



SECME National Score Sheet Essay Competition

Name (or Student Code)	Categories <input type="checkbox"/> Non – Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Science – Fiction
Grade <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th	Topics <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Citizenship <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific Method <input type="checkbox"/> STEM Role Model <input type="checkbox"/> Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Earth and Space Science
Title of Essay	
School Name	
School District	

Section 1: Organization – 30%

Points Earned	Possible Points	Criteria	Judge’s Remarks/Feedback
	5	Cover Page: Does the student’s cover page have the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The SECME Student’s Name and Grade 2. Competition Type 3. School Division 4. The SECME Student Chosen Topic 5. Official School Name 6. Official School District Name 7. School City and State 8. SECME Coordinator’s Name and Email 	
	15	References Page: Student includes a reference page listing all sources used to support the chosen topic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books/Magazines/Newspapers: Provide the title of the reference and author’s last and first name. • Websites: Provide the website link. 	
	10	Grammar, spelling, and formatting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the student’s writing free of spelling errors, punctuation errors, and sentence errors (e.g., misplaced sentence parts, subject/verb agreement issues, sentence fragments, run-ons)? • Is the essay double-spaced with 1-inch margins and written in a 12-point font? • Does the essay include an introduction, well-structured body paragraphs, and a conclusion? 	



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Section 2: Essay – 70%			
	10	Adherence to Topic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the student’s writing address the chosen topic effectively? Does the student’s writing maintain focus and relevance throughout the essay? 	
	15	Originality and Coherence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the student’s writing present an original perspective? Is the essay age-appropriate, logical, and cohesive? Does the student maintain a strong and convincing voice? Does the student maintain a well-organized and logically structured essay with appropriate transitions? 	
	10	Creativity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the student’s writing show creativity and imagination? 	
	30	Analysis and Use of Evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the student demonstrate a deep understanding of their chosen essay topic? Does the student utilize credible sources effectively to support arguments made in their essay? Does the student ensure ideas are fully developed and well-supported by the sources in their References page? Does the student integrate sources into their essay content in a way that enhances their argument? Does the student ensure that the evidence from their sources is relevant, accurate, and convincing? 	
	5	Word Count: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the student’s essay meet the required word count of 350 – 500 words? 	

Judge’s Name: _____

Overall Feedback:

Section 1 Points	/30
Section 2 Points	/70
Total Points	/100