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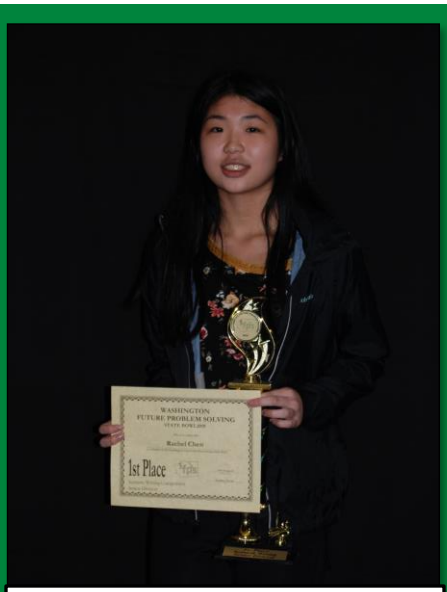
Washington FPS

FROM THE AD'S DESK
JANUARY 2020

Odle Middle School student Prisha Hemani wins 1st place, Scenario Writing, Middle Division, at the 2019 State Bowl.



Interlake High School student Rachel Chen wins 1st place, Scenario Writing, Senior Division, at the 2019 State Bowl.

Interlake High School student Emily Feng wins Best Senior Scenario Writer at the 2019 International Conference.

Hello Coaches,

If you are reading this on the day of publication, January 1, I hope that you are enjoying your winter break and that you have taken this time to prepare mentally for the second half of the school year. Many of you are gearing up for first semester final exams, but some of you are thinking about the opportunity that the next three months offers your students with fewer interruptions than November and December.

For those of you who are coaching scenario performers, note that the deadline for submission is February 4. Please check out the rules and regulations for this competition. They can be found on the wafps.org website under Resources for Coaches, including the ScP Submission Sheet that is required.

Scenario Writing coaches, the deadline draws near for the submission of your student's work. There are four items which will need to be submitted to the Dropbox for each of your students: 1. the story in Word format, 2. the story in PDF format, 3. the SW Entry Cover Sheet, and 4. the Publication Release/Statement of Authenticity. (Both #3 and #4 are found on the WA FPS website under Resources for Coaches.)

Please send photos of your students, either individually or in groups, to Kari Beyer, kaldrich@nr.k12.wa.us, in order for these photos to be included in the slide show at the opening ceremony of the 2020 State Bowl.

Future scenes for the Qualifying Problem, Gamification, will be emailed to all coaches on or before January 6. Please adhere to the rules regarding administration of the QP (on page 2). Deadline for submission of the QP into the coach's Dropbox is January 14. Good luck to all the teams!

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Affiliate Director

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TIPS FOR WRITING EFFECTIVE SCENARIOS

Coaches, many of your students may have already written their scenarios; however, now's a great time for students to do more editing. Here are some tips that may help them.

1. Grab your Reader: To write an effective scenario, you first must capture your reader's attention immediately. If you don't force the reader to want to read your story in the first few sentences, you have not done your job. If you have spent 500 words leading up to the main event, rethink your story, start again and begin your scenario right where the first important encounter occurs.

2. Create Relevant Characters: Make your scenarios as real as possible. A scenario is essentially a story with characters and situations. Allow your reader to feel an emotional connection to the protagonist as the story develops.

3. Create a logical connection to the topic: A well-written scenario should allow the reader to feel that the story fits into one of the annual topics. A scenario usually poses problem situations for the protagonist to respond to. Thus, an effective scenario leads the reader to believe that the protagonist has the necessary skills to overcome the situation you have created.

4. Think futuristically: A scenario will only work if it doesn't feel like it is happening today.
Think about how your character is reacting to the situation and say to yourself, "*Could this happen now*?" or "*What could I change so this is less likely to sound like it could happen today*?"

5. Use Informal and Conversational Language: It is generally a good idea to use conversational and informal language while writing scenarios. Readers can easily relate to the conversational style and find it easier to engage with the story.

6. Use Interesting Interactivities: Another useful tip to make the scenarios interesting and effective is to use as many interactivities as possible. Don't tell what happened to the protagonist, describe how he/she feels as it happens. Don't say the walls were ugly, describe how they feel or smell as the characters interact with them.

7. Make the ending spectacular: leave the reader feeling exhausted or exhilarated after the character has survived your scenario. Is your character emotionally drained? Do you feel that the protagonist really became involved in the action?

8. Use vivid vocabulary: As you edit your story, look at each word or sentence and decide if every word is essential. Take out redundant phrases. Add rich emotional words and phrases. Take out any phrases that do not enhance the story.

9. Edit your story. Then read it and edit it again. Leave it for 24 hours and then edit it again.

GIPS QP RULES REMINDER

As the QP is not a practice problem, please adhere to the following rules regarding administration of the process:

- ✓ A team must be 4 or fewer students.
- ✓ A maximum of **120 consecutive minutes** are allowed to work on the booklet.
- ✓ Students must not see the Future Scene before the 120 minutes begin. Coaches should not read the Future Scene prior to the competition starting.
- ✓ They must use the scene for their division (Junior, Middle/Senior.)
- ✓ Work must be completed by the team only, with no outside help or resources of any kind.
- ✓ No notebook paper; however, blank white paper can be provided by the coach/proctor.
- ✓ **Permitted items: Pencils, pencil sharpener, pens, highlighters, dictionary, thesaurus, pack of unopened sticky notes, calculator (non-programmable), and water.**

STATE BOWL FEES

If you are starting to plan for the 2020 State Bowl, here are the fees and costs. Registration and payment will be on the WAFPS website again this year.

State Bowl 2020 will be held at the Warm Beach Conference Center in Stanwood. Please note the State Bowl dates, which are **earlier** this year: March 18-20.

State Bowl Registration: $60 per participant; $25 per adult Options 1 and 2 below are in addition to the registration fee:

1. Room and Board* $124 (includes 2 nights, 5 meals)
2. Commuter $55 (includes 5 meals, no lodging)

Day Adult Visitor: $35 (includes registration and one meal, additional meals may be purchased at $11.50** through the WAFPS website)

***Linens add $12**
****Revised as of 1/1/20**

Important Dates

1/9: CmPS progress reports due

1/14: QP due

1/23: Scenario Writing due

2/4: Scenario Performance due

2/20: CmPS projects due

2/28: Advancing Scenario Writing Cover Sheets due to IO

3/3: State Bowl registration deadline

3/9: Advancing Scenario Writing due to IO

3/18-20: State Bowl at Warm Beach

4/3: Advancing CmPS Cover Sheet due to IO

4/14: Advancing CmPS projects due to IO

6/3-7: 2020 International Conference, Amherst, Massachusetts

SCENARIO GUIDELINES REMINDER

Scenarios are due on January 23. Here's a handy checklist for your students.

___Must be set at least 20 years in the future
__ Must have a recognizable relationship to one of the 2019-20 FPSPI Topics or De-Extinction (2019 IC Topic)
__ Must not exceed 1500 words
__ Must be typed, 12 pt font size and readable common font (Arial, Calibri, Times New Roman)
__ No author's name, school, or Affiliate Program may appear in the scenario document
__ Must have the title at the top of the first page (header).
__ Four items must be submitted via coach's Dropbox: 1. Story in Word format; 2. Story in PDF format; 3. Publication Release and Statement of Authenticity; 4. A completed copy of the Scenario Writing Entry Cover Sheet (all forms can be found under Coaches Resources on wafps.org).

FINAL WORDS FROM THE AD'S DESK

With fewer than six months until the International Conference, qualifying students in the southern hemisphere already are fund-raising in order to finance their trip to the conference in June. This year, the standard room and meal package cost for one student, double occupancy for four nights will be $597 and for three nights, $536. This does not include transportation to UMass, Amherst.

Please remember that the CmPS progress reports are due on January 9. The form can be found under Coaches Resources on wafps.org.

Please call/text (509) 386-6297 or email me (jbuissinkwafps@gmail.com) any time you have questions.

Next Month: **Registration for State Bowl; Preparing for State Bowl.**

***"The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be ignited."* – Plutarch**