



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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MAY 15 2003

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. 161, s. 2003

ASIA-PACIFIC SOCIAL SCIENCES SCHOOL NETWORK (APSSSNET) ESSAY
COMPETITION

To: Regional Directors
Schools Divisions/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Secondary Schools

1. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in cooperation with the Department of Education shall launch an essay competition on June 30, 2003.
2. The contest aims to:
 - a. provide more interactive activities for teachers and students at secondary schools (schools with and without the internet access), in order to share and disseminate the rapidly-growing body of social sciences information;
 - b. encourage the use of Information Technology as the cheapest and most efficient way of sharing social sciences ideas and views in this vast and diverse region;
 - c. offer students quick connections with the world outside their classrooms and the international social sciences community;
 - d. widen teachers, and students' perspectives; and
 - e. establish connections among the secondary schools from the member countries of UNESCO who are able to participate.
3. The timetable, mechanics, prizes and topics are indicated in the enclosure.
4. For more information, please refer to Bangkok UNESCO's website <http://apsssnet.com/rushsap.htm> or send email or fax letters to the following address:

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Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO, Bangkok
920 Sukhumvit Road, Prakanong
Bangkok 10110
Tel. No.: (66.2) 391-0703 ext. 342
Fax No.: (66.2) 391-0866
Email: apsssnet@skn.ac.th
5. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


EDILBERTO C. DE JESUS
Secretary

Encls.:

As stated

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1--(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CONTESTS
PRIZES OR AWARDS
STUDENTS
TEACHERS

ILlian/dm-asia-pacific social sciences
May 7, 03

A. TOPICS FOR THE APSSNET ESSAY COMPETITIONS

Please note that each school can choose up to ten topics. These topics have been selected because of their relevance to UNESCO's Social Science projects. Examples of some of the areas included under each topic are given, but students are encouraged to include areas which are relevant in the context of their own schools and societies.

1. *Multiculturalism in your Society and/or in your School*

- What do you know about multiculturalism?
- Present pictures (the caption describing each picture) of multicultural activities.
- How students can live in peace with one another in a multi-culture society.
- Share good and realistic examples of how to live in peace in a society of multi-culture.

2. *My Role Model*

- Why he/she is your role model.
- Characteristics that distinguish him/her from others.
- Do you have problems in trying to follow the examples of your role model. Please explain your answer.
- Photos, biography of the person you perceive as your role model.

3. *Cultural Heritage of my Hometown*

- Give a brief introduction of your hometown.
- Highlight the uniqueness of your hometown.
- Express your appreciation of the unique cultural heritage of your hometown.
- Introduce the interesting and significant places for sight-seeing in your hometown.
- Encourage people to visit those sites.
- Give Information for travelers.

4. *Right Understanding of "Rights" in Students' Life*

- Give one of your concepts of human rights.
- How you can appreciate human rights in classes.
- How to balance rights, freedom, duty and responsibility in students' life.
- Give examples of students in your school whose behaviors promote rights of students.

5. *Leading a Good Life Amidst Temptation*

- Describe the pressures that mislead the youth nowadays in your society.
- What are possible consequences of becoming a victim of these pressures?
- Suggest constructive activities that can draw the youth from these pressures.
- Give examples of the youth who are not victims and why.

6. *My Friends Across the Border*

- Describe your neighboring countries (culture, language, geography, etc.).

- Describe the relationship between your community and people in the neighboring countries.
- Describe how you and your community co-exist with people in the neighboring countries.
- Enumerate/List the advantages and disadvantages of having friends across the border.

7. Peace in your Society

- What do you understand peace to be?
- Your contribution to peace in your society
- How will you involve other people in building peace in your society
- Name a person who symbolizes peace for you.

8. Write poem on the "Culture of Peace"

- Meaning of the "Culture of Peace"
- Culture of Peace in the millennium
- No to violence for the youth of the new age
- Beauty of peace

9. Computer for Growth and Development

- How often do you use computers? (school, home, etc.)
- How does a computer change your daily life?
- What do you understand by Information and Communication Technology (ICT)?
- How does ICT affect your school/society/country?
- How can you use computer and ICT to enhance your growth and development?

10. Computer Games and Young Life

- What do you and other students think about computer games in your school?
- Why do you and other young students play computer games?
- Do these affect your school works?
- How might computer games enhance your growth, development and achievement?

B. Prizes

Ten prizes of US \$ 100 each will be awarded to the ten best essays, who will be notified by the end of July 2003.

C. Mechanics / Timetable

The maximum length for each essay should be 1200 words. All entries should reach our office by 30 June 2003 at the latest. Entries should be submitted to us by email, or in a diskette (in the case of those without email), or in paper form through airmail (in the case of members with no electronic facilities).