**2014 to 2015 ITBE Poetry Contest  
ACROSTIC Rubric Guidelines**

***Directions for submitting your Acrostic poetry entries:***

*First, score all of the poems submitted from each grade level that you teach. Next, rank your poems. Please submit the top 5 entries. Be sure to send a cover sheet with each student’s entry.*

***The following attributes must be included in the poem.***

\_\_\_\_\_ **A**. **The subject of the acrostic poem is written vertically one letter at a   
 time in a column.**

1 point = Perfect

0 points = Subject not written correctly.

\_\_\_\_\_ **B**. **Each vertical letter begins a word, a phrase, or a sentence in each line of a poem.**

1 point = Perfect   
0 points = The vertical letter is not at the beginning of the word, phrase, or   
 sentence of each line.

\_\_\_\_\_ **C**. **There should be no repetitive words in the poem.**

2 points = No words repeat  
1 point = 1 word repeats  
0 points = 2 + words repeat

\_\_\_\_\_ **D.** **Creative/linguistically complex words or phrases are used.** The   
 student shows knowledge & use of specialized words in his/her poem.

3 points = There are at least 80% words that show linguistic complexity.

2 points = There are at least 60% words that show linguistic complexity.

1 point = There are at least 40% words that show linguistic complexity.

0 points = Less than 40% of the words show linguistic complexity or are common words

\_\_\_\_\_ **E**. **Words are spelled correctly.** (The exception is the letter “X”. If a word, phrase, or sentence has an “X” sound in the first syllable of the word then it doesn’t need to be spelled correctly because of the difficulty of finding words that start with “X” that relate to this topic.)

1 point = 0 to 1 spelling errors

0 points = 2 + spelling errors

\_\_\_\_\_ **F. Each word, phrase, or sentence describes the topic.**

2 points = All of the words describe/support the topic.

1 points = At least 90 % of the words describe/support the topic.

0 point = 80 % or less of the words describe/support the topic.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 10 Maximum Number of points**

**ACROSTIC Rubric Guidelines (cont’d)**

**Sample Topics Include:**

F C H P C F E H

I H A A O O I A

R R L S U O D N

S I L S N D A B

T S O O T L O

T W V R F K

N M E E I I

A A E R E T

M S N S R

E

**Steps to take in order to prepare your entries for the poetry contest.**

1. Students may only submit one poem into the poetry contest.
2. Assess all of the poems that your students submit. **Use the Scoring sheet to pick your top 5 entries for each grade level.** For example, if you work with more than one grade then you can submit five entries for each grade you teach in the Acrostic poem category. You don’t need to send in your Scoring Sheet.
3. Complete an entry sheet for each student in your top 5.
4. Be sure the student only uses their first name on the poem (if they decide to use their name). Darken out the last name OR have the student edit the poem. *(For example a 2nd grader works really hard on handwriting their poem and after you instructed them not to put their name on the paper, they still do. That’s when the last name needs to be darkened with a marker.)*
5. If you are mailing the entries: Please paper clip each entry sheet on top of the appropriate poem and place in the envelope. Be sure to include the title of the poem on the cover sheet to help avoid confusion. *Please do not staple the documents.*

If you are sending the entries via email: Be sure to attach the documents as a Word document or a PDF file. To avoid confusion between entries, save the documents using the title of the poem and cover sheet using the title of the poem OR student’s first name.

1. An email will be sent verifying that all of the entries were received.

**Acrostic Scoring Sheet**

(Use one per grade level that you teach.)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Name | A  Subject | B  Vertical | C  Repetitions | D  Complexity | E  Spelling | F  Topic | Total Points | Place-ment |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 23 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |