



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education



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DepED MEMORANDUM
No. 392, s. 2008

AUG 20 2008

NATIONAL MARITIME WEEK CELEBRATION 2008
ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

To: Bureau Directors
Directors of Services/Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Secondary Schools

1. In the celebration of the National Maritime Week on September 20-28, 2008, the Department of Education (DepED) in cooperation with the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC) shall launch an Essay Writing Contest with the theme "**What the Filipino Seafarer Can Do to Help Keep the World's Oceans and Seas Safe and Clean**".
2. The contest aims to:
 - a. develop the creative writing skills of the students; and
 - b. raise awareness among the youth on the value of the maritime industry and the maritime profession in keeping the oceans and seas clean and safe.
3. The participants, timetable, mechanics and management of the contest at various levels are indicated in the enclosure.
4. Travel, board and lodging of regional champions and coaches and other incidental expenses relative to this contest shall be charged to Maritime Industry Authority, DOTC, subject to the necessary government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
5. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

U-9-6
RAMON C. BACANI
Undersecretary

Encl.: As stated
Reference: None
Allotment: 1- -(D.O. 50-97)
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
CONTESTS

SCHOOLS
STUDENTS

(Enclosure to DepED Memorandum No. 392, s. 2008)

**NATIONAL MARITIME WEEK CELEBRATION 2008
ESSAY WRITING CONTEST**

RULES AND MECHANICS

A. General Guidelines

The contest is a four-level competition.

First: School Level

1. Each participating school shall conduct an internal competition with the objective of selecting one school entry using the herein given criteria for judging.
2. The winning school entry shall be sent to the DepEd Division Office on or before August 15, 2008.

Second: Division Level

3. Using the same criteria, the Division Board of Judges (to be created by the Office of the Schools Division Superintendent) shall select a division winner.
4. The winning division entry shall be sent to the DepEd Regional Office on or before August 22, 2008.

Third: Regional Level

5. Using the same criteria, the Regional Board of Judges (to be created by the Offices of the Regional Director and of the Secondary Education Division) shall select a regional champion.
6. The regional champion, together with a coach, shall be the participants to the on-the-spot national essay writing contest.

Fourth: National Level

7. The national level shall be an on-the-spot Essay Writing Contest whose participants are the 17 regional champions.
8. The National Committee on Essay Writing Contest shall designate the Board of Judges composed of a chairperson and two members.
9. The Board of Judges shall select a **grand prize winning essay** which shall be published online.

B. Participants

The contest is open to all bona fide Third and Fourth Year high school students currently enrolled in any public or private schools in the Philippines.

C. Specifications

1. A participant is entitled to only one entry.
2. The essay must be original, not previously published in print or online and shall be within 1,000 to 1,500 words using English as the medium.
3. The division and regional entries must be encoded and printed on A4 paper, double spaced, one-inch margins, using 12 font size Arial or Tahoma, must bear the signature and address of the contestant, year level and name and address of the school, and properly endorsed by the school principal.
4. A contestant may write any title for his/her entry on the theme "What the Filipino Seafarer Can Do to Help Keep the World's Oceans and Seas Safe and Clean".

D. Submission/Control Mechanism

1. Names of Regional Champions and coaches shall be submitted to:

The Maritime Essay Writing Contest
c/o The National Maritime Celebration 2008 Committee
Maritime Industry Authority
Rm. 301, 3rd Flr. TRIDA Bldg.
Taft Avenue, corner T.M. Kalaw Street
Ermita, Manila
e-mail address: maritimessaywritingcontes@yahoo.com
Telefax no.:

2. Winning entries of the regional champions shall likewise be submitted to the National Essay Writing Contest Committee.
3. The decision of the Board of Judges at each level is final. All participants are deemed to have accepted all the rules and regulations of the contest.
4. All winning entries shall become properties of the Maritime Industry Authority.

E. Criteria for Judging

1. Entries shall be judged unanimously by the Board of Judges.
2. Entries must reflect the true feelings and thinking of the contestants and shall be judged according to the following criteria:

Originality----- 40%

Content----- 40%

(Substance, creativity and
relevance to the central idea)

Craftsmanship-----20%

(Use of the language)

T o t a l----- 100%

F. Prizes

1. The winning essays shall be announced at the contest website by September 15, 2008.
2. The national winner shall be awarded a cash prize of P10,000 and a Certificate of Appreciation and a trophy for the school.
3. The division and the regional winners shall receive a medallion and a Certificate of Recognition, while the school shall receive a Certificate of Appreciation/Participation.