

Letters About Literature

Official ASSESSMENT RUBRIC for the 2015-2017 COMPETITION From the National LAL Office

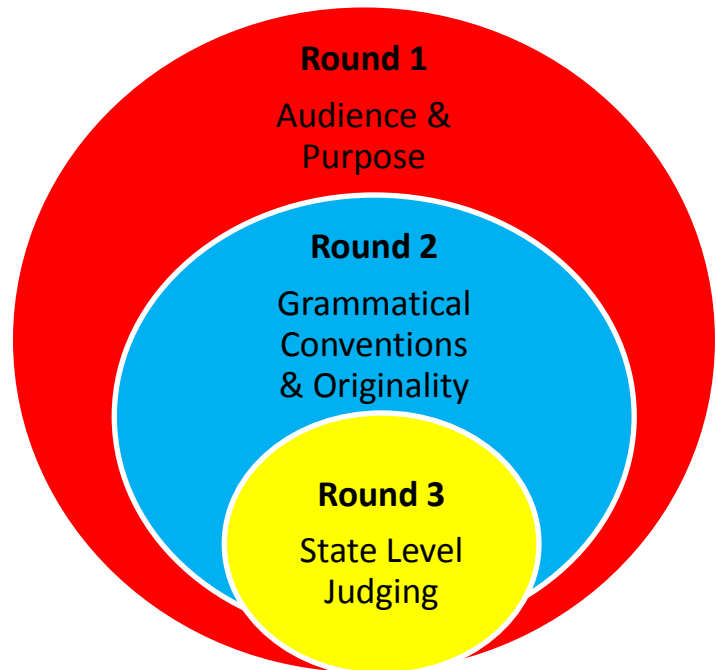
As submitted to Dollar General Literacy Foundation as part of the LAL Grant Application

Entries will be judged on the following four criteria. Letters submitted to the participating state centers/state sponsors will have scored 3 – 4 points.

Round 1

- **Audience.** (1 point) Is the essay in letter format and does it address the author of the work? Entries that are not in letter format and are written about the author, rather than to the author, will be eliminated.
- **Purpose.** (1 point) Does the essay address the contest theme of how an author's work changed the reader's view of self or the world? Is personal reflection evident in the letter? Entries that are book summaries or fan letters will be eliminated.

Letters that score 2 points will advance to round 2.



Round 2

- **Grammatical conventions.** Is the essay written in a clear and organized way with specific details to support the essay's main ideas? Single paragraph letters with significant grammatical errors will be eliminated. *Scoring scale:* Acceptable competence = 1 point; limited competence = 0 points.
- **Originality of expression.** Does the essay express ideas creatively, communicating a unique or powerful point of view? Letters that are formulaic without evidence of a writer's voice will be eliminated. *Scoring scale:* Acceptable competence = 1 point; limited competence = 0 points.

Letters that score 3 - 4 points will advance to round 3.