

Sample Topic Areas

Rotary District 5580 Four-Way Test Essay Contest 2026-2027

These optional examples can help you choose a topic that matters to you. You may choose another topic. Explain its impact on your life or the life of the person discussed, and apply the essay rules in the Student Guidelines.

Youth mentorship and education - tutoring, coaching, career guidance, reading programs, or helping students build confidence.

Food security - food shelves, meal delivery, community gardens, school backpack food programs, or reducing food waste.

Health and wellness - mental health awareness, blood drives, fitness initiatives, substance abuse prevention, or support for local clinics.

Senior support - companionship, technology help, transportation assistance, home maintenance, or intergenerational programs.

Environmental stewardship - park cleanups, recycling programs, tree planting, conservation education, or water quality projects.

Community inclusion and belonging - supporting newcomers, people with disabilities, isolated residents, or groups facing barriers to participation.

Support for disabled persons - accessibility projects, adaptive recreation, transportation help, peer support, disability awareness, or assistance with independent living.

Poverty and basic needs - clothing drives, hygiene kits, housing support, utility assistance, or emergency relief.

Civic engagement and leadership - voter education, youth leadership, public service projects, or volunteering with local boards and nonprofits.

Creating a healthy business community - supporting local businesses, encouraging ethical business practices, promoting entrepreneurship, strengthening workforce development, or helping build partnerships between schools, nonprofits, and employers.

Veterans and first responders - appreciation events, care packages, family support, or fundraising for local service organizations.

Disaster preparedness and response - emergency kits, community safety education, flood/fire response, or recovery support.

Arts, culture, and community pride - public art, local history projects, community events, beautification, or cultural celebrations.

Pay-it-forward projects - small acts of kindness that inspire others, such as helping a neighbor, organizing a donation effort, or creating a chain of service.