



C  
R  
I  
B  
O

# The International Composition Contest

[www.ascaniusyci.org/scrigo](http://www.ascaniusyci.org/scrigo)



Sponsored by Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute

## What is SCRIBO?

SCRIBO is an international Latin composition contest, designed to:

- ✓ spur interest and excitement in using Latin for creative writing
- ✓ provide teachers with high quality materials in Latin that they can read in their classes
- ✓ honor and recognize top work in Latin creative writing

## What kinds of entries does SCRIBO accept?

- ✓ original short stories, comics, and poems

Illustrations are encouraged but not required for all entries. All entries must have a maximum of 1,000 words and a maximum of ten pages (no larger than 8 ½" x 11"). All entries must be submitted electronically by the teacher in PDF format via our special website. See our website for **sample entries**.

## How do I integrate SCRIBO into my classroom?

SCRIBO is designed to be as flexible as possible so that it will easily integrate into your class. You could offer a contest, assignment, or project from which you choose and submit the best entries. This could be open-ended, connected to a cultural unit, or connected to your text's storyline! See our website for **sample lesson plans**.

## Eligibility and Levels

Students of Latin in any grade, from kindergarten through college, may participate. Entries will be sorted into the following levels, which are based on length of time studying Latin and content of the course:

- ✓ exploratory
- ✓ lower
- ✓ upper

## Cost

- ✓ \$5 per entry + \$20 school fee
- ✓ discounts for Title I schools, home schools, members of Ascanius, and teachers paying out of pocket

## What Do We Get?

- ✓ Certificates for all participants
- ✓ The top 20% of scorers on each level receive a medal with ribbon
- ✓ The top scorer in each school receives a special rosette ribbon (must register at least 3 students)
- ✓ Press release and letter to the principal recognizing all medal winners from your school
- ✓ Participating teachers and the very best scorers will receive a free CD of the top entries, including entries from each level
- ✓ Knowledge that your school is supporting the mission of Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute to bring Latin and Classical Studies to our youngest scholars

## Scoring

All entries will be judged by Latin teachers and professors who have training in Latin composition and/or oral Latin, using the following categories: grammatical and syntactical accuracy, choice of vocabulary, adventurousness, quality of work, and audience appeal. Entries in the running to be in the top 20% will be scored by at least one additional judge.



Your participation in SCRIBO supports the work of Ascanius, allowing students like these to experience the benefits of Latin!

**What is the Registration Process?** Registration is online only and must include names and levels of student participants. Payment may be online or may be sent separately by mail. Registration deadline: **December 11.**

**What is the Entry Submission Process?** All entries must be submitted electronically in PDF format online. Deadline for entries: Any time after registration, but no later than **December 18.**

Results, awards, and CD's should be in the mail by late April.



# The International Composition Contest

[www.ascaniusyci.org/scrigo](http://www.ascaniusyci.org/scrigo)



Sponsored by Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute

## RULES (changes for 2015-2016 are highlighted)

### Eligibility and Levels

- \*Latin study: Each participant must be enrolled in Latin during the school year in which his/her entry is submitted.
- \*Timing of entries: Entries must be submitted in the school year in which they were created.
- \*Grades: Students in any grade, from kindergarten through college, may participate.
- \*Levels: Entries must be sorted into the following levels which are based on length of time studying Latin and content of the course. Given the wide variety in course pacing, structure, and content, it is not possible to list specific course names like "Latin I" or specific grammar points like "accusative case" as being appropriate for certain contest levels. Teachers should use their best judgment based on the guidelines below when placing students in levels. Contact SCRIBO if you have questions about how to appropriately place your students; it matters!
  - ✓ exploratory: intended for ES/MS students enrolled in a course or program that constitutes substantially less material than a full Latin I course; no student enrolled in Latin I Part A or its general equivalent should be entered on the exploratory level
  - ✓ lower: intended for students in ES, MS, HS, or college enrolled in a course that studies Latin grammar as its primary goal; no student enrolled in a course that studies advanced Latin literature as its primary goal should be entered on the lower level
  - ✓ upper: intended for students in HS enrolled in a course that studies advanced Latin literature as its primary goal; no student enrolled in a course that studies Latin grammar as its primary goal should be entered on the upper level
- \*Exclusions: College students who have completed their study of Latin grammar may not participate. Graduate students may not participate.

### Entries

- \*Only one entry per student per year is permissible. No entries by groups of students working together are permissible.
- \*Genre: Entries may take the form of short stories, comics, or poems. A comic is a group of cartoons, captioned in Latin, in narrative sequence.
- \*Originality: All entries should be the original work of the individual student alone. Entries may be inspired by other sources, however. Translation of other people's English into Latin is prohibited.
- \*Identifying Information: No information of any kind that would identify the author is permitted on the entry itself (no student names, no school names, etc.)
- \*Accompanying English translations: No English translations may be submitted as part of, or in addition to, the entry.
- \*Suggested resources: Smith's English-Latin Dictionary (Smith & Hall) and Latin Sentence and Idiom (R. Colebourn) or New Latin Grammar (Allen and Greenough). See the website for clickable links to several of these resources. If a work is not on this list, it does not mean that it is not acceptable or valid.
- \*Illustrations: Illustrations are encouraged but not required for all entries. Presence or lack of illustrations has no effect on an entry's score. Any artwork submitted with an entry must be original student work, not images taken from internet or textbook resources.
- \*Length: Entries have a maximum of 1,000 words. Entries have a maximum of 10 pages. Page size is a maximum of 8.5 x 11".
- \*Submission: All entries must be submitted electronically via our special website, by the teacher, in PDF format. (On a PC, use the free program at [cutepdf.com](http://cutepdf.com) or [zamzar.com](http://zamzar.com) to convert files to PDF. On a Mac, use the "Save as PDF" option in any program.) Do not email entries! All entries, once submitted, become the property of Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute. On the day that results and awards are mailed, ownership over any entry not published on the CD and in the book will revert to the original author.
- \*Re-submission of entries to be published: SCRIBO staff will notify teachers of participants whose entries are selected for publication on the CD and in the book. Those participants must re-submit their entry with the text in a computer-editable format so that any errors in Latin can be corrected before the entry is published. Any entries that do not have typed text will be modified so that the text is typed. SCRIBO reserves the right to make changes for readability and for accessibility of vocabulary. SCRIBO reserves the right to decide the final format of the entries. Failure to re-submit the entry with the text in an editable format may mean the entry will neither win nor be published. (Acceptable editable formats are: Comic Life, Keynote '09 or earlier, Microsoft PowerPoint 2008 or earlier, Microsoft Publisher 2003 or earlier, Microsoft Word 2008 or earlier, Pages '09 or earlier. It is generally possible to save in an earlier format even if the version of the program the participant owns is newer.)
- \*Samples: Samples of previously submitted work may be viewed on the website.

### Editing of Entries Prior to Submission

- \*Editing of all entries prior to submission is strongly encouraged, using a teacher-review or peer-review method.
- \*The reviewer may only give two kinds of help: 1) the reviewer may circle an entire word, phrase, or sentence to indicate that an error is present, and 2) the reviewer may indicate what type of error is present. The reviewer should never indicate how to correct the error or actually make the correction.
- \*The author of the entry alone must be responsible for actually making any recommended changes; no reviewers may take it upon themselves to make changes to entries on their own.
- \*Teachers should plan plenty of time for students to work on contest entries, and should expect that multiple revisions will be necessary over an extended period of time in order to produce the highest quality entries. See the website for sample assignments.

### Disqualifications and Refunds

- \*Entries will be disqualified if they are not submitted by the due date and/or if they do not adhere to the requirements and/or rules. Pay particular attention to the rules regarding editing of entries. No refunds will be issued due to disqualified entries.
- \*No refunds will be given for any reason.



S  
C  
R  
I  
B  
O

# The International Composition Contest

www.ascaniusyci.org/scribo



Sponsored by Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute

## SCORING RUBRIC

		POSSIBLE SCORES					
		0 (GSA category only)	1	2	3	4	5
<b>CATEGORIES</b>	<b>Grammatical and Syntactical Accuracy</b> (double weight)	Latin is completely incomprehensible. Many words are not in the Latin language.	Pervasive errors in grammar and syntax. Word order significantly inhibits comprehension. Latin is virtually incomprehensible.	A substantial number of errors in grammar and syntax. Numerous word order problems. Latin is difficult to moderately difficult to comprehend.	Some errors in grammar and syntax. Word order is generally logical. Easy comprehension of the Latin begins to be affected, though most of the Latin is easy to comprehend.	Few errors in grammar and syntax. Word order is consistently logical. As a result, almost all of the Latin is easy to comprehend.	Few errors in grammar and syntax. Word order is consistently logical. As a result, almost all of the Latin is easy to comprehend.
	<b>Choice of Vocabulary</b>		Latin vocabulary words are rarely, if ever, well chosen, reflecting frequent misconceptions of the proper meaning and use of the Latin words.	Latin vocabulary words are somewhat well chosen, reflecting some misconceptions of the proper meaning and use of the Latin words.	Latin vocabulary words are mostly well chosen, reflecting a good understanding of the proper meaning and use of the Latin words.	Latin vocabulary words are well chosen, reflecting a generally clear and continuous understanding of the proper meaning and use of the Latin words.	Latin vocabulary words are extremely well chosen, reflecting a clear and continuous understanding of the proper meaning and use of the Latin words.
	<b>Adventurousness</b> (Complexity of Grammar, Syntax, and Vocabulary)		Entry's grammatical, syntactical, and vocabulary choices are much lower than expected for its level.	Entry's grammatical, syntactical, and vocabulary choices are slightly lower than expected for its level.	Entry's grammatical, syntactical, and vocabulary choices are adequate for its level.	Entry involves an above average level of risk taking in grammatical, syntactical, and vocabulary choices.	Entry involves a high level of risk taking in grammatical, syntactical, and vocabulary choices.
	<b>Quality of Work</b>		Many or all elements of the entry's formatting and/or design do not appear attractive and clean. Misspellings and/or typos substantially distract the reader. Illustrations, if present, are frequently or always not attractive, clean, and relevant to the text.	A number of elements of the entry's formatting and/or design do not appear attractive and clean. Misspellings and/or typos are present and somewhat distract the reader. Illustrations, if present, are somewhat attractive, clean, and relevant to the text.	Formatting and design of entry are mostly attractive and clean. Misspellings and/or typos are present but do not substantially distract the reader. Illustrations, if present, are mostly attractive, clean, and relevant to the text.	Formatting and design of entry are attractive and clean. Entry is mostly free of misspellings and/or typos. Illustrations, if present, are attractive, clean, and relevant to the text.	Formatting and design of entry are very attractive and clean. Entry is free of misspellings and/or typos. Illustrations, if present, are very attractive, clean, and completely relevant to the text.
	<b>Audience Appeal</b> (Creativity, Originality, Plot and Character Development and Complexity)		Content generally lacks creativity and originality, and is rarely engaging. Most or all of the plot and/or ideas lack development, complexity, and a clear and logical flow. Characters, if present, are rarely creative and/or consistent.	Content is somewhat creative, original, and engaging. Much of the plot and/or ideas lack development, complexity, and a clear and logical flow. Characters, if present, are somewhat creative and/or consistent.	Content is moderately creative, original, and engaging. Some of the plot and/or ideas are well thought out and complex, with a mostly clear and logical flow. Characters, if present, are mostly creative and/or consistent.	Content is creative, original, and engaging. Plot and/or ideas are mostly well thought out and complex, with a clear and logical flow. Characters, if present, are creative and consistent.	Content is continuously creative, original, and engaging. Plot and/or ideas are well thought out and complex with a clear and logical flow. Characters, if present, are very creative and consistent.
<b>SCORE RECORDING AREA:</b>							
						TOTAL = _____ / 30 pts	

Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to promoting the study of Latin & Classics on the elementary and middle school levels  
 post P.O. Box 320536, Boston, MA 02132 | web www.ascaniusyci.org/scribo | email scribo@ascaniusyci.org | phone 866-933-9466 | fax 413-502-3619