

DISCOVERING DEMOCRACY

year 10 essay competition

2002



recognising
outstanding
achievements in
Civics and
Citizenship
Education



This project is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science & Training under the Discovering Democracy Programme.

guidelines and criteria

year 10 essay competition

DISCOVERING DEMOCRACY



The **Discovering Democracy programme** aims to help schools ensure that all young Australians are equipped to play their part as citizens. This requires knowledge of the history and operations of Australia's political and legal systems and of the principles that underpin Australian democracy. It also requires the development of skills, and an appreciation of the values and attitudes that enable effective participation in civic life.

This essay competition encourages young Australians to think and learn about Australian democracy, and to express their knowledge and views in writing.

Celebrating Democracy Week

All schools are invited to participate in *Celebrating Democracy Week* from Wednesday 23 to Tuesday 29 October 2002. *Celebrating Democracy Week* provides schools with a real opportunity to showcase to their local community what is happening in their school in civics and citizenship education. A brochure will be sent to your school soon. Contact your State and Territory *Discovering Democracy* Professional Development Officers for details about this event.

who can enter?

The competition is open to students who are enrolled in Year 10 in 2002. Previous winners are ineligible.

where to send your entry?

All entries should be forwarded to your State/Territory Coordinator (details on the back of this brochure) by **Friday 13 September 2002**.

Each entry must be accompanied by a declaration form and the envelope should be clearly marked 'Year 10 Discovering Democracy Essay Competition'. Be sure that all entries meet the competition criteria.

the prizes

Each State/Territory winner will travel to Canberra in October to see a 'behind the scenes' tour of Parliament House, meet Members of Parliament, sit in on Question Time and visit other significant Canberra attractions. They will have the opportunity to see 'democracy in action' and attend the national award presentation ceremony at Parliament House. The trip will be a unique experience. Students will be in Canberra for three days (21–23 October) – airfares, accommodation and meals are all included.

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity. Entries close Friday 13 September 2002. Each State/Territory runner-up will receive a commemorative gift and certificate and may be required to attend a presentation ceremony in their State/Territory.

essay o

'What

recogn

All students v
provided with
schools in Oc
submit a list
Please note t

judging

The following
– Accuracy
development
– Comprehe
ideas.
– Evidence
– Reference
competiti
– Views con
clear para

points t

– Be sure to
– The decis
choose no
– Entries an
(Details a
– All entrie
Coordinator
– All studen
participat
accepted.

essay question

‘What is your vision for Australia and how does our democratic society enable us to achieve it?’

recognition of entry

All students who submit an entry in the competition will be provided with a certificate of participation. These will be mailed to schools in October. To assist this process we ask that each school submit a list of all the students who have submitted an essay. Please note that **only three entries** will be accepted per school.

judging criteria

The following elements will be considered by the judges:

- Accuracy of content and the use of valid examples in the development of the essay.
- Comprehensive nature of the response, including originality in ideas.
- Evidence of substantial reading and research.
- References and bibliography in accordance with the competition guidelines.
- Views communicated fluently and incorporate an introduction, clear paragraphs and a conclusion.

points to remember

- Be sure to complete the cover sheet and attach it to the essay.
- The decision of the judging panel is final and the judges may choose not to make an award.
- Entries are to be submitted to the State/Territory Coordinator. (Details are on the back of this brochure.)
- All entries must be submitted to the State/Territory Coordinator by **Friday 13 September 2002**.
- All students who enter will be sent a certificate of participation but only **three entries** from each **school** will be accepted.

competition guidelines

Authenticity

The essay must be the students own work, and a statement of authenticity must be signed by both the teacher and student.

References

The direct use of words of another person, either written or oral, must be acknowledged by a reference. An accepted form of referencing, used consistently according to standard format, must be used to acknowledge the source of quotations.

Bibliography

The bibliography should include **only** those works used by the student in the preparation of the essay. It should specify author(s), title, date and place of publication, and the name of the publisher, following consistently one standard method of listing sources.

Word Limit

The word limit for the essay is 1000 words. This maximum word limit does not include supplementary information such as contents pages, references, bibliography and appendices. Essays which are longer than 1000 words will be ineligible.

Presentation

Essays must be in clear, legible handwriting or wordprocessed/typed (one and a half spacing should be used). A copy of the essay should be retained by the student as entries will **not** be returned.

Year Level

The student submitting an entry must be in Year 10 in 2002.

PLEASE NOTE:

- The Department of Education, Science and Training reserves the right not to select an entry from a State/Territory if it is considered that the entry is not of a suitable standard.
- The Department reserves the right to make alternative arrangements if a winner is not selected from a State or Territory.
- All winners should be aware they may be featured in print, radio or television media.



Impressions from 2001 winners

“My trip to Canberra was very enjoyable and I gained priceless experience in meeting the Senators and Ministers.”

Lorraine Hui, Pymble Ladies College, 2001 NSW Winner

“It was great to have such an exclusive look within Parliament House.”

Stephanie Lee, Newman College, 2001 WA Winner

“Awesome! This trip was absolutely fantastic! I enjoyed every moment.”

Terry Roberts, MacKillop College, 2001 ACT Winner

Photo: 2001 Year 10 Discovering Democracy Essay Competition Winners

cover sheet declaration form

Student's surname Male Female

Given Names Date of birth: / /

Home address

Postcode:

Home telephone:

E-mail:

School

Contact teacher

Postal address

Postcode:

School telephone: School fax:

E-mail:

Statement of authenticity

I hereby declare that this submitted essay is the original work of the entrant, to the extent that no more than usual guidance was provided by others.

Signed (Teacher)

Date

Name

Signed (Student)

Date

Name

Teacher declaration

I am fully aware of the conditions of entry and the prize in this competition and support the entry of the abovenamed student.

Signed (Teacher)

Date

Name

NOTE:

This form is to accompany each entry submitted to State/Territory Coordinators. Only three entries will be accepted per school. The Coordinator's address details appear on the back of the competition brochure.

Winning entries become the property of the Commonwealth Government and may be published in print and/or electronically.

Queries

All queries regarding the Year 10 Discovering Democracy Essay Competition should be directed to the **Awards Secretariat**:

Christine Reid
Awards Coordinator
National Curriculum Services
PO Box 361
ABBOTSFORD VIC 3067
Telephone: 1800 631 203
Fax: (03) 9419 1205
E-mail:
reception@vcta.asn.au

Teachers please note

All students will be provided with a Certificate of Participation. Please provide a list of students who completed an essay to ensure they are provided with a certificate.

Total number of students who participated:

contact details

For further information or additional copies of this brochure please contact:

Christine Reid
Awards Secretariat
Telephone: 1800 631 203
Fax: (03) 9419 1205
E-mail:
reception@vcta.asn.au

Australian Capital Territory

Katherine Schoo
ACT Discovering Democracy Project Officer
Association of Independent Schools Unit 3
41/43 Colbee Court
PHILLIP ACT 2607
Telephone: (02) 6260 4955
Fax: (02) 6260 4988
E-mail:
kschoo@ais.act.edu.au

New South Wales

Lianne Singleton
Senior Curriculum Adviser
Civics and Citizenship Education
Professional Support and Curriculum Directorate
NSW Department of Education and Training
3A Smalls Road
RYDE NSW 2112
Telephone: (02) 9886 7646
Fax: (02) 9886 7571
E-mail:
lianne.singleton@det.nsw.edu.au

Northern Territory

Colleen Williams
Discovering Democracy Curriculum Officer
Curriculum Services Branch
Northern Territory Department of Employment, Education and Training
GPO Box 4821
DARWIN NT 0801
Telephone: (08) 8999 5834
Fax: (08) 8999 5632
E-mail:
colleen.williams@nt.gov.au

Queensland

Rosalie Shawcross
Discovering Democracy Project Officer
Learning and Development Foundation
Education Queensland
Level 19 Education House
PO Box 33
BRISBANE ALBERT ST QLD 4002
Telephone: (07) 3237 0489
Fax: (07) 3239 6536
E-mail:
Rosalie.Shawcross@qed.qld.gov.au

South Australia

Leanne Carr and Mary Hudson
Project Officers
The South Australian Civics and Citizenship
Education Professional Development Program
C/- 8 Rose Street
PROSPECT SA 5082
Telephone: (08) 8269 6651
Fax: (08) 8269 3692
E-mail:
lcmh@ozemail.com.au

Tasmania

Tony Poynter
Discovering Democracy Project Officer
Tasmanian Educational Leaders' Institute
Department of Education
GPO Box 919
HOBART TAS 7001
Telephone: (03) 6233 7332
Fax: (03) 6233 6983
E-mail:
tony.poynter@education.tas.gov.au

Western Australia

Geraldine Ditchburn
Program Co-ordinator
WA Discovering Democracy
Professional Development Project
61 Dyson Street
KENSINGTON WA 6151
Telephone: (08) 9367 3393
Fax: (08) 9367 9227
E-mail:
aas@iinet.net.au

Victoria

Patricia Hincks
Senior Project Officer
Discovering Democracy Project
Learning and Teaching Innovation Branch
Department of Education & Training
GPO Box 4367
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Telephone: (03) 9637 2007
Fax: (03) 9637 2150
E-mail:
hincks.patricia.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

► Ensure your entry reaches the State/Territory Coordinator by **Friday 13 September 2002.**



[year 10 essay competition 2002](#)