



The New York Times

**Our World: 2050
Asia-Pacific Writing
Competition 2019**

Entry Pack

Invitation to Participate

May 2019

Dear Students and Teachers,

The New York Times invites students across the Asia-Pacific region to participate in the 2019 Asia-Pacific Writing Competition.

The theme for this year's competition is **Our World: 2050**. Students are asked to submit a 500-word opinion piece responding to the following question:

In an age where unpredictability is the new constant, what can you, the younger generation, do now to shape the future?

The competition is open to all tertiary and secondary school students studying in Asia Pacific. Winning entries from each category will be selected by our award-winning journalists and published in The New York Times International Edition.

The deadline for submissions is Monday, September 30, 2019 by 23:59 H.K.T. Please see inside for submission guidelines and suggested materials.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at eduhk@nytimes.com or (852) 2922 1192.

Good luck!



Fern Long
Head of Education, Asia Pacific
The New York Times

About the competition

The New York Times has a long history of working with schools and education providers through our InEducation program, which helps students and faculty engage with news and current affairs in the classroom through NYTimes.com.

In 2009, The New York Times Asia-Pacific Writing Competition was established to encourage students to become more informed and globally minded about important issues in the region and around the world.

A key component of the competition is encouraging students to read The New York Times and draw from other resources to better understand an issue, with all participants receiving a free four-week digital subscription to NYTimes.com.

Question

In an age where unpredictability is the new constant, what can you, the younger generation, do now to shape the future?

Global population is forecast to grow from 7.2 billion today to nearly 10 billion in 2050. We are confronted with tumultuous times defined by rapid political and economic change, while environmental degradation and climate change threaten the survival of human beings as a species on Earth.

Meanwhile, technological innovations have transformed every aspect of our way of life. Not only can we envisage living in a carbon-free economy, but the launch of private spacecraft may even present humans with the opportunity to migrate to Mars. How do you imagine our world 30 years from now? How will you be impacted by further technological advances, and how will you embrace the new world?

Suggested reading from The New York Times:

2050

<https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/06/22/opinion/global-agenda-magazine-the-earth-in-2050-interactive.html>

Can We Grow More Food on Less Land? We'll Have To, a New Study Finds

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/05/climate/agriculture-food-global-warming.html>

Why the World Economy Has to Be Carbon Free by 2050

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/23/opinion/why-the-world-economy-has-to-be-carbon-free-by-2050.html>

Why the World Needs to Rethink Retirement

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/30/business/retirement/why-the-world-needs-to-rethink-retirement.html>

A.I. Is Flying Drones (Very, Very Slowly)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/26/technology/alphapilot-ai-drone-racing.html>

Regulations and Guidelines

Registration

- Students must be enrolled in a secondary school or undergraduate program in Asia Pacific.
- Interested participants must send an email to eduhk@nytimes.com on or before September 30, 2019 with their last name, first name, school name, country and category to register their interest.
- Upon successful registration, all participants will receive a complimentary four-week digital subscription to The New York Times.

Judging Criteria

- Submissions will be judged by The New York Times in two categories:
 - 1) Secondary category*
 - 2) Tertiary category
- One winner and one runner-up will be selected from each category.
- Participants must demonstrate competence in the use of English as a written language, including grammar, spelling and punctuation, alongside originality and flair.
- Entries will be judged on the basis of:
 - Content (65%)**
 - Main idea(s)/creativity (25%)
 - Supporting ideas (25%)
 - Overall argument (15%)
 - Form (35%)**
 - Grammar/structure (20%)
 - Writing technique (15%)

* High schools are under Secondary category

Submissions

- Deadline: September 30, 2019.
- Individual submissions only.
- Entries must be an original piece of writing, submitted as a Microsoft Word file attachment (PDFs will not be accepted).
- Length: 500 words (+/- 5%) excluding title and reference list, if applicable.

All entries must be submitted via email to eduhk@nytimes.com using the following format:

- Email subject line:
Last Name, First Name, Category
e.g. Graham, Peter, Secondary
- Email body text:
Last Name, First Name, School Name*,
Contact Telephone Number, Home/School
Mailing Address
- File name:
Last Name, First Name, Article Title

* If your school has more than one campus, please specify.
Note: Submissions will not be accepted if any details are missing. An acknowledgement email will be sent within one week of receipt.

Prizes

Category Winners

Entries published in The New York Times International Edition

US\$50 gift voucher

Winner's trophy

Runners-up

US\$25 gift voucher

Runner-up trophy

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