

Writing - Creative

Category Requirements – 30%

Creative Writing (10 pages) - 25%

Employ novel or dramatic ways of presenting scientifically accurate information.

Display content and details through creative (writer's) voice.

For example, provide an accurate explanation and or exploration of a biological or scientific process from an alternative/non-traditional viewpoint.

The paper should include enough science to move the story forward, and show a high level of knowledge about scientific issues.

Writing Style – 5%

Use language effectively by exhibiting word choices that are engaging and appropriate for the intended (lay) audience and purpose.

Use a convincing and descriptive writer's voice (phraseology).

Engage the reader by presenting information in creative and inviting ways.

Include sentences of varied length and structure.

Provide paragraph and section transitions that clearly serve to connect ideas.

Demonstrate originality of thought.

Allow the reader to sense the person behind the words.

Science Content – 20%

Science Content Understanding – 20%

Although this category encourages your creativity, your science must be accurate! Demonstrate a mastery of relevant scientific ideas by explaining difficult concepts in terms a layperson could understand. The work should provide an appropriate combination of explanations, examples, and details that are specific, clear, and relevant to the topic. Be effective in developing the central idea and providing explicit and expressive reasoning. The content of your work should reflect critical thinking about the topic.

Use of Resources and General Written Requirements – 20%

Effort in Use of Resources– 10%

Include 1-2 typed pages describing the resource(s) you put the most effort into using. More weight is given in judging to those students who put more effort into locating and using available resources. A good use of resources may include working with an advisor or mentor, making arrangements to tour a company, interviewing an adult in your field, or other sources. What did you learn? How did this resource help you? An interview with an adult in the field carries far more weight than a Google search.

If a qualified adult (i.e your Expo Advisor or Mentor, someone you interviewed or a tour guide at site visit) significantly helped you with your project, please include:

- a) The person's name, title and contact information.
- b) Dates you emailed, talked on the phone or met.
- c) Your thoughtful reflections on the experience of working with that person.

Paper Format – 5%

Provide a typed Cover Sheet including name, title, category, teacher, grade level, school, and date. Papers should be typed/word processed on white letter-sized paper, with one-inch margins. Use an easily readable font such as Times Roman or Arial, 10-12 point, double-spaced.

If included, illustrations must be neat and applicable, with a title and a source.

Number your pages and label section headings. Consistently follow the rules of Standard English for usage, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation, unless it is necessary to break them for your artistic intent. ***Although you may manipulate certain conventions to make a creative point, the use of language should be clearly intentional and should support, rather than detract from your message.***

Annotated bibliography in standard MLA or APA format – 5%

Use a minimum of 5 sources (3 must be non-internet sources). Journals published in hard copy as well as online can count as non-internet sources. For each source, provide one reason why you believe the source is credible and describe how it was used in your project.

Creativity – 10%

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Show your ability to creatively approach writing about your topic. Your work should reflect your special insights and abilities to address scientific content using engaging writing. Incorporate a good balance of science and creativity throughout your written work.

Poster and Interview at Expo Event – 20%

Poster – 10%

Posters should convey important information about your project in a visually appealing manner. Displays and models must be freestanding and have the following maximum dimensions: 3 feet width, 2.5 feet depth, and 4 feet height (from table).

- Put your project title at the center of the display
- Include the same information that is on your cover sheet (name, etc.)
- Make sure your writing is large enough to be read from 3 feet away.
- Use visual aids that relate to the topic and make the viewer want to learn more about it.

Interview/Presentation– 10%

Judges will be looking at your effectiveness in communicating your project to them, and your understanding of your topic.

Your judge will want an overview of your project - practice giving a short (2-3-minute) 'walk-through' of your project that explains it in straightforward terms. You will receive written feedback from your judge regarding the strengths of your project, and how you could make it even better in the future.

The following are samples of the types of additional questions a judge might ask you: Why were you interested in this topic? What did you learn from doing your project? What was the most enjoyable/difficult aspect of doing this project? What else would you like to find out about this topic?

What you need to submit for the Expo Prejudging Due April 18, 2008

Cover Sheet – please indicate anticipated AV or electrical needs

Creative Writing Paper

Bibliography + description of Effort in use of Resources

Provide one hard copy and one electronic copy.

Please combine your files into a single Word PC File or PDF.

Label your file WC_SchoolAbbreviation_LastName

Example = WC_BA_Smith (note that there are no spaces, only underscores, in the file name).

Check with your teacher for school abbreviations.

What you need to bring to the Expo
Due May 28, 2008

- Cover Sheet**
- Creative Writing Paper**
- Bibliography + description of Effort in use of Resources**
- Poster**