



ODACS RULES

Senior High, LEVEL III, GRADES 9-12

AREA FIVE: ACADEMICS

GENERAL RULES

A student may enter a total of two Academic categories. However, he may enter only one category from Division 3 and one category from Division 4. (He may not enter both composition categories or both science fair categories.) Example: He may take two academic tests; or he may take one academic test and enter a science fair project; or he may enter one writing category and one science fair project.

Division 3: Composition

GENERAL RULES

1. A student may enter a total of two Academic categories. However, he may enter only one category from Division 3 and one category from Division 4. (He may not enter both composition categories or both science fair categories.) Example: He may take two academic tests; or he may take one academic test and enter a science fair project; or he may enter one writing category and one science fair project.
2. Creative Writing students must supply the appropriate judging form (p. 190 or 192 of this manual) with the top portion completed (name, school, etc.).

Category 18: Expository Writing: Essay

1. The writing period cannot exceed two hours in length.
2. The prompt (topic) will not be announced until the beginning of the contest period.
3. Previously written essays will not be acceptable.
4. The student may create and refine his entry within the limits of the allotted contest period, but the work must be strictly his own.
5. An essay will be defined as a written expression of the author's opinion:
 - a. Stated in a thesis in the first paragraph.
 - b. Supported and proven in three to four paragraphs in the body, each introduced by topic sentences that relate directly to the topic but each providing a different argument or fact.
 - c. Concluded with a summarizing paragraph which restates the thesis.
6. The essay is not to exceed 1,000 words.
7. Essays may not make use of either first person or second person. Essays written in either first person or second person will be disqualified. However, essays that contain occasional or infrequent first or second person pronouns will receive a point deduction. Points or a fraction of a point will be deducted which will prevent an otherwise first-place winner from placing first, a second-place winner from placing second, or a third-place winner from placing third.
8. Essays for ODACS Competition will be *type-written (Level III requirement only)*.
9. *The student will include the following Statement of Originality on the entry itself: "I certify that this writing project is my own original and authentic work and that I received no help in completing the project other than general instruction and supervision." The student will then sign this statement. Failure to include this signed statement may result in disqualification.*
10. No reference materials, except for a dictionary provided by the proctor, will be permissible.
11. Paper will be provided by the proctor.
12. Creative Writing and Expository Writing entries will be written at school for both Regional and State Competitions and brought to the competition site to expedite the schedule. See appendix page 146 for procedures.
13. Each entry will be judged according to the criteria on the Creative Writing: Poetry judging form, page 192 of this manual. The student must provide three judging forms for Regional Competition and five judging forms for State Competition.



14. Contestants who advance to the AACS National Competition will compose their entries prior to the competition. See rules and procedures in the 2020 AACS National Competition Manual.