



LUG Inter-High School Essay and Debate Competition

SCHOLARS CUP CHALLENGE

Theme: **Youth Economy**

Marking Rubric

Plagiarism above 10% will automatically result in an overall mark of zero

Criteria	Poor	Good	Excellent	Weight
Understanding of the Theme	Misinterprets the topic or lacks focus.	Demonstrates partial understanding and addresses the theme moderately.	Clearly understands and thoughtfully explores the topic.	20%
Originality & Creativity	Unoriginal content, predictable ideas, clichés.	Some unique insights or creative structure.	Exceptionally original ideas and approach; demonstrates fresh thinking.	20%
Structure & Coherence	Lacks clear structure; ideas are disorganized.	The essay has a basic structure (intro, body, conclusion) with some flow.	Logical, cohesive flow; strong transitions and clear development.	15%
Critical Thinking & Argument Development	Arguments are weak, shallow, or missing.	Some relevant arguments: limited depth or evidence.	Persuasive, well-developed arguments supported by strong reasoning and evidence.	20%
Grammar, Language & Style	Frequent errors: poor vocabulary, unclear expression.	Few language or grammar errors; effective style.	Polished language, precise grammar, engaging tone, and vocabulary.	15%
Relevance & Impact	Content lacks relevance to real-world issues or audience.	Moderately relevant; some attempt to connect with impact.	Highly relevant with strong social, cultural, or educational relevance and impact.	10%