

2012 Irish Society ~ Essay Guidelines

4th Annual Michael J. Doyle Scholarship Contest

Topic – “What does your Irish Heritage mean to you?”

Each essay should be 1200-1500 words. The objective of the essay is to inform the reader of the assigned subject as well as add your own voice to the essay. Students must include historical events; they must also reflect on and give original feedback on the material they research.

You must also include bibliography/references. Refer to www.mla.org to format your bibliography/reference page.

Clarity of subject matter

1	2	3	4
You are unclear in your delivery of the subject matter, your paper is incoherent.	You leave the reader slightly confused during the reading process.	Reader comprehends the material you are presenting, but you lack coherence in minor areas.	You explain the subject matter and leave the reader with no questions.

Creativity

1	2	3	4
Your paper is completely historical and your voice is nowhere to be found.	You briefly attempt to enter your own opinions and reflections.	You attempt to enter your own reflection and feedback in major areas.	You tackle the subject area and use your own creative insights while delivering your essay.

Informative

1	2	3	4
Your essay is not historically accurate and is filled with useless information.	Your essay lacks either historical accuracy or important information.	Your essay is historically accurate and has most important information.	Your essay is historically accurate and filled with useful information.

Format

1	2	3	4
Your essay lacks all elements of formal writing and has no reference section.	Your essay lacks correct grammar or paragraph structure, and some information is not referenced.	Your essay has few grammatical mistakes, and is broken up in well written paragraphs and references are correct.	Your essay is grammatically correct, contains solid paragraphs divided by different subject matter and references are correct.