

2021 History Essay Contest



DETAILS

There are ten divisions:

- 4th grade school students
- 5th grade school students
- 6th grade school students
- 7th/8th grade school students
- High school students
- 4th grade homeschoolers
- 5th grade homeschoolers
- 6th grade homeschoolers
- 7th/8th grade homeschoolers
- High school homeschoolers

ESSAY TOPICS

4th Grade:

Choose one of the following topics:

- 1) Write an essay about your state's history, including information about the Catholic Church's history in your state.
- 2) Choose an important person in your state's history and write that person's biography.
- 3) Choose an important historical site in your state. It can be natural or man-made. Describe it and write about why it is important to your state.

5th Grade:

Choose one of the following topics:

- 1) Choose a Catholic historical character (born before 1950) from North America (Canada, U.S., Mexico). Write about his or her life and work and why he or she was important to the Church and country. Students may choose a person who was born outside of North America, but who did their important work in North America.
- 2) Write about an historical site in North America (Canada, U.S., Mexico) that you have visited. Your essay should include a description of the site, why you visited it, and why it is important historically.

6th Grade:

Choose a country other than your home country, that you would like to visit. Research that country's history and write about two places of historical interest that you would like to visit if you traveled there and why. Your essay should not be an encyclopedic report on the country, but rather focus on the two historical places of interest and why they are of interest to you.

7th & 8th Grade:

Choose a non-North American historical character (from Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia or South America) who lived between 300 A.D. and 2000 A.D. and relate how that person influenced the time and place in which they lived.

High School:

Choose an important historical event (this could be a war, a single battle in a war, a plague, the coronation of a king, the passage of a law or decree, an ecumenical council, a revolution, an invention, a birth or death, a marriage, etc.—but the event must be a historically important event). Describe the event, the key players, its outcome and how it changed history.

Additional Guideline:

Teachers may only submit 5 essays, per division, per school. While we want to have every student continue to participate and enjoy the opportunity to write and learn more about history, we are asking the teachers to select the best 5 essays for submission. We will continue to send a letter thanking every member of the class for participating. For further questions please email contest@catholictextbookproject.com.

AWARDS

For Catholic school students:

4th grade: \$100 to student and \$400 gift certificate for the school student attends
5th/6th grade: \$100 to student and \$400 gift certificate for the school student attends
7th/8th grade: \$150 to student and \$400 gift certificate for the school student attends
High school: \$200 to student and \$400 gift certificate for the school student attends

For Catholic homeschool students:

4th grade: \$100 to student and choice of CTP book for student's family
5th/6th grade: \$100 to student and choice of CTP book for student's family
7th/8th grade: \$150 to student and choice of CTP book for student's family
High school: \$200 to student and choice of CTP book for student's family

For all winners:

Winning essays will be published on the CTP website and social media.

WRITING GUIDELINES

- For the 4th grade divisions, essays should be at least 300 words, but no more than 750 words.
- For the 5th/6th grade divisions, essays should be at least 450 words, but no more than 1,000 words.
- For the 7th/8th grade divisions, essays should be at least 600 words, but no more than 1,500 words.
- For the high school divisions, essays should be at least 800 words, but no more than 2,000 words.
- Essays should be typed, double spaced, 11 pt in Times New Roman font.
- If essays are emailed, they must be in PDF format.

FURTHER:

- Your writing should be in your own words. If you quote another author (either from a book or the internet), you must cite that author in a footnote or an endnote. Essays that are suspected of plagiarism will be disqualified.
- Essays must include a bibliography or simple list of sources used.
- Wikipedia may not be used as the primary reference material. Wikipedia is useful for an initial familiarization with a topic, but it is not considered a reliable source in academic circles. A Wikipedia article can be useful in providing reference to books and articles which can be used for further research.

DEADLINE

- All mailed essays must be postmarked by midnight, April 9, 2021.
- All e-mailed essays must be received by midnight EST, April 9, 2021.
- Winners will be announced on May 17, 2021.

SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY

Essays can be mailed via USPS to:

Catholic Textbook Project
Essay Contest
159 N. Main St.
Croton, OH 43013

Essays may also be sent via email:

Send an attached PDF to contest@catholictextbookproject.com
Each student's essay must be emailed *individually* and not gathered into one file

Each essay MUST include an entry form

These can be found at catholictextbookproject.com/essay-contest

Please contact Mrs. Gonzalez at contest@catholictextbookproject.com with any questions