

Rotary



4 Way Test Essay Contest for Gr 11 & 12 Students

The Four-Way Test Essay Contest Sponsored by the Thunder Bay Rotary Clubs and Rotary International District 5580

STUDENT GUIDELINES (Downloadable from www.parotary.com)

(Essays must be returned to parotary@tbaytel.net by Tuesday December 10, 2019)

WHAT IS THE FOUR-WAY TEST?

The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do is as follows:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

The Four-Way Test is not a code or a creed, but a stimulus to self-appraisal. It is not a pledge, but rather a springboard to voluntary self-improvement. It is not a sermon, although any number of sermons has been preached on it. It aims to encourage the ethical instincts in every person and constitutes a simple and practical guide for people of all cultures.

The Four-Way Test has inspired safe driving programs, fire prevention campaigns, crime and drug reduction activities; it has been the subject of countless secondary school essays. It has been translated into more than 100 languages.

WHY DO THE THUNDER BAY ROTARY CLUBS AND ROTARY DISTRICT 5580 CONDUCT THE FOUR-WAY TEST ESSAY CONTEST?

Our Rotarians believe that the thousands of dollars committed are an investment in our youth. It is a statement of our interest in the ideas of our young people. It demonstrates our belief that it is important to reward our youth for expressing their views. And, it is our way to encourage youth to apply the Four-Way Test to the world around them.

PRIZES

There are two levels of competition and prizes:

1. **Local** --- The Thunder Bay Rotary clubs will provide one prize for the Thunder Bay winner. **\$500 CDN**
2. **District** --- The local winning entry will be submitted to the district level to compete for the **Grand Prize of an additional \$1,100 USD.**

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all students in the final **two years of high school.**

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TOPIC

The essay may treat any subject of interest to the student. It may be specific or general. For example, one might choose a topic relating to world peace, to a special friendship, to the environmental issues in general or to some issue in particular, to a choice of life-style, to a choice of occupation. Creative use of one's imagination is encouraged.

Here are some of the topics from previous contests: "University/College Tuition", "Life is Full of Choices", "Should you Multi-task?", "Censorship," "Indigenous/Non-Indigenous Relations" and "Cyber-Bullying."

LENGTH

500 to 1,000 words

PRESENTATION METHOD

A typewritten copy, double-spaced, is to be submitted, along with the signed statement below.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Judging will be based on utilization and application of the principles of the Four-Way Test. Essays received that do not incorporate these four principles will not be considered. Student creativity, organization, language and grammar usage will also be considered as part of the overall judging criteria.

WHERE TO SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY?

Essays must be submitted to parotary@tbaytel.net by Tuesday December 10th at the end of the day. If you have questions, email parotary@tbaytel.net. These instructions are downloadable from www.parotary.com.

----- CUT ALONG THIS LINE AND ATTACH TO YOUR ESSAY SUBMISSION - - - - -

My signature below affirms that I am familiar with The Four-Way Test and I understand that my essay must clearly apply these principles in order to be eligible for this contest.

Signature of Student _____