

Rotary District 5000

Four Way Test Essay Project for High School Students

Rotary International is a world wide international organization dedicated to humanitarian service. **Individual Rotary Clubs in District 5000 (Hawaii)** may choose to participate in this project to foster an understanding about the Four Way Test for high school students. Students may visit the Rotary International website at <https://www.rotary.org/en> to learn more about Rotary.

History of the Four Way Test

From the earliest days of Rotary International, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world's most widely printed and quoted statement of business ethics is the Four Way Test. Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor created the Four Way Test in 1932 when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy. Mr. Taylor later served as a Rotary International President. The Four Way Test consists of 24 words, for employees to follow in their business and professional lives. It became the guide for sales, production, advertising and all relations with dealers and customers. The survival of Mr. Taylor's company is credited to the philosophy of the Four Way Test. Rotary International adopted the Four Way Test in 1943. The Four Way Test has been translated in more than a hundred languages and is published in thousands of ways. Rather than stating what one must do, the Four Way Test poses questions.

The Four Way Test of the things we think say and do:
Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The Four Way Test Project Rules:

1. The project is open to all high school students in public, private, charter, and home schools.
2. The written essay is expected to be 500-750 words, and will be based on the Rotary International theme for each year. The 2010-2011 theme is *Building Communities Bridging Continents*.
3. Rotary Clubs can get their local high school involved by contacting Guidance Counselors or Principals to tell them about this writing opportunity for their students in January each year, and providing them with a point of contact for their Rotary Club.
4. Interested individuals may contact the point of contact for a Rotary Club to participate. The deadline to apply to be part of this project is Feb. 1st of each year. The essays are due to the Rotary Clubs no later than Feb. 28th of each year.
5. Each Rotary Club will give the applicant the Rubric included on the next page of this document, so he or she will know what the criteria will be for judging the essays.
6. Judges from each club will read and score the submitted essays. (See Rubric at the end of this document.)
7. The judging will occur during the first two weeks of March (Literacy Month for Rotary). The participating Rotary Club will announce the winner by the end of March.
8. Each Rotary Club may have ONE winner for this project.
9. The Rotary Club who sponsored this Project will announce the individual winner of the essay to the Club members and to the Guidance Counselor or Principal of the participating school. Applicants who did not win will also be notified and thanked for their participation.
10. Each club's winner should be invited to read his or her winning essay to the club at a club meeting at which the club shall treat the winner to a meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner depending on when the club meets), and fellowship.
11. If a Rotary Club desires, the winning essay may be published in a Club's newsletter and/or on a Club's website.

Rubric for Rotary Four Way Test Essay Project for High School Students

The essay is expected to be typed using word processing software and printed. Non-typed essays will not be accepted. The typed essay is expected to be 500-750 words, and will be based on the Rotary International theme for each year.

The Rotary year goes from July 1 to June 30 of each year.

A team of Rotarians will judge the essays. The Rotary Club who sponsored this Project will announce the individual winner of the essay to the Club members and to the Guidance Counselor or Principal of the participating school. Applicants who did not win will also be notified and thanked for their participation. The Rotary Club will invite the winner to their meeting to read the winning essay and enjoy a meal and fellowship with the Rotarians. Students may visit the District 5000 website at <http://www.rotaryd5000.org/> and the Rotary International website at <https://www.rotary.org/en> to learn more about Rotary.

Rubric

| CRITERIA | EXCELLENT 3 points | GOOD 2 points | NEEDS IMPROVEMENT 1 point | SCORE |
|--|--|--|---|-------|
| Essay – Begins with a title to the essay and the name of the individual who wrote it. | A title is used and the name of the individual who wrote it is typed under the title. | A title is used but there is no name typed under the title. | There is no title used, however the individual's name is typed. | |
| Essay – Begins with an opening sentence that sets the tone for the essay. | A strong opening sentence is used to clearly set the tone for the essay. | An opening sentence is used that somewhat sets the tone for the essay. | No opening sentence is used, or what is written is so vague that it does not clearly set the tone for the essay. | |
| Essay – Body contains four paragraphs to share about the Four Way Test based on the Rotary theme for this year. Originality and imagination are apparent in the body of the essay. | The body of the essay contains 4 robust paragraphs that enthusiastically demonstrate what the Four Way Test is about. | The body of the essay contains 4 skimpy paragraphs that somewhat demonstrate what the Four Way Test is about. | The body of the essay contains 3 or less paragraphs that attempt to describe what the Four Way Test is about. | |
| Essay – Ends with a closing sentence that summarizes what the individual learned about the Four Way Test, as based on the Rotary theme for this year. | A strong closing sentence is used to clearly summarize the individual's views on integrating the Four Way Test into his or her life. | A closing sentence is used that somewhat summarize the individual's views on integrating the Four Way Test into his or her life. | No closing sentence is used at all to summarize the individual's views on integrating the Four Way Test into his or her life. | |
| Mechanics – Spelling and Grammar. Sentence readability. | Zero to one spelling/grammar error. Zero to 1 sentence readability problems. | Two to three spelling/grammar errors. A maximum of two sentence readability problems. | Four or more spelling/grammar errors. A maximum of three sentence readability problems. | |