

THE 2009 CAV LATIN ESSAY CONTEST

INFORMATION AND TOPICS

1. The contest is open only to students in high schools and preparatory schools in the state of Virginia whose teacher is currently a member of the Classical Association of Virginia and whose dues for 2008-2009 have been paid in full at the time when the entry is submitted.
2. No fee is charged for essays entered in the Latin Essay Contest.
3. All entries must be submitted through the Latin teacher. No entries sent directly by the student, or received from any other source than the teacher, will be accepted.
4. Each entry must be accompanied by a written statement from the teacher, specifying
 - a. Both the level of Latin which the student is taking at the time of submittal of the essay and the number of years the student has been taking Latin.
 - b. The author(s) and title of the basic textbook being used in the course which the entrant is taking.
5. All entries must be received on or before **April 1, 2009**, and should be sent to:

John F. Miller

University of Virginia, Dept. of Classics
B018 Cocke Hall, P.O. Box 400788
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4788

6. Essays must be written entirely in Latin, and must be on the subject prescribed for the level of Latin the contestant is taking. The subjects for 2008-2009 are:

First Year Latin: *De illa regina Aegyptia Cleopatra* (100-200 words)

Second Year Latin: *De servis in familia Romana* (150-250 words)

Advanced Latin: *De ludis publicis antiquis* (200-300 words)

7. If the number of contestants warrants it, there will be separate competitions and awards for students in third-year Latin and for students in fourth- or fifth-year Latin, but this shall be entirely at the discretion of the judges.

RULES

1. The first page of each entry shall be blank, except for
 - a. The full name and home address (including the zip code) of the contestant. Nick-names should not to be used.
 - b. The full name (including the middle initial) of the contestant's Latin teacher.
 - c. The name and post office address (including zip code) of the school in which the contestant is enrolled.
2. The contestant's name shall appear in the upper right-hand corner of every page submitted, except for the first page (see Rule #1, above).
3. The name of the Latin teacher and the name of the school shall not appear anywhere except on the first page of the entry, as prescribed in Rule #1, above).
4. Contestants may write only on the subject specified for the level of Latin in which they are enrolled. The limitations on the number of words for each subject should be carefully observed.

5. No help from any person is permitted in the preparation of this essay. Reference books on Roman literature, Roman life, and Roman history, books about Roman religion, Latin dictionaries, and Latin grammars may of course be used, but a bibliography identifying books that have been used should appear at the end of the essay.

6. Judging will be based both upon the content of the essay and on Latin usage, but the correctness of the Latin will be the most important single factor. Contestants should make a conscious effort to incorporate as many as possible of the new syntactical features of the Latin language that they have encountered for the first time on the level of Latin for which they are currently enrolled. The syllabi for Latin I, Latin II, and Latin III that have been prepared for the use of students taking the Latin Tournament examinations should be consulted.

7. The names of the winners in each competition and of those receiving honorable mention will be announced at the spring meeting of the Classical Association of Virginia..

8. All entries become the property of the Classical Association of Virginia, and will not be returned to the writer after judging. Contestants who want to keep a copy should make one for themselves before submittal. The decision of the judges will in all cases be final.

***Nota Bene I: Students who plan to enter the Latin Essay Contest might find a visit to the following Latin chatroom amusing and instructive: <http://chat.yle.fi/ylradio1/latini/index.php>

***Nota Bene II: Teachers should inform students that, by entering this competition, they are giving the Classical Association of Virginia permission to publish their names in any of its official publications. This permission is given unless the students make written requests to the contrary.