

Rubric For 2020 St. John Neumann Essay Contests

Directions: Choose the number of points that BEST represents the achievement level of the response.
Note: Applications are NOT disqualified for excess length.

| Category | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| How well does the essay express the student's understanding of his/her Catholic faith? | Core Catholic beliefs —those which motivate or inspire actions and thoughts—are clearly expressed. | Core Catholic beliefs are described accurately and explained. | Core Catholic beliefs are described accurately. | Core Catholic beliefs are identified. | Core Catholic beliefs are not stated clearly. |
| How effective is the essay in expressing a personal point of view (life examples, opinions etc.) in the student's own voice? | Claims are amply supported with evidence that clearly expresses a personal point of view, with unique examples of the student's own life experiences: actions, successes and challenges, The voice is age-appropriate. | Claims are generally supported with appropriate examples from the student's own life. The voice is age appropriate. | Some examples are given, but may not be sufficient to provide an in-depth personal response to the prompt. The voice is appropriate for the student's age group. | A few examples are given, but the examples lack detail or personal relevance. The voice may/may not be appropriate for the student's age group. | No examples from the student's own life appear in the essay, AND/OR the voice is not appropriate for the student's age group. |
| How effectively does the student address the entire question? | Writing effectively addresses ALL aspects of the question. The message is relevant, coherent and focused. Main points and thesis are clear and developed. | Writing addresses ALL aspects of the question. The response may be complete but may lack efficacy in part. Main points and thesis development are generally clear. | Writing addresses ALL aspects of the question, but may do so somewhat superficially. Development of main points and thesis are attempted. | Writing attempts to address ALL aspects of the question, but does not effectively communicate a relevant message. Main points and the thesis may lack support. | Writing fails to address ALL aspects of the question. The message is incomplete. The main points and thesis are missing or poorly stated. |
| How well is the essay organized to express what the student is willing to say, and how carefully are the conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) observed, including the following 4-point Format: font, spacing, margins & MINIMUM length. | Writing is clear; logically organized , and conforms to the conventions of standard written English. All Guidelines are followed exactly. Format 4 of 4. | Writing is generally clear and well organized . There may be a few errors in the conventions of standard written English. Guidelines are followed. Format 4 of 4. | Writing is adequately organized and there may be some errors in the conventions of standard written English. Guidelines are followed. Format 3 of 4. | Writing is poorly organized AND/OR fails to demonstrate conventions of standard written English. Guidelines may/may not have been followed. Format 2 of 4. | Writing is disorganized AND fails to demonstrate conventions of standard written English. Guidelines are not followed. Format 1 of 4. |
| GRAND TOTAL: | | | | | _____ |

COMMENTS: