

2011-12 Scholastic Writing Award Categories & Guidelines

<http://www.artandwriting.org>

Instructions for all writing categories:

- **Font:** Times New Roman or Arial at 12 pt.
- **Titles:** Titles at the top of the first page only. Do not use a separate title page. Poems should be titled individually.
- **No Name:** The student's name should NOT appear anywhere on the manuscript.
- **No Images:** No illustrations, photographs or graphics.
- **Sources:** Sources must be cited. Footnotes/works cited are not considered part of the word count.

WRITING CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS	LENGTH LIMITS	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
<p>DRAMATIC SCRIPT</p> <p>Writing that uses dialogue, action and stage direction to tell a story, including scripts for television, film, or stage.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 12: Maximum 30 pages</p>	<p>Excerpts can be submitted.</p>
<p>FLASH FICTION (formerly Short Short Story)</p> <p>A highly focused story characterized by its brevity. A short form of storytelling.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 12: Maximum 1,300 words</p>	<p>Please note word length for Short Story compared to Flash Fiction. Stories in which humor or science fiction/fantasy are key elements should be submitted in those respective categories.</p>
<p>HUMOR</p> <p>Writing that uses satire, parody or humorous anecdote.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 12: 600 – 3,000 words</p>	<p>Work in any genre in which humor is the key element should be submitted in this category.</p>
<p>JOURNALISM</p> <p>Writing that informs and educates the general public about newsworthy topics or current events. Works of journalism are intended for publication in newspapers, magazines or online media, and are characterized by a presentation of facts or description of events.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 8: 400 – 2,000 words</p> <p>Grades 9 – 12: 500 – 3,000 words</p>	<p>This category includes nonfiction work only. Fictional essays should be submitted in the Short Story or Flash Fiction categories.</p>

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<p>PERSONAL ESSAY/MEMOIR</p> <p>A self-revelatory work dealing with individual experience.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 8: 500 – 3,000 words</p> <p>Grades 9 – 12: 750 – 3,000 words</p>	<p>This category includes nonfiction work only. Fictional essays should be submitted in the Short Story or Flash Fiction categories.</p>
<p>PERSUASIVE WRITING</p> <p>Writing that makes an argument to support a particular point of view or position. The writer presents a clear stand or opinion, and then provides facts and data to support it. Examples of persuasive writing include: editorials, position papers, essays prepared for debate or speech.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 8: 400 – 2,000 words</p> <p>Grades 9 – 12: 500 – 3,000 words</p>	<p>Sources must be cited. Footnotes/works cited are not considered part of the word count.</p>
<p>POETRY</p> <p>Writing in verse. May include prose poetry, free verse, structured poetry (sonnets, sestinas, tankas, cinquians, villanelles, etc.), song lyrics, and spoken word.</p>	<p>Grades 7 - 8: 20 – 100 lines</p> <p>Grades 9 – 12: 30 – 200 lines</p>	<p>Each submission consists of 2 – 5 poems to be considered as a collection. Each collection of 2 – 5 poems counts as one submission. Students may submit more than one collection, but must register each as a separate work.</p>
<p>SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY</p> <p>Writing that uses supernatural elements or invented technologies.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 12: 600 – 3,000 words</p>	<p>Work in any genre in which science fiction/fantasy is the key element should be submitted in this category.</p> <p>Do not base characters or plots on already published works (books, movies, comics, etc.).</p>

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<p>SHORT STORY</p> <p>A tightly crafted fictional narrative.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 12: 1,300 – 3,000 words</p>	<p>Please note word length limits for Short Story compared to Flash Fiction. Short Stories in which humor or science fiction/fantasy are key elements should be submitted in those respective categories.</p>
<p>WRITING PORTFOLIO (FOR GRADUATING SENIORS)</p> <p>A body of the student's best four to eight works that demonstrates a high level of originality, technical skill and personal voice. The portfolio can include writing from any category.</p>	<p>Grade 12 ONLY: Maximum 12,500 words (not including the table of contents or writer's statement)</p>	<p>Portfolio must include a table of contents and a writer's statement. Seniors may resubmit works that may or may not have won in previous Scholastic Awards as part of their Portfolio.</p> <p>Works may be in any genre of writing.</p>

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CATEGORIES FOR NATIONAL JUDGING

Video Games is a National Category and judged only in New York. The deadline is January 9, 2012. Video games are not judged at the regional level. Please register online, upload work, and mail submission forms and fees to the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers in New York. DO NOT send submission forms and fees to your Regional Affiliate.

NOVEL WRITING	LENGTH LIMITS	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
<p>A novel is an extended, fictitious work of prose. In collaboration with Scholastic's PUSH imprint, one national-level Novel Gold Medalist will work with a professional editor to complete his/her manuscript, with the possibility of publication.</p>	<p>Grades 7 – 12: Submit the first 50 pages of your manuscript (not including outline).</p>	<p>Please note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submissions must be uploaded online AND printed and mailed to the address below, along with the fee and submission form.• Include an outline, up to two pages, for the entire book, which is not counted in the page requirement.• Work must be double-spaced in 12-point font with one-inch margins.• The title of the work should appear at the top of the first page only. Do not use a separate title page.• The student's name and school must NOT appear anywhere on the manuscript itself.• Adaptation of or sequels to already existing published series are not accepted.• Due to the large volume of submissions, we're unable to give feedback on manuscripts. <p>DEADLINE: POSTMARKED by February 17, 2012 and sent directly to:</p> <p>Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Attn: Novel Submission 557 Broadway New York, NY 10012</p> <p>Email info@artandwriting.org with subject line: Novel Writing if you have questions.</p>