



## ROTARY 4-WAY TEST ESSAY CONTEST 2018

ATTENTION: 7TH AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

We invite you to participate in the Rotary's Annual 4-Way Test Essay Contest for 2018 sponsored by your local Rotary club and District 7720.

For over sixty years Rotarians have been using the 4-Way Test as a guideline for making decisions in their business, community and personal affairs. It is meant to promote high ethical standards in every aspect of daily life. This 24 word 4-Way Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways. It asks a person to ask, and answer, four simple questions: **OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO:**

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

The purpose of the 4-Way Test Essay Contest is to introduce you to this practical tool for decision making in your daily life. Writing an essay on one of the three topics suggested will hopefully encourage you to express your personal opinions and ideas of how the 4-Way Test might make a difference. In nearly every profession you might consider in your future, the ability to express one's thoughts in writing and clearly, concisely, and persuasively, is an important skill.

Your local Rotary club may designate awards for winning essays in your community. The three top winning essays from local club contests will be submitted to the District's 4-Way Test Essay Contest and cash prizes will be awarded for: **1<sup>st</sup> Place (\$150), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (\$100), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (\$50).**

Essays will be evaluated on:

- Originality of thought and ability to address the topic clearly, concisely, and persuasively
- Attention to one of the following three themes:
  - **How can the 4-Way Test reduce Bullying/Cyber-bullying?**  
At a time when bullying occurs too often in schools, in person or online, how can the 4-Way Test be used to encourage other students to stand-up to a bully and/or support the person being bullied?
  - **Social networking sites and their impact on our society**  
Social media allows someone to post all sorts of things anonymously. How can the 4-Way Test help bring some responsibility and civility to any of the social media platforms? What can a social media post say about the individual putting out a message and what are the possible consequences?
  - **Is any one of the questions on the 4-Way Test more important than the others?**  
It's just 24 words, but can any one of the questions stand alone or are they all related and necessary to make the right decision?
- Presentation, organization use of language, grammar, vocabulary, spelling
- A length limit of two pages, double spaced, 1000 words or less
- Completion of the Student Entry Form
- Submission of essay and Entry Form to student's teacher by the Rotary club's deadline.

**Start your essay now! Complete the Entry Form! Deliver your completed essay and Entry Form to your teacher for submission to your local Rotary Club.**