

The Society for Technical Communication

The Society for Technical Communication (STC) is the world's largest association dedicated to the technical communication professional. With over 24,000 members in 140 chapters around the world, STC promotes the technical communication profession by providing education, scholarships, competitions, conferences, seminars, community services, networking opportunities, and employment information.

STC members include writers, editors, analysts, graphic artists, researchers, educators, publishers, and audio/video specialists. Their level of knowledge and experience ranges from college students to renowned experts.

The Orlando Chapter of STC consists of over 125 technical communicators pursuing their careers in private firms, government agencies, and academic institutions.

For more information about the Society for Technical Communication, contact STC Headquarters:

Society for Technical Communication
901 N. Stuart Street
Suite 904
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 522-4114



Fifth Annual
**Central Florida
High School
Technical Writing
Competition**

for Students in Grades 10-12

*Sponsored by the
Orlando Chapter
of the
Society for Technical Communication*

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[http://stc.org/region3/orl/www/
education/hscomp.htm](http://stc.org/region3/orl/www/education/hscomp.htm)

The Competition

The Orlando Chapter of the Society for Technical Communication invites high school students in the Central Florida area (Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Brevard, and Volusia counties) to submit entries for the Central Florida High School Technical Writing Competition.

There is no entry fee for the competition. The Chapter sponsors this competition to encourage the development of technical writing skills among students in grades 10, 11, and 12.

What to Submit

To enter the competition, a student must submit an original non-fiction report, essay, or expository article on a technical or scientific subject of his/her choosing. The paper may be written for a course or may be written especially for the competition. Each student may submit only one entry.

The paper should be objective and informative, conveying complete factual information for a specific purpose. It should provide the basis for the reader to understand a concept or process, form an opinion, or reach a decision. The target audience for the paper is an intelligent layperson, not a specialist in the subject area.

The student should submit two copies of his or her paper, and keep a copy for himself/herself. The length of the paper should be five pages or less (including graphics, endnotes, and references).

Format Requirements

Entries must be typed in English, 1 ½ or double-spaced on one side of non-erasable white 8 ½- by 11-inch paper. Computer printouts are acceptable if produced on a laser or inkjet printer (no dot matrix).

Each entry must have a cover sheet containing the information requested in the Competition Guidelines, which are available on our Web site at <http://stc.org/region3/orl/www/education/hscomp.htm>.

Papers that do not adhere to the requirements set forth in the Competition Guidelines will be disqualified.

Submitting an Entry

Entries must be postmarked by December 1, 2000.

Staple your cover sheet and paper together at the top left corner. Do not use covers or binders.

Mail your entry flat in a 9- by 12-inch envelope via first-class mail to:

Central Florida High School
Technical Writing Contest
P.O. Box 1343
Orlando, FL 32802-1343

Any questions regarding the competition or its guidelines should be submitted via e-mail to jskessler@aol.com.

Basis for Judging

A panel of professional writers, editors, and educators will judge the entries. Each entry will be numerically rated using established judging criteria.

Judges will consider the overall quality of each entry, including the presence of a clear and coherent thesis; proper organization, including effective use of headings and subheadings; correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation; effective use of graphics; and proper use and documentation of reference materials and sources.

Awards

The Chapter will provide four levels of awards for entries meeting the criteria for each award level:

Distinguished - \$250.00

Excellence - \$150.00

Merit - \$75.00

Honorable Mention - \$25

Awards will be presented at the STC Orlando Chapter Awards Dinner in Spring 2001. Winners of the competition will also receive local recognition of their achievement. Winners and their teachers will be notified by mail before the awards ceremony.