

Rotary Club of Ventura  
The “4-Way Test” Essay Contest

The Rotary Club of Ventura is pleased to announce the 2023 “Four-Way Test” Essay contest. The contest is open to Middle School and High School Students with a chance to win cash prizes.

Implemented in 1932, The Four-Way Test is a nonpartisan and nonsectarian set of four simple questions that offers an ethical and effective guide to use when faced with a difficult decision or dilemma.

**The 4-Way Test of Things We Think, Say or Do**

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Since its inception the test has been translated into more than 100 languages and is practiced by Rotarians all over the world for use in their personal and professional relationships. "When I'm faced with a difficult decision, I find the 4-Way Test is a great way to take a step back and look at a problem with a fresh perspective. With these principles in mind, I'm secure in the actions I take," says Margi Wray, President of the Rotary Club of Ventura.

The contest asks students to write a short essay about how The Four Way Test can influence everyday decision-making in their lives. Students should explore how any decisions may affect those around them. They can tell a story about how utilizing the Four-Way Test was beneficial or would have been. Past entries have related the test to personal experiences, historical figures, events, or current local, national, or international issues. Creativity is encouraged.

Students can visit [venturarotary.org](http://venturarotary.org) to download the informational flyer and essay cover sheet. Deadline is February 19, 2023. Members of the Rotary Club of Ventura will judge the essays and award prizes in both the middle school and high school categories. First \$300, Second \$200, and Third \$100. The first-place winner will go on to compete in the District Level competition with a chance to win additional cash prizes.