

CHANGES THIS YEAR!!!

A classical perspective for the essay contest

Dear Teachers and Parents,

In order to reflect a more appropriately classical orientation, there are some significant changes in the essay contest this year. These will be noticeable in the directions and rubrics attached.

ESSAY CONTEST:

The major change has been in switching from an age- or grade-based category to trivium divisions: dialectic level and rhetorical level. Ages for the dialectic level are maximum 14 years old and ages for the rhetorical level are maximum 18 years old.

- A dialectic essay relates to the logic level of the trivium. It should show logical analysis and reasonable development of an argument.
- A rhetorical essay relates to the rhetoric level of the trivium. It will be persuasive and expressive. Persuasion can involve appealing to logos (logic), ethos (ethics), and pathos (emotions).
- There is no grammar level essay contest this year.
- Teachers should determine the level for their students' submissions, i.e., do the essays present dialectic writing or rhetorical writing. The CCLE Dialectic Essay Rubric and CCLE Rhetoric Essay Rubric should guide the students and the teachers in this determination.
- Each school/home school may submit two essays per dialectic level and two essays for rhetorical level. This is a change from grade-level submissions by teachers.

Please review the essay rubrics for each division. If you have questions, please email executive.director@cclle.org

CCLE Essay Contest 2019

open to students dialectic to rhetoric level
deadline submission: May 10, 2019

LEVELS:

Level 1 (maximum 14 years of age)	Level 2 (maximum 18 years of age)
Dialectic	Rhetoric

Theme: Further Up and Further In: The Lutheran Liberal Arts Today

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now...Come further up, come further in!"

— C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle

Prompt: **How does classical education help you go "further up and further in"?**

Dialectic: What does C. S. Lewis mean by "further up, further in? How is your classical education taking you "further up" and "further in?"

Rhetoric: What does C. S. Lewis mean by "further up, further in?" In what way can you as a Christian agree and/or disagree with C. S. Lewis' depiction of the Christian faith as taking us "further up and further in?"

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 education to future (dialectic) Apology and application to vocational life (rhetoric)
Length	Dialectic: 500 to 850 words Rhetoric: 750 to 1,250 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 and thought; 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 must be word-processed. All text should be on one side of paper only—it must be readable when scanned. Formatting must be double-spaced, font size 12, Arial, New Times Roman, or Helvetica font, black only.

3. Material in an essay submission cannot be included in a recitation submission.

PROCESS:

1. The classroom/homeschool teacher reads all essays from her students, identifying the strongest two essays in each division (dialectic, rhetoric). The school then selects the top two essays in each division to represent the school. The school/homeschool completes the essay submission page including list of top two essays by level (dialectic, rhetoric) with students' names and levels (page 3). The student's name, level (dialectic, rhetoric), and word count should be in the upper right corner of the essay's first page.

Each school may submit two essays per level (dialectic/rhetoric); the total submission for a school is four essays. The submitted essays in each division may represent different class levels.

For homeschool families: Please complete the essay submission page including the student's name and level (dialectic or rhetoric) 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 contact/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 (Dr. Jackie Veith). 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 10, 2019.

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 XIX.

3. Prizes consist of the following:

Grand Prize – \$200 gift card for the scholar and \$50 gift card for the writing teacher

Runner-Up – \$100 gift card for the scholar and \$50 gift card for the writing teacher

4. The Essay Readers will evaluate all submissions using the CCLE Dialectic/Rhetoric Essay Rubrics.

5. Scan and email the essays and the submission page by midnight, May 10, 2019, to:

executive.director@cclle.org

Submissions will be acknowledged upon receipt of scanned materials with an accurate email address.

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

Essay submission page

Teacher or School: Please type or print clearly all names (complete names: first and last) and information.

School Name/
Home school Family: _____

Contact: _____

School Address: _____

Teacher Email address: _____

Division (Dialectic/Rhetoric)	Student Name