



ENGLISH WRITING COMPETITION 2018



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION
discovering voices



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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Hello and welcome to the 2018 ESU Chile National English Writing Competition.

By taking part in this competition you'll be one of more than five hundred young learners who are looking to improve their communication and writing skills. Join the challenge!

The next few pages will show you how you can take part in this competition.



In summary, the competition is divided into three categories, based on the age of the participants: **Junior, Senior and Independent.**

Depending on their category, participants must:

- Junior Category: Submit an **email of between 250 and 350 words** written in English on one of the topics provided below.
- Senior Category: Submit an **argumentative essay of between 650 and 800 words** written in English on one of the topics provided below.
- Independent Category: Submit an **argumentative essay of between 650 and 800 words** written in English on one of the topics provided below.

Please read the guidelines that are provided below carefully in order to complete the task successfully. Participating schools may select up to three entries per category.

Ten finalists will be selected for each category based on the quality of their written work. These finalists will then be invited to take part in an individual creative writing session at Santiago's Natural History Museum. The nature of the writing tasks for the final will be announced at the start of the session.



JUNIOR CATEGORY

ELIGIBILITY

- Participantes must be students in **7th to 9th grade** at ESU Chile member schools.
- Participants must reside in Chile and cannot be native English speakers.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Submissions must be made by a teacher at an ESU Chile member school.

Teachers must:

- Complete and submit the online form found [here](#).
- **Upload** the entries to the aforementioned form or send them via email to writing@esu.cl

The entry form must be completed and entries submitted before midnight on August 5th, 2018.

Each school can submit a maximum of **three entries per category**. Therefore, if entering both the Junior and Senior categories, each school may submit a total of **six entries**.



STRUCTURE AND RULES OF THE COMPETITION

First Stage

Participants must write an **email of between 250 and 350 words** (hereinafter referred to as the *Email*) in English on one of the topics below:

1. Write an email to the headmaster/headmistress of your school asking them to change the school's extracurricular activities. Explain why this would be an improvement (do not use the real name of your headmaster/headmistress).
2. Write an email to a film star or famous celebrity, asking them to endorse the use of public transport in your country. Give your reasons.
3. Write an email to a government official proposing a law that would provide high quality, free internet to rural places. Explain how it would help.
4. Write an email to a teacher explaining why you think that more English would be beneficial (or not beneficial) to your school education.

Format of the Essay

Students should NOT use their real names when signing the email, nor the real name of their headmaster/headmistress or of any government official. They must also not mention the name of their school or city, or any other identifying feature, in their email.

The Email should have a subject line, as well as a greeting at the beginning and a closing at the end. Make sure that school or government officials are addressed appropriately.

The subject line should appear on the first page of the document.

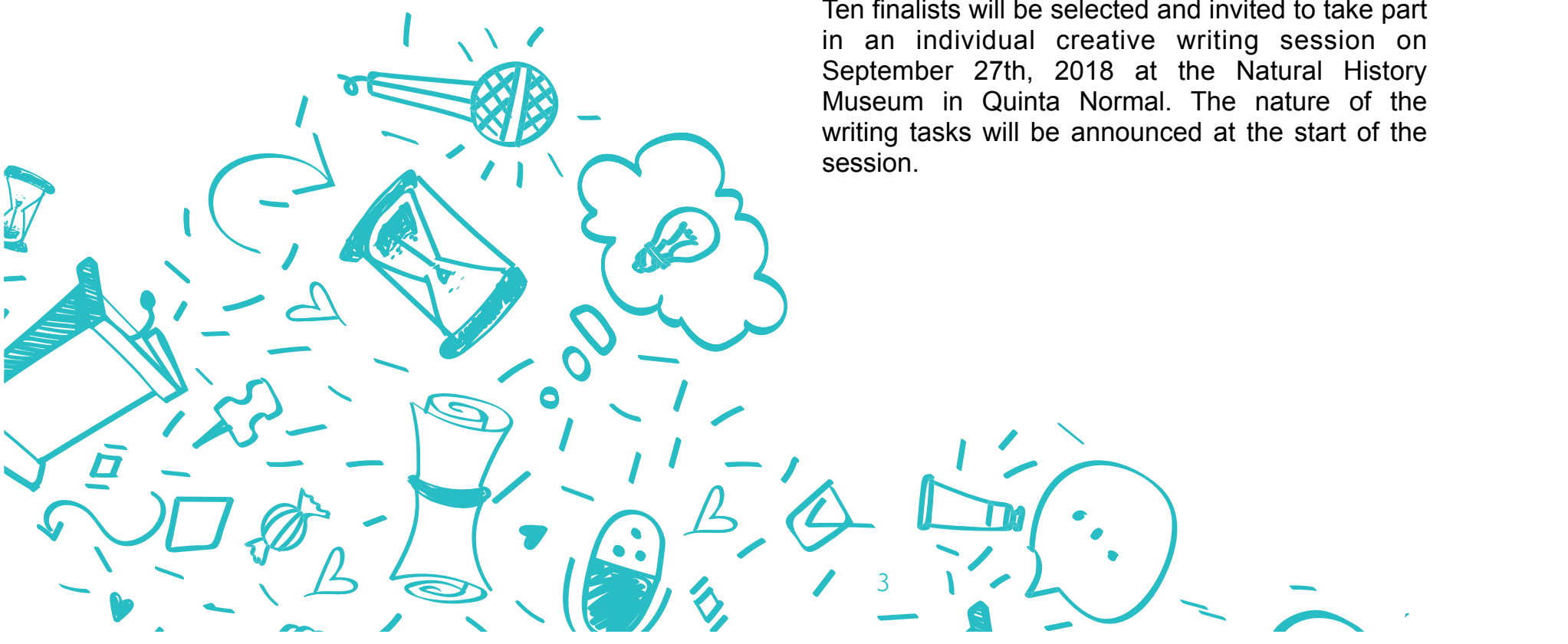
The email should be uploaded as a Word file through the online entry form, or sent as an attachment to writing@esu.cl. The document should be double spaced and written in Arial, size 12 font.

The name of the participant should be provided when completing the entry form **but should not be included in the attachment.** No personal information should be included in any part of the Email written by the student.

Schools may submit up to three entries.

Second Stage

Ten finalists will be selected and invited to take part in an individual creative writing session on September 27th, 2018 at the Natural History Museum in Quinta Normal. The nature of the writing tasks will be announced at the start of the session.



JUDGES

The judges will only have access to the Emails themselves and will not know the participants' names or which school they are from. The judges' decision is final. The judges are appointed and trained by the English-Speaking Union Chile.

Judging Criteria

- a) The judges will assess the essays based on the following criteria:
 - i) Use of language
 - ii) Analysis of the chosen argument
 - iii) Presentation and structure

The best emails will be those that manage to convince the judges of the author's point of view.

PRIZES

1st prize:

A tablet.

This and other prizes will be awarded at a special ceremony held at the Recoleta Domínica Museum in November 2018 (date to be confirmed) with the attendance of the British Ambassador, during which the winning stories will be read out loud.

SPONSORS

The competition is organised by ESU Chile and sponsored by the Instituto Chileno Británico de Cultura, with special help from The Scarborough International School of English, Santiago's Natural History Museum and the Recoleta Domínica Museum.



JUDGES

The judges will only have access to the essays themselves and will not know the participants' names or which school they are from. The judges' decision is final. The judges are appointed and trained by the English-Speaking Union Chile.

Judging Criteria

- a) The judges will assess the essays based on the following criteria:
 - i) Use of language
 - ii) Analysis of the chosen argument
 - iii) Presentation and structure

This is an Argumentative Essay and the best essays will be those which manage to convince the judges with their arguments. A document explaining how to write an argumentative essay is available upon request.

PRIZES

1st prize:

A return ticket to England and a two-week stay and two-week English Course at The Scarborough International School of English.

The winner of the Senior Category must use his/her ticket within 90 days of being announced as the winner.

This and other prizes will be awarded at a special ceremony held at the Recoleta Domínica Museum in November 2018 (date to be confirmed) with the attendance of the British Ambassador, during which the winning stories will be read out loud.

SPONSORS

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INDEPENDENT CATEGORY

ELIGIBILITY

- Participantes must have left school and be aged between **18 and 25**.
- Participants must reside in Chile and cannot be native English speakers.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Participants must:

- Complete and submit the online form found [here](#).
- **Uploaded the entry to the aforementioned form** or send it via email to writing@esu.cl.

The entry form must be completed and the essay submitted before midnight on August 5th, 2018.



THE NATIONAL ENGLISH WRITING COMPETITION 2018

Independent Category

STRUCTURE AND RULES OF THE COMPETITION

First Stage

Participants must write an argumentative essay of between 650 and 800 words on one of the following themes:

1. Chile has been declared number one country for adventure travel by Lonely Planet and number 3 by Forbes magazine, while other travel websites agree that our country is and will continue to be a magnet for new generations of tourists worldwide. Analyze the implications of such significant popularity for the country.
2. Many people believe that Artificial Intelligence will bring about great progress; others believe that AI will bring only unemployment. Discuss the impact of AI on the world of work. Explore its pros and cons.
3. Many people in our country believe that the time for keeping war trophies is over and that Chile has to return the Huáscar to Perú; others feel that keeping a war trophy has a value. Analyze both options and use supportive evidence to illustrate your choice.
4. Social media is jeopardizing the quality of human communication. Discuss the pros and cons. Use specific reasons and details to support your views.
5. The combustion engine is obsolete. Explore the positive and negative implications of such a change in technology.

Essay Themes and Titles

The essay themes are not titles. Each participant should create his/her own title related to one of the themes. This title should appear on every page of the essay. The essay must be original and the participant's own work. Nothing should be copied from existing sources, unless these are attributed to the original author.

Format of the Essay

The essay should be uploaded as a Word file through the online entry form, or sent as an attachment to writing@esu.cl. The document should be double spaced and written in Arial, size 12 font.

It should be noted that **no personal information should appear in the essay**, and should only be provided as requested in the online entry form.

The entry form must be completed and essays submitted before midnight on August 5th, 2018.

Second Stage

Ten finalists will be selected and invited to take part in an individual creative writing session on September 27th, 2018 at the Natural History Museum in Quinta Normal. The nature of the writing tasks will be announced at the start of the session.



JUDGES

The judges will only have access to the essays themselves and will not know the participants' names or affiliation. The judges' decision is final. The judges are appointed and trained by the English-Speaking Union Chile.

Judging Criteria

- a) The judges will assess the essays based on the following criteria:
 - i) Use of language
 - ii) Analysis of the chosen argument
 - iii) Presentation and structure

This is an Argumentative Essay and the best essays will be those which manage to convince the judges with their arguments. A document explaining how to write an argumentative essay is available upon request.

PRIZES

1st prize:

A laptop computer.

This and other prizes will be awarded at a special ceremony held at the Recoleta Domínica Museum in November 2018 (date to be confirmed) with the attendance of the British Ambassador, during which the winning stories will be read out loud.

SPONSORS

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