

The Daughters of The Republic of Texas

Texas History Essay Judging Suggestions

Fourth and Seventh Grade Essay Contest

[5 pts] **Neatness.** May be handwritten or typed, double-spaced on 8 ½” by 11” paper, and in the student’s own words. For handwritten essay, title is not included in word count.

[5 pts] **Following Instructions.** For handwritten essay, this category should also include the word count.

[5 pts] **Cover Sheet.** Shall include:

1. Name of student and state whether 4th or 7th grade;
2. Name of school, address, and city
3. Title of the essay;
4. The Daughters of The Republic of Texas;
5. Name of sponsoring DRT Chapter and city; and,
6. Chapter contact person and telephone number.

The winner will be invited to attend DRT Convention. DRT is not responsible for expenses incurred by the student to attend Convention. However, the student and up to two guests will be guests of DRT at the Historical Evening dinner.

[15 pts] **Resource Data.** Data used shall be listed on a separate sheet of paper in the form of a bibliography. Resource data WILL NOT be included in word count. The rules stated dates and names such as Stephen F. Austin be counted as one (1) word each. (Don’t be overly concerned about ‘a, an, the’.) Included in the bibliography shall be the name of the author; title of the book, newspaper, article, city of publication; publisher, and date of publication.

[50 pts] **Historical Quality.** The most important aspect of the essay should be historical accuracy.

[10 pts] **Clarity of Essay.** Is the grammar clear? Are spelling and punctuation correct?

[10 pts] **Organization.** Is the essay original, interesting and well organized? The Seventh Grade Essay is intended to encourage the students to think, and be able to organize facts. The Fourth Grade Essay shall be written according to current TAKS qualifications, including all of the above. (The Education & Flag Committee will have this guideline.)

(If there are Total Point Ties, then rank First, Second, Third, based on your personal impression of the essay.)

*PLEASE KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR CHAPTER RECORDS.

Thank you for your participation.