

ACT-SO GUIDELINES

ORIGINAL ESSAY

1. Only **one (1) essay**, with **six (6) copies**, should be submitted.
2. Essay must be **typed, double spaced**, and **must not exceed twelve (12) pages**. **Bibliography and footnotes** must be included in an **appendix** to the essay.
3. Contestant's **name and borough** must appear at the top of each page.
4. Essay must be an **original work** of the contestant and must be non-fiction. Fictional short stories will no be judged.
5. Essay must be accompanied by a **notarized statement** confirming originality and identify the author.
6. Contestants must be prepared to **answer judges' question if necessary**.

JUDGING CRITERIA

<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge of Research Process	10 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Source Materials	10 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> Degree of Difficulty, Imaginative	10 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation, Clarity of Conclusion	10 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> General Merits (Ideas, Organization, Wording, Flavor)	20 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanics (Usage, Spelling, Punctuation/Capitalization)	20 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> Overall Effect	20 Points
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	100 Total