

Oxford Royale Essay Competition

Terms & Conditions

General conditions

1. This competition (“the Competition”) is operated and promoted by Oxford Royale. By entering the Competition, you agree to these terms and conditions and confirm that you are submitting under your true name and age.
2. Entry to the competition is deemed an acceptance of Oxford Royale’s general terms and conditions of use as documented here: <https://www.oxford-royale.com/about/useful-information/policies/terms-conditions/>
3. The Competition will run until **23:59 PM UK time on 6th January 2025**, and winners will be notified by **23:59 PM UK time on 31st January 2025**. Late entries will not be accepted.
4. All entries must be received by the closing date of the Competition. Only entries that are duly received by us by the closing date will be eligible for the Competition. We cannot accept responsibility for entries that are lost, delayed or damaged.
5. The winners will be notified (by email or phone, using contact details provided with the entry) by **31st January 2025**. We will do our utmost to inform winners using the contact method they provided (phone, email or school contact). If we cannot contact winners after 30 days of the announcement, another winner will be selected.

Eligibility

1. There will be two categories: 13 to 15 year olds and 16 to 18 year olds.
2. To enter, the age of the student must be within the competition range they select up to **6th January 2025** (the closing date of the Competition). To redeem the scholarship, the student must be within the age range of 13-18 during our 2025 programmes, running between **29th June 2025 to 16th August**.
3. If a winning student is over the age of 18 on the **29th June 2025**, they will not be able to claim a scholarship. They will still receive a certificate and feedback from the judges.
4. In entering the Competition, you confirm that you are eligible to do so and eligible to claim any prize you may win. Oxford Royale may require you to provide proof that you are eligible to enter the competition.
5. If your age will change during the duration of the competition from 15 to 16, you may decide which category you wish to enter.
6. If you are under the age of 18 or are classed as a minor wherever you reside, you must obtain parental or guardian consent to enter and to claim your prize. Oxford Royale will ask the winners to provide proof of age and parental consent.

Entry to the competition

1. Only **one entry per person** is permitted. You may not enter in more than one topic, with the same or with different essays, or in more than one age group. **Your first entry will be considered with no exceptions, so ensure you have submitted the correct essay when you enter.**
2. The ages are split into two groups, 13 to 15 and 16 to 18, each with three questions to choose from. Only essays that address one of these questions will be accepted. **Any essays that deviate from the proposed questions will be disqualified.**
3. For the 13 to 15 category, the maximum length of the essay is **600 words**.
4. For the 16 to 18 category, the maximum length of the essay is **1000 words**.
5. Entries must be written in English, typed, and submitted as a Word Document or PDF using the online form found at www.oxford-royale.com/essay-competition. Handwritten essays, unreadable documents, and essays not in the English Language will be disqualified.
6. English **does not need** to be your first language, and the content of the essay will be considered over the competency of English language, spelling and grammar. Entrants must still complete the essay to the best of their English language ability.
7. Entries must be submitted online to the instructions specified.
8. There will be no feedback on entries that do not win the prize.
9. Footnotes and citations are allowed, and will not be included in the final word count. Any style of citation is accepted, and a bibliography is not mandatory and will not be included in the word count. Footnotes and bibliographies will not be assessed.
10. Entrants should retain their own copy of the essay as no entries will be returned.
11. Entrants retain authorship of their entries, and taking part in the competition accept that Oxford Royale retains unlimited, non-exclusive rights to reproduction, publishing, broadcast (across all media) and posting online, and on any other platforms yet to be envisaged, together with the entrant's name, age and country of residence, without further compensation. However, there is no guarantee that any essays, written by either winners or runners up, will be published in any way. This licence will be deemed to include all the necessary rights and permissions to enable such use by Oxford Royale to fulfil the prizes and to complete the administration of this Competition.
12. Oxford Royale reserves the right to disqualify any participant that they determine are submitting material that is deemed to be offensive, defamatory or obscene, or any other unsuitable material. Oxford Royale reserves the right to disqualify entries containing such matters.
13. Entries must be original work by the entrant. Oxford Royale reserves the right to disqualify any participant that they determine are submitting material that has been plagiarised from any source whatsoever. All entries will be checked for plagiarism before being assessed. It is the responsibility of the participant to ensure that their essay does not infringe the copyright of any third party or any other laws.

14. Entries will be assessed for use of generative artificial intelligence. If an entry is deemed to be created using AI, the entry will be disqualified.
15. All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. Oxford Royale accepts no responsibility if entrants ignore these terms and conditions and entrants agree to indemnify Oxford Royale against any claim by any third party from any breach of these terms and conditions.
16. Entries not submitted in accordance with these terms and all other rules and directions given, or entries that are incomplete or illegible (as determined in Oxford Royale's sole discretion) will not be eligible.
17. Entrants to the competition must submit using a valid email address, and they must also provide the name and email address for their parent/ guardian when submitting. This is so that Oxford Royale can contact Entrants and parents/guardians with updates on the competition. In the first email correspondence parents/guardians and Entrants will be given the opportunity to opt out of marketing emails, which they may do at the time, and any time thereafter.

Prizes

1. There will be five winners in each age category, awarded first, second and third place, with two runners up in each age group.
2. All winners and runners up will receive a fully funded place at one of Oxford Royale's 2025 Summer Schools. The winner may choose which programme, location and start date they would like to attend, which will be booked depending on availability. Details of programmes can be found here www.oxford-royale.com/courses. This is a two-week summer programme on campus at some of the best universities in the world. Start dates for the programmes can be found here: <https://www.oxford-royale.com/prices-and-dates/>
3. Winners must choose a course, location and start date according to Oxford Royale's available programmes.
4. The prize covers the cost of the **programme fees only**. The student is responsible for all other fees related to their attendance on the programme, including travel to the country where the course is taking place, transfers to and from the airport, insurance costs, any food and drink not covered by the course fee or provided as standard by Oxford Royale, taxes, personal expenses, and all other costs.
5. Any such costs additional to the programme fee, or other costs incidental to the fulfilment of the prizes, are the responsibility of the winners.
6. The winners and runners up will be responsible for ensuring that they are available to travel and hold valid passports, any necessary visas and other travel documents for the prize in question on the travel dates specified. Oxford Royale will provide visa assistance to winners and runners up, in accordance with our standard processes, which can be viewed [here](#).

Prize Disclaimer

1. Oxford Royale reserves the right to present no prizes or commendations if an insufficient number of deserving essays is received.
2. Oxford Royale will not be responsible or liable for any costs, problems, damage or loss of whatsoever nature to the participants resulting from their participation in the competition.
3. Oxford Royale will not be responsible or liable for any problem, loss, damage or disappointment of whatsoever nature suffered by any party due to any delay and/or failure in submitting entries to the competition.
4. Oxford Royale will not be liable for any damage, loss or disappointment suffered by an individual taking part or not being able to take part in this Competition, or from being unable to claim their prize or otherwise being unable to participate in Oxford Royale's courses in July and August 2025.
5. The prizes are valid for summer 2025 only and cannot be rolled over to a subsequent year.
6. The judges' decision is final, at its sole discretion, and not subject to appeal. No correspondence will be entered into. The prizes are not transferable and no part or parts of any prize may be substituted for other benefits, items or additions.
7. Winners and runners up, when taking up their prize, will be required to register for a programme using Oxford Royale's standard registration procedure. The cost of the course will be reduced to zero.
8. If a winner is already enrolled on our programme, they can study for a further two weeks on another programme, or claim their prize in 2026. No refunds will be given.
9. If the Entrant defers their prize, they will
10. Winners and runners up will be bound by the standard terms and conditions of attending an Oxford Royale programme, which can be found [here](#).
11. There is no alternative prize or cash alternative and prizes cannot be transferred to any other person. We may alter arrangements or prizes should this be deemed necessary by us. Prizes are not transferable to any other year and must be taken in 2025, unless a winner is already enrolled for a 2025 programme (see above).

Winners

1. Oxford Royale will make all reasonable efforts to contact the winners. If any winner cannot be contacted or is not available, or has not claimed his or her prize within 30 days of the announcement date, Oxford Royale reserves the right to offer the prize to the next eligible entrant selected from the correct entries that were received before the closing date.
2. We may ask you to provide documentary proof of your identity and/or address before award of the prize. The use of a false name or address will disqualify you from receiving any prize.

3. The judge's decision is final and Oxford Royale will not enter into any discussion about the merits of the winners or any grievances of entrants who did not win.
4. All standard Terms & Conditions for the courses excluding any conditions for payment of fees apply to all winners and runners up and can be viewed [here](#).

Promotion

1. The winning essays may be published on Oxford Royale's website and used for promotional purposes in all formats, both electronic and printed.
2. Oxford Royale reserves the right, at their sole and absolute discretion, to use names and information about participants without obtaining further consent from the participant or providing any payment whatsoever to the participant for any commercial or non-commercial endeavours, publicity, advertising, trade or promotion in perpetuity.
3. By submitting an entry, you grant permission to Oxford Royale, and to those acting under Oxford Royale's authority, to use your name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information.
4. By submitting an entry, you agree that Oxford Royale may at its sole discretion edit, adapt, abridge or translate the entry for the purposes listed in these terms and conditions. This applies to both winners and runners up in the Competition.
5. Oxford Royale reserves the right to modify the format and content of essays for publication purposes.
6. By entering, the entrants, including the winner, agree to allow the free use of their names, photographs and general locations for publicity and news purposes during this competition.
7. Entrants agree to the use of their work, and any statements made by them in, for example, a testimonial about their course, for promotional purposes, without additional compensation, in all media now known or hereafter discovered, worldwide and on the Internet and World Wide Web, without notice, review or approval.
8. If requested, winners and runners up commit to writing a testimonial of their time at Oxford Royale for marketing purposes and agree to the use of photos to illustrate it, on the website, in emails and in printed materials.
9. If requested, winners and runners up commit to posting on their social media accounts in the period between winning and attending the course, whilst on the course and for the six weeks after they attend.
10. If requested, winners and runners up commit to reviewing Oxford Royale on reviews.io, Go Overseas and any other review sites as they may be requested to do.

Privacy and notices

1. Uses of personal data received by Oxford Royale in the course of the competition are subject to current UK data protection legislation. The winner's name may be published on the website. All entrants should review Oxford Royale's privacy policy [here](#).

2. We will use any personal information that you give us in accordance with the law and our privacy policy, for the purposes of the Competition, in the ways described in these terms and conditions, and for any marketing or other purposes you may indicate your consent to. We may also share your details with our service providers and agents for the purposes of providing prizes on our behalf
3. Submission of an entry will be deemed acceptance of these terms and conditions, and of Oxford Royale's privacy policy.
4. Oxford Royale reserves the right at any time to cancel, modify or supersede the competition (including altering the prize) if, in their sole discretion, the Competition is not capable of being conducted as specified. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, we may alter, amend or foreclose the Competition without prior notice. We reserve the right to change these terms at any time. The Competition is void wherever prohibited by law.
5. Insofar as is permitted by law, Oxford Royale, its agents or distributors will not in any circumstances be responsible or liable to compensate the winner or accept any liability for any loss, damage or personal injury occurring as a result of taking up a prize. Your statutory rights are not affected.
6. These terms are governed by English law and in entering, all entrants submit to the jurisdiction of the English courts.