



ABOTA
FOUNDATION

CIVICS EDUCATION 2020 ESSAY CONTEST

Students may enter into appropriate groups:

Grades 6-8

Grades 9-12

Deadline: May 22, 2020



For more information, visit
www.abota.org/foundation



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2020 Civics Education Essay Contest

Essay Topic:

Why is the Seventh Amendment (the right to trial by jury) critical to ensuring justice and democracy?

Essay Requirements:

- ❖ Must be a minimum of 600 words, with maximum of 1000.
- ❖ Must be written in English. If words or phrases in another language are used, translations must be included.
- ❖ Format must be sent as .doc, .docx, or .pdf
- ❖ Font must be Times New Roman, size 12, and double spaced. Please include the page number in the footer.
- ❖ MLA format
- ❖ Include first and last name, e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number at the top of your essay.
 - ❖ This will be the information we use to contact you if your essay is selected as the winner. This information will not be shared with the public. If you are one of the winners, your name, grade level, and city/state will be shared with the public.
- ❖ Save document name as: LastName.FirstName – 2020 Essay
 - ❖ i.e., Smith.John – 2020 Essay

Intellectual Property and Copyright Requirements:

- ❖ All submitted work must be wholly original and may not infringe upon the copyright or other intellectual property or other legal or moral rights of any other person or entity.
- ❖ Ensure all sources are cited properly in MLA format.

Admission Requirements:

- ❖ All grade 9-12 students may enter.
- ❖ Only 1 essay submission per student, no group submissions or group work are allowed.
- ❖ All documents must be included:
 - ❖ Essay
 - ❖ Release Forms
- ❖ Documents must be named as: LastName.FirstName – 2020 Essay
 - ❖ i.e., Smith.John – 2020 Essay
- ❖ Documents must be uploaded to: <https://forms.gle/k2yqdk2gdFbUHCfo7>
 - ❖ Link to upload is also available on www.abota.org/foundation under Civics Education tab.

Deadline:

- ❖ Essay submissions open: Friday, April 15, 2020; 12:01 AM CST
- ❖ Essay submissions close: Friday, May 22, 2020; 11:59 PM CST
- ❖ Winners contacted and announced: June 5, 2020

Awards:

- ❖ 1 winner will be chosen in each group:
 - ❖ Grade 6-8
 - ❖ Grade 9-12
- ❖ Winners will receive \$500.

Reviewers and Panel are looking for:

- ❖ Command of the tools of language, originality, imagination, depth of ideas, rhetoric, and overall excellence.

Essay Contest Release Form

Your essay may be published and/or displayed on a public Internet website as well as in other formats, including, but not limited to ABOTA publications. By signing this release form you and/or your parent or legal guardian (if you are under 18), acknowledge that the essay may be made publicly available and you and/or your parent or legal guardian consent to this use of your essay. This release must be received by the American Board of Trial Advocates at the time of your essay submission (deadline May 15, 2020). The essay and release form may be scanned and e-mailed to civics@abota.org

Essay Contest Participant Release Form

Except for copyrighted materials separately identified, I hereby assign, transfer, or otherwise convey to the organizers of the 2020 Civics Education Essay Contest, all rights, titles, and interests in and to the essay submitted for the contest, including without limitation all copyrights and other intellectual property rights therein. Furthermore, I agree that my essay may be used, edited, reproduced, distributed, and presented in any way deemed proper by the contest organizers without any additional consent, or payment to me or anyone else. There is no time limit on the validity of this release nor is there any geographic limitation on where my essay may be used, distributed, or presented.

Name of Student: _____ Age: _____
(Print Name)

School: _____ Grade: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone Number: _____

Student: _____ Date: _____
(Signature)

If Student is under 18:
Parent/Guardian: _____
(Print Name)

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____
(Signature)



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Transition Examples

Equally important	Subsequently	Another essential point	To elaborate
Although	Additionally	Accordingly	Admittedly
Besides	Also	As a result	Above all
Conversely	Again	Because	As a rule
However	As well as	Consequently	As usual
In contrast	Besides	Due to	Assuredly
In comparison	Comparatively	For this reason	Certainly
Instead	Consequently	For this purpose	Chiefly
Likewise	Coupled with	Hence	Epecially
Nevertheless	Correspondingly	Otherwise	Granted
On the one hand... on the other	Furthermore	Since	Generally
On the contrary	In addition	So then	For the most part
Other than	Indeed	Subsequently	In this situation
Outside of	In fact	Therefore	No doubt (undoubtedly)
Rather	Identically	Thereupon	Obviously
Similarly	Likewise	This is why	Of course
Yet (And yet)	Moreover	Thus	Ordinarily
Still	Similarly	Wherefore	Particularly
Whereas	Whereas		Singularly
While this is the case	As an illustration	In particular	unquestionably
In the same way	... concluded that...	This can be seen in	Usually
Then again	... goes on to state/suggest/say	In this case	... exemplifies...
Despite this	... is justified...	As identified by...	According to...
Complementary to this	... is briefly outlined...	... expressed the opinion that...	Based on the finding of... it can be argued...