

**Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary
Department of Washington
State Youth Essay Program Rules and Regulations
Grades 3-4-5**

1. Participants must compose their own essay.
2. The essay must be clearly handwritten, typed or computer prepared.
3. Judging will be under the guidance set by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Judging will include 30 points for addressing the theme, 30 points for clarity of Ideas, 40 points for Theme Development, and 10 points for Spelling and Grammar.
4. Since this program is completely voluntary, a student does not have to go through his/her school to participate. Any student from any school in the State of Washington may enter the program by contacting a local Post or Auxiliary for rules and Official Entry form. Home Schooled students are also eligible.
5. A copy of the Official Entry form must accompany the essay. All sections of the official entry form **MUST** be completed at the Post/Auxiliary level. Entry forms **MUST** be signed by a parent.
6. All essays become the property of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Washington. If copies are desired, you must make your own. Chairman will not return essays.
7. Contest begins at the start of the school year.
8. THEME: **"How do I show my Love for my country"**
9. Length: Not to exceed 250 words.
10. Student's Name, City, or School **MUST NOT** be on the essay, only on the entry form.
11. Essay must stay within the prescribed subject matter and there can be **NO** added color or artwork.
12. Essay written in poem form **will not be accepted**.
13. The Post or Auxiliary sponsoring the school **MUST** do the judging at the local level.

Essays due to local Post/Auxiliary by: November 1st
Any Essay not **received** by the deadline **will not** be accepted.