

ESSAY WRITING – HERITAGE/NATIVE SPEAKERS

University of Memphis Language Fair 2023

i GUIDELINES

- Students will submit a written entry in the target language. The submission must be relevant to the theme of this year's Fair. Students can either address the full theme of the Fair or choose to focus on an area that touches on the theme.
- Poems and research projects will not be accepted for the Essay Writing – Heritage and Native Speakers competition since there are separate contests for poetry writing.
- Submissions will be accepted starting February 1st and will close on March 3rd. All work is to be submitted via the online registration form at www.memphis.edu/fair/.
- All submissions must be submitted together in **one PDF or Word file per level** at the time of registration.
- The files should be named in this manner: a submission from French 3 at School X would be named "SchoolXFrenchEssayWritingHNSLevel3.pdf" or "SchoolXFrenchEssayWritingHNSLevel3.docx".
- Each submission must include the following information:
 - Student's name
 - School
 - Teacher
 - Language
 - Level (I, II, III, IV)
- Format: Submissions must not exceed the following lengths (double-spaced, 12 pt. font., 1" margins):
 - Level I and II – minimum of one page, a maximum of 1.5 pages
 - Level III-IV – minimum of 1.5 pages, a maximum of 2 pages
- All work, including drafts and revisions, must be done solely by the student. The use of dictionaries is permitted, but the use of online translators is not.
- Maximum: **three (3)** entries per class period.
- Only native speakers, heritage speakers/learners, and speakers of cognate languages can participate.
 - **Native Speaker** – the majority of formal education is in the target language
 - **Heritage Speaker/Learner** – the majority of formal education is in English, but the target language is commonly used for communication in the home
 - **Second Language Learner** – little or no experience with the target language outside of formal education
 - **Cognate languages** are ones that closely related to the language being tested, such as Portuguese speakers in Spanish contests.

i JUDGING

CRITERIA	OUTSTANDING (3)	NOTEWORTHY (2)	INADEQUATE (1)
Language Task	Communication is satisfactory . Main ideas are clear , supported with elaboration and detailed development.	Communication is generally adequate . Main ideas are usually clear but lack detailed development or elaboration.	Communication is inadequate . Main ideas are unclear and/or have minimal detail . Content is not cohesive.
Sentence Structure and Organization	Complete sentences are used. Sentence structures are varied . Sentences / paragraph / essay are mostly cohesive and flow in a logical manner .	Complete sentences are used. Sentence structure may be simple and/or repetitive . Sentences / paragraph / essay are somewhat cohesive but may not always flow logically.	There may be incomplete sentences . Sentence structure is often simple and/or repetitive . Most sentences have limited flow or are not organized into a paragraph / essay.
Vocabulary	Vocabulary range is satisfactory . Mistakes rarely obscure meaning. No or few spelling mistakes may be present.	Vocabulary is generally satisfactory but may be repetitive and/or basic . There may be mistakes in spelling that obscure meaning.	Vocabulary is inadequate, limited, and/or repetitive . There are frequent spelling mistakes that obscure meaning.
Language Control	There is satisfactory control of level-appropriate grammar. Few or no mistakes do not obscure meaning.	There is general control of level-appropriate grammar. Mistakes rarely obscure meaning. English sentence structures might be used.	There is minimal or no control of level-appropriate grammar with frequent mistakes. Mistakes generally obscure meaning. English sentence structures are frequently used.

If teachers have any questions, please contact ffair@memphis.edu.