

Dukes Essay Prize 2020

Marking Scheme

Each essay will be awarded a mark out of 10 in the following three categories.

1. Exploration of an academic subject

This Essay Prize is a chance for students to explore their favourite subject beyond their school lessons.

When approaching the title, students should show they're writing from the perspective of an academic subject or subjects.

A good essay will show which theories or ideas have inspired the student's response. A great essay will inspire the reader, leaving them keen to learn more.

2. Creativity

This competition allows students to choose a title, make it theirs, and see where it leads them.

A creative essay will talk about something ordinary in an extraordinary way. Students should find ways to convey their personal curiosity and make the reader see things from a new perspective.

A winning submission will show a spark or unexpected turn that makes the reader want to read on.

3. Written quality

Great ideas get lost in bad writing. While the Essay Prize has few restrictions, it is important that students do observe correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation rules.

Students should use a vocabulary and register appropriate to the task. A well-written submission will lead the reader logically from point to point – so they can focus on their words, not their wording.

Reference Guide

Where appropriate, students should use references in their submissions to show they have thoroughly researched and read about their chosen topic. Referencing also shows where students have drawn upon ideas and material belonging to other authors.

All submissions for the Dukes Education Essay Prize must be appropriately referenced, using a widely accepted citation method.

We recommend using Harvard referencing which uses an 'author-date' citation format. It is easy to learn and simple to apply. However, students are allowed to choose a different method if they wish.

Students should use in-text citations, which are found in the main body of the work and point the reader to the full bibliographical information contained in the reference list. The reference list sits as a separate page at the end of the essay.

How to format in-text references using Harvard referencing?

When using another person's work in their own work, students must acknowledge this using a citation. This needs to include the author and the year of publication of the cited work.

Examples:

A large number of studies have shown that consumption of caffeine leads to increased alertness. (Smith, 2002)

or

As Smith (2002) states, a large number of studies have shown that consumption of caffeine leads to increased alertness.

Citing direct quotations using Harvard referencing

Students should use single quotation marks and indicate the page number.

Smith (2002) highlights that 'beneficial effects of caffeine have been demonstrated in individuals' (p.1244)

Reference list using Harvard referencing

Students should include a reference list at the end of their essay. This list should include all the sources that have been cited and should be organised alphabetically, by the authors' last names.

Key information to include:

- Author of editor
- Date of publication
- Title of the item

How the full reference is formatted depends on the type of source, how many authors are cited, whether a journal or website is cited, or an online medium or an artwork.

An example using the citation above, which is an article called *Effects of caffeine on human behaviour*, published in the Food and Chemical Toxicology journal, Volume 40, Issue 9, by A. Smith:

Smith, A. (2002). Effects of caffeine on human behavior. Food and Chemical Toxicology, 40(9), pp.1243-1255.

There are many helpful guides on the internet that include detailed instructions on using the Harvard referencing method, as well as other citation styles. Students should refer to these to ensure their sources are referenced correctly.