

CCLE Essay Contest 2018

open to grades 2 to 12th grade (4 levels)

deadline submission: May 11, 2018

LEVELS:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
2 nd & 3 rd	4 th & 5 th	6 th & 7 th	8 th through 12 th

Theme: **Next Steps in Classical Lutheran Education: Our Heritage, Our Future**

Level 1: Since one meaning of heritage is treasure, what have you learned this year that is a treasure? [grammar level]

Levels 2 & 3: Since one meaning of heritage is treasure, what have you learned this year that is a treasure and how does it prepare you for your future? [grammar & dialectic levels]

Level 4: How has your educational heritage shaped your understanding of your current and future vocational life? [grammar, dialectic, and rhetoric levels]

EVALUATION CRITERIA: SEE RUBRIC

Composition	Mechanics of writing Response to prompt Writing voice & style
Content	Accurate use of examples from your education (grammar) Connection of your heritage to your future (dialectic) Apology and application to your vocational life (rhetoric)
Length	Level 1: up to 250 words Levels 2 & 3: 500 - 750 words Level 4: 750 - 1,000 words

CONSIDERATIONS:

1. The teacher or parent may help to explain or clarify the prompt, directions, and rubric, but it must be entirely the student's work; no teacher or parent corrections are permitted on any drafts. If the prompt is used as an in-class assignment, it must be solely the student's work.

2. The essay may be handwritten or word-processed for levels 1 – 3 and must be word-processed for level 4. All writing should be on one side of the paper only. All handwriting should be in pen (or dark pencil—it must be readable when scanned). **FOR LEVEL 1 ONLY:** Teachers may trace over the child's hand-written essay if it is too light to be read.

PROCESS:

1. The school or the classroom teacher reads all essays from her classroom, identifying the strongest two essays. The school or the classroom teacher completes the essay submission page including list of top two essays by level with students' names and levels (page 3). The

student's name, level, and word count should be written in the upper right corner of the essay's first page.

For homeschool families: Please complete the essay submission page including the student's name and level and the parent's name as teacher (attached). The student's name, level, and word count should be written in the upper right corner of the essay first page.

2. The school or the classroom/homeschool teacher scans the essay as a pdf and emails the top two essays and completed essay submission form per classroom to CCLE Essay Reader 1 (executive.director@cclle.org). ER1 reads and lists the top scores (keeps the list), then emails the essays to CCLE Essay Reader 2 (ER2) and CCLE Essay Reader 3. ER2 and ER3 read and score the essays and email the scores back to ER1.

The Essay Submission Page and the essays scanned and submitted electronically must be sent by midnight of the contest deadline, May 11, 2018.

When all three ER have completed the reading, they will have a telephone or electronic discussion to compare lists and identify winners. Winners will be announced at CCLE XVIII.

3. Prizes consist of the following:

1st Place – \$200 gift card for the scholar and \$50 gift card for the writing teacher

2nd Place – \$100 gift card for the scholar and \$50 gift card for the writing teacher

3rd Place – \$50 gift card for the scholar and \$50 gift card for the writing teacher

4. The Essay Readers will evaluate all submissions using the CCLE Essay Rubric (see attached).

5. Scan and email the essays and the submission page by May 11, 2018, to:

executive.director@cclle.org

Submissions will be acknowledged upon receipt of scanned materials.

6. All submissions may be published in CCLE materials with author attribution.

Essay submission page

School Name/
Home school Family: _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Teacher or School: Please type or print clearly the student and teacher names (complete names: first and last). The Essay Readers will complete the Reader Score columns.

Level	Student Name	Reader Score

ESSAY RUBRIC

MECHANICS (40 possible points)	Below-average 0-3	Average 4-6	Above average 7-9	Excellent 10-12	points
Punctuation	3+ mistakes	1-2 mistakes	0 mistakes		
Capitalization	3+ mistakes	1-2 mistakes	0 mistakes		
Spelling	3+ mistakes	1-2 mistakes	0 mistakes		
Within word count	Too many or too few words (assign 2 points)	Within word range (assign 5 points)			
Grammar	3+ errors	1-2 errors	0 errors		
COMPOSITION (60 possible points)					
Response to prompt in Lutheran theological	Does not address prompt at all	Addresses prompt superficially	Addresses prompt mostly theologically true	Addresses prompt in theologically true manner	
Supported reasoning	No reasoning apparent; no support for reasoning	Some reasoning apparent; weak support	Reasoning apparent with logical support	Reasoning apparent with excellent logical support	
Use of age-appropriate rhetorical devices*	No rhetorical devices used	1-3 rhetorical devices used	4-5 rhetorical devices used	6+ rhetorical devices used	
Author's voice & style (age-appropriate)	Lacking and/or underdeveloped	Emerging, somewhat underdeveloped	Emerging, inconsistently present	clearly & strongly present	
Age-appropriate <i>Trivium</i> level	Inappropriate for <i>trivium</i> level	Inconsistent for <i>trivium</i> level	Appropriate for <i>trivium</i> level	Strong application of <i>trivium</i> level	
TOTAL					

*rhetorical devices may include but are not limited to: alliteration, allusion, analogy, antithesis, parallelism, metaphor, similes, personification, repetition, rhyme, onomatopoeia, etc.