TEXAS HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES

TIPS FOR WINNING ESSAYS 2022 – 2023

1. Set your goal to write a historically accurate essay following the specific instructions provided.
2. Start early and schedule time for search and writing. (September through December)
3. Thoroughly research your topic using books, newspapers, magazines and don’t depend on the internet alone. **Only two internet sources are allowed.**
4. Use your library and ask the staff for advice.
5. Visit historic sites in person and interview knowledgeable history professionals. Arrange to take a guided tour of the site.
6. Use a picture to illustrate a point in your essay if appropriate.
7. Use Spell-check and check your grammar, facts, dates, footnotes and bibliography for accuracy.
8. Properly give credit to your research sources in your notes and bibliography. Essay is checked for plagiarism.
9. Ask your teachers and advisors for suggestion and advice. Rewrite your essay to make your final improvements.
10. Submit your essay well ahead of the required date of January 31st.

EXAMPLE OF ENDNOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY TO BE USED AS GUIDE

Please Note: Many authors use multiple sources for a paragraph (see endnote 3 and 4) and place the endnote at the end of the paragraph. You may not use “ibid,” with multiple sources. The word “ibid” refers to a single source only; therefore, footnote 6 is correct since footnote 5 has only one source.

USING UNDERLINING:

ENDNOTES:


James, *The Raven*, p.92

Ibid., p.94

BIBLIOGRAPHY:


