

Science Writing

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Budding journalists and science writers, here is your chance to inspire, impress and inform your readers.

2024 Science Writing titles:

- El Nino
- **Avoiding Sporting Injuries** - concussion, muscle injuries
- **Species Survival**
- **Green Hydrogen**
- **Impacts of Eutrophication**
- **Space Junk**
- **The World in Colour** - changes in seasons, indicators, spectroscopy
- **First Nation science** - *The Science in Traditional Indigenous objects (e.g. the physics behind weapon designs like the Boomerang, paint colours, medicine)*
- **Science as a Human Endeavour** (YEAR 11–12 LEVEL ONLY)

A successful SASTA Oliphant Science Awards Science Writing entry:

- Is well researched and has accurate science content.
- Will communicate ideas clearly.
- Will be original, innovative and your own work.
- Will have accurate punctuation and spelling.
- Will have a References section that acknowledges all sources of information (for students in Years 7–8, 9–10 and 11–12, this will include in-text referencing).

Rules for Science Writing Entries:

- You must write on one of the titles listed above. Please ensure the title is clearly identified on your entry.
- The Science Writing entry must be the work of one person (no group entries).
- You must include a reference list that contains all the sources of information that you used. This includes all books, websites, magazines, and any people you have interviewed.
- Appropriate “in-text” referencing is expected for students in Years 7–8, 9–10 and 11–12.
- If you quote directly from a source, you must use quotation marks and include a reference to the source of the quote.
- **AI Tools are not permitted for any aspect of science writing.**

- Science Writing can be in a number of different genres:
 - Recount
 - Narrative
 - Explanation
 - Discussion
 - Response
 - Information Report
 - Procedure
 - Persuasion/Exposition
 - Description
 - Comic (graphic writing)
 - Infographic



- You may include pictures and graphic illustrations. However, if illustrations or pictures are copied you must include a reference next to the illustration or picture.
- Write or word-process your entry yourself. If there are special reasons for using help in typing or editing, then this help must be acknowledged after your reference list.
- The length of your Science Writing entry depends on your year level:
 - Year R–2: do not exceed 200 words;
 - Year 3–4 and 5–6: do not exceed 800 words;
 - Year 7–8, 9–10, 11–12: do not exceed 1500 words.
- **A word count must be included on your entry** (please note: titles, labels and referencing are not included in the word count). *There can be up to 10% tolerance of the word limit*

In presenting your Science Writing entry (online submission ONLY):

The following documents will need to be uploaded for your project:

- Cover sheet with your Student ID details (your Coordinator will give you this)
- Electronic copy of your science writing entry.
- Entries will be accepted as PDF or Word documents only. We cannot guarantee judges will be able to access any other file types.

For full details on electronic submission, see: <https://bit.ly/OSAOnlineSubmission>

Key Dates:

- **Friday 7 June - 28 June:** entry submitted online