

Handout for “I Believe I Can Write”: Helping Students Envision And Achieve Success in English Learning Support, presentation by Lori Danley, Dr. Robert Hassell, Rhonda Kavan, and Michael Turner; scholarship websites compiled by Mike Turner

Incorporating Scholarship Writing Into Your Class

Basic Sentence Structure

First, you can teach some basis sentence structures such as simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences.

http://webapps.towson.edu/ows/ModuleCS_FS.aspx

Here is a good resource to use in teaching these concepts.

In writing these sentences, students are learning comma rules and complex ideas, such as how the idea in one sentence interacts with another idea by the use of coordinating conjunctions, conjunctive adverbs, and subordinating conjunctions.

3-5 Sentence Scholarships

Some scholarships require only 3-5 sentences.

1 - 5 sentence scholarships

<http://www.getupgetactive.org/>

Active Life Scholarships, 3 different scholarships awarding a \$1,000 each

<http://www.digitalresponsibility.org/scholarships/>

Digital Responsibility Scholarships

You might even want students to write, answering the questions above without showing the scholarship. Then, go around the class, suggesting revisions. After the students have written and revised around these specific questions, then tell them, “Now, if you wish, you can enter a \$1,000 scholarship.”

250 Word or Less Scholarships

You can teach small 250 word or less assignments to further develop writing skills. Here, students can write several drafts before submitting the scholarships.

Several scholarships encourage creativity.

<https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/zombie-apocalypse-scholarship>

\$2,000 Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship, Deadline: Oct 31, 2018

Submit an online written response to the question:

"Imagine that your high school or college has been overrun with zombies. Your math professor, the cafeteria ladies, and even your best friend have all joined the walking dead. Flesh out a plan to avoid the zombies, including where you'd hide and the top-five things you'd bring to stay alive." (250 words or less)

Once again, you might want to introduce this as an actual topic, having students write stories, poems, parodies, or other drafts creatively, and then introduce them to the scholarship.

Other small writing assignment potentials

<https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships>

Several of these scholarships offered by Unigo can serve as small writing projects.

<https://couragetogrowscholarship.com/>

\$500 Courage to Grow Scholarship, offered monthly

Eligibility: "You must be a junior or senior in high school or college student with a minimum GPA of 2.5 or better. U.S. citizens only please.

Please explain in 250 words or less why you believe that you should be awarded this scholarship: (Note: Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are important.)"

<http://www.genkellyscholarship.com/>

\$1,000 Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship, Deadline: Dec. 31, 2018

Guidelines: “In 250 words or less, please submit an essay on one of the following:

1. Why do you deserve to win this scholarship? -OR-
2. Describe your academic or career goals. -OR-
3. Any topic of your choice.

Feel free to re-use an essay that you wrote in class, for college admission or another scholarship competition.”

Essay Scholarship Writing

Stages of the writing process can be taught as you allow students to explore and write essays that can be used for essay scholarship competitions.

<https://www.scooterinside.com/scholarship/>

\$1,200 Scooterinside Digital Marketing Scholarship, Deadline: Oct. 30, 2018

“The aspiring candidate must submit an essay of up to 1500 words (maximum) which should provide answers to the following questions:

- How important is social media marketing for small businesses?
- How social media is changing customer acquisition?
- How SEO (Search Engine Optimization) can help local businesses to get more clients?”

<https://www.foreclosure.com/scholarship/>

\$2,500 and \$500 Foreclosure.com Scholarship Program, D: Dec. 15, 2018

Min. 800 words—Max. 2,000 words

“2018 essay topic: Discuss the pros and cons of renting versus homeownership.

Is renting just a short-term solution before homeownership? Or has America just taken the easier way out with renting and homeownership is dying with Millennials. Discuss what factors could increase or decrease homeownership among the generation, is it a location, financial or culture issue?”

<https://www.rentlingo.com/scholarship>

\$1,000 Dream Big Scholarship, Deadline: October 1, 2018; March 1, 2019

“Write an essay about what's your dream job (750 words or less). The top overall winner will receive the \$1,000 scholarship and the top three submissions will have the option to get career advice / coaching from RentLingo's founders, Dan Laufer and Byron Singh.”

Other Scholarships that Require Writing

<https://www.halloweenexpress.com/blog/halloween-express-scholarship/>

\$1,000 Halloween Express Scholarship, Deadline: Oct. 31, 2018

<https://sites.google.com/site/awmmath/programs/essay-contest>

Association for Women in Mathematics Essay Contest, Deadline: Jan 31st of each year

<https://resumegenius.com/scholarship>

\$1,000 Resume Genius Scholarship, Deadline: December 15, 2018

“Create a resume based on the life of any fictional or non-fictional character, from TV, history, literature or myth.”

Where to Find More Scholarships

I maintain a scholarship blog for TSU students. This is where I find a lot of the scholarships.

<https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/scholarships/>

Search for scholarships here first

<https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/scholarships/all-scholarships-2/>

Scholarships by Monthly deadlines

<https://www.nitrocollege.com/scholarships>

Good database of scholarships

<https://www.unigo.com/scholarships>

Unigo Database of Scholarships

<https://www.goodcall.com/scholarships/>

Goodcall Scholarship Database

<https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-scholarships.aspx>

Scholarship Finder at CareerOneStop

<https://www.chegg.com/scholarships#>

List of over 600 scholarships at Chegg.com, including scholarships for college (including graduate school) and high school students

<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/3subject.htm>

Grants for Individuals page, updated and maintained by Jon Harrison, contains a breakdown of “funding opportunities for individuals, such as financial aid or scholarships for students.”

Funding is broken down by subject, by population group, and by academic level (precollege, undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctorate).

Also, consider multiple categories you can explore. For example, if you are sociology major but also play an instrument or sing, you might check under Music.

If you are pre-law, besides Law, you might check under Writing for writing competitions you can enter. Be creative. Do not limit yourself.

The links on this page are checked regularly and updated.

<https://www.benefits.gov/>

Started in 2002, **Benefits.gov** has become the portal for information about government benefits, which includes state information.

Students, and also parents, can choose to answer questions in the Benefit Finder Tool and find benefits, including scholarships, internships, and government programs, they can apply for.

Or

<https://www.benefits.gov/benefits/browse-by-category>

You can click on Browse on the menu to get an overview of many different programs

Warn Your Students!

SKIP THE ADS! (Some of the ads are legitimate, but sadly I can't vouch for them all. Avoid the single mom or single dad scholarships—I and a few other students have received calls, and some of the operators are not scrupulous, trying to pressure students in pursuing degrees at for-profit colleges and to take on heavy student loans.

They often ask very extensive, very invasive questions if you sign up for them, in order to give that information to marketers.)

Find more scholarship information and handouts at the Scholarship Tigers blog:

<https://scholarshiptigers.com/>