entry and one male entry for each of the three competition levels (Junior, Intermediate and Senior). For the Horseley Junior Competition, candidates will turn/have turned 10 or 11 years old in the 2018–19 academic year (equivalent to Years 5 and 6).

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Max Gate Essay prize 2019

Entries are now open for the 2019 Max Gate Intermediate Essay Prize. Candidates should submit an original piece of writing in response to one of the following titles:

1. The Dog Who Learnt to Speak
2. Saving the Planet
3. Winter Blues
4. The Celebration
5. If you could add a new subject to your school curriculum, what would it be?
6. The Road Less Travelled
7. My Favourite Piece of Music
8. Danger! Keep away!
9. The Person I Should Most Like to Meet

Schools may submit a maximum of one female entry and one male entry for each of the three competition levels (Junior, Intermediate and Senior). For the Max Gate Intermediate Prize, candidates will turn/have turned 12 or 13 years old in the 2018–19 academic year (equivalent to Years 7 and 8).

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Favonius Senior Essay prize 2019

Entries are now open for the 2018 ISA Favonius Senior Essay Prize. An original piece of writing (500–800 words, prose, poetry or drama) is required and candidates may use the first or third person, past or present tense. Candidates must choose one of the following titles:

1. Bad Habits
2. Today Never Happened
3. The Boy Who Ran
4. Playing With Fire
5. Dangerous Undercurrents
6. The Empty Sky
7. Yesterday
8. The Last Time I Saw You

Schools may submit a maximum of one female entry and one male entry for each of the three competition levels (Junior, Intermediate and Senior). For the Favonius Senior Essay Prize, candidates will turn/have turned 14, 15 or 16 years old in the 2018–19 academic year (equivalent to Years 9–11).

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Sixth Form Essay prize 2019

Entries are now open for the 2018 ISA Sixth Form Essay Prize. An original piece of writing (1,000 words strict maximum limit) is required on any topic and in any genre. Submissions will be judged in the following categories:

- 1 English and Linguistics
- 2 Science, IT and Technology
- 3 Arts and Humanities subjects, including Languages (Please note essays must be in English).

Schools may submit a maximum of six entries for this competition. For the Sixth Form Essay Prize candidates will turn/have turned 17, 18 or 19 years old in the 2018-19 academic year (being in sixth form) and must be still in full-time education at an ISA Member's School at the time of entering.

Submissions can be pieces of work that have already been completed in the course of sixth form studies, However, they must be within the 1,000 words strict limit. They should be completed under supervision at school. They should not have been heavily edited/re-drafted following teacher comments or feedback.

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