

HAWAII FFA ESSAY CONTEST RULES AND RUBRIC (2/12/16)

Background

This is an inaugural Hawaii FFA CDE that is being conducted on a trial basis. The purpose of this contest is to provide students who **ARE NOT** entering other State FFA CDEs with an additional opportunity to participate in a state CDE. (Students in Educational Display and Commodity Exhibit are allowed.)

Eligibility

1. Two contestants may enter from each chapter. They must be dues-paying members and from chapters that paid the buy-back fee for the conference.
2. Chapter advisors may select and submit the names of up to two participants prior to the state convention. The students must have basic knowledge of essay organization, spelling, and grammar. Since the essays will be handwritten, the students must have legible penmanship. (Chapters may opt out of participating.)
3. **Current state officers and students competing in other CDE's are not eligible (except for students in Educational Display and Commodity Exhibit).**

Rules

1. All contestants will start and end at the same time and will be provided with the same essay topic.
2. The essays will be hand written on lined paper provided by the Hawaii FFA.
3. Contestants must bring their own sharpened "Number 2" pencils with erasers (at least two) or a mechanical pencil (with eraser). None will be provided.
4. No electronic devices will be allowed in the writing room.
5. Contestants will be allowed a total of 45 minutes to write an essay of no more than 300 words.

Judging

1. Essays will be judged by a minimum of two judges selected by the State Advisor and/or Executive Secretary
2. First, Second, and Third place awards will be made. In the event of a tie, students may be called in to answer questions about their essay.
3. The maximum possible score is 40 points and the decisions of the judges will be final.
4. The following rubric (based on the FFA Prepared Public Speaking CDE) will be used for judging:

Indicator	5 to 4	3 to 2	1 to 0	Points	x Weight =	Total Points
Organization: Logical order and unity of thought	Clearly organized and concise by remaining on target; completely focused with obvious construction and <u>strong introduction, body and conclusion layout.</u>	Good organization with few statements out of place (or lacking in clear construction).	Little to no organization is present; sometimes awkward and lacking construction.		x 4 =	
Grammatical Accuracy: Spelling/grammar (sentence structure, sub-verb agreement, etc.)	Spelling and grammar are extremely high quality with 2 or less errors in the document.	Spelling and grammar are adequate with 3 - 5 errors in the document.	Spelling and grammar with 6 or more errors in the document.		x 4 =	

PLACEMENT SHEET

Place	Name	Chapter	District
First			
Second			
Third			

Contest Chairperson Name
