



(Junior and Intermediate Divisions - Secondary)

Topics for 2010

Your creative writing piece must relate to the theme *Australian Biodiversity*.

Note: These are the ONLY topics that will be judged.

1. Once upon a time there was plenty and now...
2. Reclaiming the city
3. Keeping our biodiversity
4. Ferals versus natives

✓ Tick that you have satisfied each of the guidelines and criteria below.

Entry guidelines

- Your creative writing must follow one of the above topics. Please indicate the topic on your entry form and **Face Sheet**.
- The creative writing must be done as an imaginative story (any genre: eg. detective, horror, drama, biography), in the format of an essay or any other style such as **comics, cartoons, diary, letter** and so on.
- You must incorporate scientific information in your story.
- A list of at least 5 key science ideas that you used in developing the story (with a brief 2-3 sentences explanation) must be included as an appendix. The Judges will be looking for scientific content worked into the story.
- You must include a Bibliography at the end of your entry in which you list all your references (eg. books, journals, websites) which you have used or referred to. Specific information from another source, when used, must be cited. See page 23 for methods of citing others' work. Note the guidelines for websites.
- Pages must be collated and stapled into an A4 paper manila folder (not plastic) with the completed Face Sheet firmly affixed to the outside front cover. Size of pages is A4 only. Folders must be FLAT. Do not use spiral binders.
- Typed or printed scripts are easier to read, but this is not essential if your handwriting is clear. The Judges will take notice of presentation, so it is important that your entry is neat and looks attractive. Poor presentation will be penalised. Grammar and spelling should be correct.
- Illustrations may be hand drawn or produced on a computer. Clip Art or downloaded illustrations are not acceptable and may infringe copyright laws.



- Your writing should be 500 to 1000 words in length. Entries over the word limit will be penalised. A **word count** must be included at the end.

Judging criteria

Your entry will be judged according to the following criteria:

Scientific content including:

- identification of basic scientific ideas
- appropriate amount of scientific content
- accuracy of scientific ideas
- integration of science ideas into your creative writing
- 5 key science ideas in appendix.

Expression and Presentation including:

- grammar and spelling
- clarity of expression
- use of own words
- development of story line
- originality and creativity.

Format including:

- interest of introduction
- variety of resources used
- creativity of format
- interest and entertainment in reading the story
- quality of conclusion
- length within the maximum word count
- bibliography (refer to page 23).

Entries must be posted or delivered to:

STAV House, (PO Box 109)
5 Munro Street Coburg VIC 3058
and arrive by 30 July 2010

All guidelines should be followed to avoid being disadvantaged during judging.