

Oklahoma Reading Association  
Essay Contest for Secondary Students  
Grades 9 - 12  
Guidelines  
Deadline: **February 1**

ORA sponsors an essay contest for students in grades 9 to 12. This year's theme is

“My Life as a Reader.”

Students should select someone who has influenced them as readers—perhaps a teacher, a parent or other family member, a friend, or even a character from a book. Students may determine the specific content of the essay but should include the significance reading has had in their lives.

Essays will be judged in two divisions: 9th/10th grade and 11th/12th grade.

First-place winners will receive \$100,  
Second-place winners will receive \$75,  
Third-place winners will receive \$50.

Winning essays will be published on the ORA website. Teachers of the winning students will receive certificates of recognition.

**Who May Enter:**

Students in grades 9 to 12. Each teacher may submit a maximum of five (5) entries.

**Format and Length:**

500 to 750 words, typed, double-spaced, **NO** student name on essay.

**Deadline:**

Entries should be postmarked by **February 1**.

*Oklahoma Reading Association*  
*Essay Contest for Secondary Students Grades 9-12*  
*Entry Form*

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT THE REQUESTED INFORMATION AND STAPLE THIS  
PAGE TO THE FRONT OF EACH ENTRY.

Deadline **February 1.**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Essay: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Home Phone (including area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's e-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Release Form**

**I guarantee that the essay I've submitted is my original work. By submitting my essay, I  
relinquish first copyright of the essay to the Oklahoma Reading Association.. All other  
copyrights reserved by the student.**

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian's e-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send contest entries to:**

**Deborah Yarbrough**  
Woodward High School  
Box 668  
Woodward, Oklahoma 73802