

Faithful to His Word: Celebrate 1517 in 2017

Find Here: Complete Guidelines for All Categories in All Art Forms

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1. All Research Essay Guidelines

Guidelines for Research Essays: Senior High School (Gr. 11–12)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant Reformation. Students are asked to produce an original research essay which investigates a specific facet of this important historical event.

Submission Guidelines

We hope that you will submit your essay for some local celebrations around October 31 and consider setting up a display board that explains your research. You might also be present at an event to answer questions. This deadline will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit research essays that best match the guidelines given here. This date is **December 15, 2017**. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will ensure complete anonymity when these essays are passed on the adjudication committee. Teachers are asked to select three essays and send these to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. Please use portable document format (**pdf**), to ensure consistent formatting.

When sending your entries to Celebrate1517@gmail.com, please fill out our **submission form**. You will find multiple links to it on our webpages.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian's) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included—should it be selected—in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Structure

- The research essay should be approximately 1500 to 2000 words in length. These limits are not absolute boundaries, however, and the quality of prose and content are of greater relevance than specific length.
- Essays must be formatted and referenced using the Chicago Style.

Content

- The essay will employ both primary and secondary sources, with an emphasis on the latter.
- A list of suggested topics is included below, but students and their teachers may generate their own topics.
- The essay should demonstrate an understanding of the relevant historical, political, and doctrinal issues that surround the topic.
- The essay should present a cogent argument and deal with relevant historiographical debate; that is, it should engage the theories and interpretations of other scholars.
- The essay will not contain headings, since the writer will rely instead on good transitions.

Writing Guidelines

A well composed essay will demonstrate the following:

- An engaging introduction which introduces the reader to the topic being considered;
- A clearly articulated thesis that is supported throughout the essay by substantial arguments;
- An appropriate conclusion which summarizes the central thrust of the essay and persuasively advocates the validity of its arguments;
- Smooth transitions between the various arguments and ideas expressed within the essay;

- Interesting material, good argumentation, and masterful treatment of the topic;
- A critical and sympathetic engagement with other views, with a clear rebuttal where appropriate;
- An absence of grammatical errors;
- Clear and vigorous prose;
- Varied sentences and coherent, complete paragraphs;
- An appropriate scholarly tone;
- Careful attention to Chicago Style in all respects, including title page, footnotes, and bibliography.

Topic Suggestions

Students need not choose one of these topics, but will hopefully find some intriguing suggestions in this list. Some of the topics may need to be narrowed down for the purposes of establishing a thesis that can be defended in the space of one essay.

1. How the late-medieval pre-reformation rumblings involving the likes of Jan Hus, John Wycliffe, and Girolamo Savonarola contributed to the Reformation.
2. How technological advances such as the printing press and moveable type contributed to the Reformation.
3. How God led Martin Luther through a long process of search and study to discover the gift of the righteousness of Christ in Scripture.
4. How the translation of Scriptures into the vernacular languages such as German, English, French, and Italian contributed to the Reformation.
5. How God led certain leaders of the Reformation such as Luther, Zwingli, Farel, Calvin, and Tyndale to new biblical insights.
6. How God used a lesser-known reformer, such as François de Lambert, Philip Melanchthon, Johannes Oecolampadius, Miles Coverdale, John Hooper, Johannes à Lasco, Martin Bucer, Guido de Brès, Peter Martyr Vermigli, Jerome Zanchi, Zacharias Ursinus, and Antoine de Chandieu.

7. How God used the women of the Reformation, such as Katharina Zell, Argula von Grumbach, Renée of France / Renata of Ferrara, Jeanne d'Albret, Marguerite de Navarre, Wibrandis Rosenblatt, Lady Jane Grey, Elizabeth I, Marie-Christine de Lalaing, etc.
8. How the Reformation moved from a protest movement to a movement with its own new confessions of faith.
9. How the Reformation made a lasting impact on art, culture, education, music, science, commerce, politics, and/or colonialism.
10. How the reformation of worship differed among the various reformers.
11. How the reformation of the church was influenced by the rulers and magistrates in one (or several) place(s).
12. How John Calvin became such a popular figure during Reformation times and afterward. Perhaps explain the evolution of his *Institutes*.

Guidelines for Research Essays: Post-Secondary Category

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant Reformation. Students are asked to produce an original research essay which investigates a specific facet of this important historical event.

Submission Guidelines

We hope that you will submit your essay for some local celebrations around October 31 and consider setting up a display board that explains your research. It will be up to you to contact local organizers to offer your research. You might also be present at an event to answer questions. This deadline will be established locally, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for submission of research essays to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. This date is **December 15, 2017**.

Each entry should be accompanied by a filled-out submission form, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. Please use the portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your essay is passed on the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included—should it be selected—in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Structure

- The research essay should be approximately 3000 to 4000 words in length. These limits are not absolute boundaries, however, and quality of prose and content are of greater relevance than specific length.
- Essays must be formatted and referenced using the Chicago Style.

Content

- The essay will employ both primary and secondary sources, with an emphasis on the former.

- A list of suggested topics is included below, but students are free to generate their own topics.
- The essay should demonstrate an understanding of the relevant historical, political, and doctrinal issues which surround the topic.
- The essay should present a cogent argument and deal with relevant historiographical debate; that is, it should engage with the theories and interpretations of other scholars.
- The essay will not contain headings, since the writer will rely instead on good transitions.

Writing Guidelines

A well composed essay will demonstrate the following:

- An engaging introduction which introduces the reader to the topic being considered;
- A clearly articulated thesis that is supported throughout the essay by substantial arguments;
- An appropriate conclusion which summarizes the central thrust of the essay and persuasively advocates for the validity of its arguments;
- Smooth transitions between the various arguments and ideas expressed within the essay;
- Relevant primary source material, good argumentation, and masterful treatment of the topic;
- A critical and sympathetic engagement with other views, with a clear rebuttal where appropriate;
- An absence of grammatical errors and other infelicities of style;
- Clear and vigorous prose;
- Varied sentences and coherent, complete paragraphs;
- An appropriate scholarly tone;
- Careful attention to Chicago Style in all respects including title page, footnotes, and bibliography.

Topic Suggestions

Students need not choose one of these topics, but will hopefully find some intriguing suggestions in this list. Some of the topics may need to be narrowed down for the purposes of establishing a thesis that can be defended in the space of one essay.

1. To what extent can figures like Jan Hus, John Wycliffe, and Girolamo Savonarola be considered forerunners of the Protestant Reformation?
2. How technological advances such as the printing press and moveable type contributed to the Reformation.
3. A consideration of how Martin Luther's spiritual struggles lead him to re-discover the gift of the righteousness of Christ as revealed in Scripture.
4. How the translation of Scriptures into the vernacular languages such as German, English, French, and Italian contributed to the Reformation.
5. How God led certain leaders of the Reformation such as Luther, Zwingli, Farel, Calvin, and Tyndale to new biblical insights.
6. How God used a lesser-known reformer, such as François de Lambert, Philip Melanchthon, Johannes Oecolampadius, Miles Coverdale, John Hooper, Johannes à Lasco, Martin Bucer, Guido de Brès, Peter Martyr Vermigli, Jerome Zanchi, Zacharias Ursinus, and Antoine de Chandieu.
7. How God used the women of the Reformation, such as Katharina Zell, Argula von Grumbach, Renée of France / Renata of Ferrara, Jeanne d'Albret, Marguerite de Navarre, Wibrandis Rosenblatt, Lady Jane Grey, Elizabeth I, Marie-Christine de Lalaing, etc.
8. How the Reformation moved from a protest movement to a movement with its own new confessions of faith.
9. How the Reformation made a lasting impact on art, culture, education, music, science, commerce, politics, and/or colonialism.
10. How the reformation of worship differed among the various reformers.
11. How the reformation of the church was influenced by the rulers and magistrates in one (or several) place(s).

12. Consider why John Calvin became such a popular reformer in his own time, as well as within contemporary society.
13. How John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion* changed and evolved in terms of its content and purpose from the time of its first publication in 1536 until the final edition of 1559.

Guidelines for Research Essays: Advanced Open Category

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant Reformation. Entrants are asked to produce an original research essay which investigates a specific facet of this important historical event.

Submission Guidelines

We hope that you will submit your essay for some local celebrations around October 31 and consider setting up a display board that explains your research. It will be up to you to contact local organizers to offer your research. You might also be present at an event to answer questions. This deadline will be established locally, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for submission of research essays to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. This date is **December 15, 2017**.

Each entry should be accompanied by a filled-out submission form, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. Please use the portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your essay is passed on the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included—should it be selected—in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Structure

- The research essay should be approximately 3000 to 4000 words in length. These limits are not absolute boundaries, however, and quality of prose and content are of greater relevance than specific length.
- Essays must be formatted and referenced using the Chicago Style.

Content

- The essay will employ both primary and secondary sources, with an emphasis on the former.

- A list of suggested topics is included below, but students are free to generate their own topics.
- The essay should demonstrate an understanding of the relevant historical, political, and doctrinal issues which surround the topic.
- The essay should present a cogent argument and deal with relevant historiographical debate; that is, it should engage with the theories and interpretations of other scholars.
- The essay will not contain headings, since the writer will rely instead on good transitions.

Writing Guidelines

A well composed essay will demonstrate the following:

- An engaging introduction which introduces the reader to the topic being considered;
- A clearly articulated thesis that is supported throughout the essay by substantial arguments;
- An appropriate conclusion which summarizes the central thrust of the essay and persuasively advocates for the validity of its arguments;
- Smooth transitions between the various arguments and ideas expressed within the essay;
- Relevant primary source material, good argumentation, and masterful treatment of the topic;
- A critical and sympathetic engagement with other views, with a clear rebuttal where appropriate;
- An absence of grammatical errors and other infelicities of style;
- Clear and vigorous prose;
- Varied sentences and coherent, complete paragraphs;
- An appropriate scholarly tone;
- Careful attention to Chicago Style in all respects including title page, footnotes, and bibliography.

Topic Suggestions

Students need not choose one of these topics, but will hopefully find some intriguing suggestions in this list. Some of the topics may need to be narrowed down for the purposes of establishing a thesis that can be defended in the space of one essay.

1. To what extent can figures like Jan Hus, John Wycliffe, and Girolamo Savonarola be considered forerunners of the Protestant Reformation?
2. How technological advances such as the printing press and moveable type contributed to the Reformation.
3. A consideration of how Martin Luther's spiritual struggles lead him to re-discover the gift of the righteousness of Christ as revealed in Scripture.
4. How the translation of Scriptures into the vernacular languages such as German, English, French, and Italian contributed to the Reformation.
5. How God led certain leaders of the Reformation such as Luther, Zwingli, Farel, Calvin, and Tyndale to new biblical insights.
6. How God used a lesser-known reformer, such as François de Lambert, Philip Melanchthon, Johannes Oecolampadius, Miles Coverdale, John Hooper, Johannes à Lasco, Martin Bucer, Guido de Brès, Peter Martyr Vermigli, Jerome Zanchi, Zacharias Ursinus, and Antoine de Chandieu.
7. How God used the women of the Reformation, such as Katharina Zell, Argula von Grumbach, Renée of France / Renata of Ferrara, Jeanne d'Albret, Marguerite de Navarre, Wibrandis Rosenblatt, Lady Jane Grey, Elizabeth I, Marie-Christine de Lalaing, etc.
8. How the Reformation moved from a protest movement to a movement with its own new confessions of faith.
9. How the Reformation made a lasting impact on art, culture, education, music, science, commerce, politics, and/or colonialism.
10. How the reformation of worship differed among the various reformers.
11. How the reformation of the church was influenced by the rulers and magistrates in one (or several) place(s).

12. Consider why John Calvin became such a popular reformer in his own time, as well as within contemporary society.
13. How John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion* changed and evolved in terms of its content and purpose from the time of its first publication in 1536 until the final edition of 1559.

2. All Poetry Guidelines

Guidelines for Poetry: Primary Category (K–Gr. 3)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to create a poem that touches their readers so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Poetry is a powerful and creative form of written expression that is well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of its readers. Because of its conciseness, poetry allows the writer to focus more closely on the nuances of meaning and sound, make creative connections through figures of speech, and consider the interplay of the content with the form.

Content

The poem submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes:

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15th and 16th centuries)
- Ideas and/or experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- Biblical doctrine debated and reclaimed by the reformers (see: Belgic Confession, articles 13, 27–29; Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Days 10 & 21; Canons of Dort, 1.18 & 2.9; Westminster Confessions, chapter 25)
- A personal response expressing deep gratitude and praise to the Lord for keeping his Church faithful to Scripture
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as they reflect on what has happened in the past

Poetry Guidelines

The poem must be no longer than 360 words.

Poetry comes in many forms. While particular forms would be more suitable to work with at the particular levels, *all* forms are available for submissions at all levels. We suggest two categories of forms:

1. Formula poems: Poems which provide an “organizational scaffolding” of form from the very simple (e.g., acrostic poems) to the more complex (e.g.,

sonnets). It is important, although not necessarily of primary importance, that the poet honours the expectations set for a particular form.

2. Free form poems: Free form poems use non-metrical and non-rhyming lines as well as poetic devices such as diction, imagery, and enjambment in order to convey meaning and create effective word play.

Submissions should include reference to the particular form of poem being submitted.

Submissions

We hope that you will submit and/or perform your poetry for some local celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your poetry will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit poems that best match the guidelines given here. This date is **December 15, 2017**. Teachers are asked to select no more than *three entries* per level. Each school may determine its own selection process. Please send the text of your poem in portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a poem, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording poetry readings on video or preparing an audio recording and then uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video link should be included with the submissions of the written text of the poem.

Please send these poems and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**. You will find multiple links to it on our webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on to the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian’s) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018, should your poem be selected.

Poems will be evaluated and selected for publication based on

- **Word Choice**—words are carefully selected to convey ideas clearly and vividly
- **Poetic Devices**—poem makes effective use of sound devices such as rhythm, rhyme and alliteration; poem makes creative use of figurative language such as symbol, analogy, metaphor and simile
- **Voice**—the tone of the poem is passionate, compelling, authentic, full of energy and commitment; poem evokes an emotional response from the reader
- **Content / Ideas**—the topic and content meet guidelines, the doctrinal and historical content are accurate, the subject matter is interesting and shows depth of thought
- **Conventions**—the conventions of writing (spelling, punctuation, grammar) and the poetic form (free verse, sonnet, acrostic etc.) are followed correctly or broken for effect

Guidelines for Poetry, Junior Category (Gr. 4–6)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to create a poem that touches their readers so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Poetry is a powerful and creative form of written expression that is well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of its readers. Because of its conciseness, poetry allows the writer to focus more closely on the nuances of meaning and sound, make creative connections through figures of speech, and consider the interplay of the content with the form.

Content

The poem submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes:

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15 and 16th centuries)
- Ideas and/or experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- Biblical doctrine debated and reclaimed by the reformers (see: Belgic Confession, articles 13, 27–29; Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Days 10 & 21; Canons of Dort, 1.18 & 2.9; Westminster Confessions, chapter 25)
- A personal response expressing deep gratitude and praise to the Lord for keeping his Church faithful to Scripture
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as they reflect on what has happened in the past

Poetry Guidelines

The poem must be no longer than 360 words.

Poetry comes in many forms. While particular forms would be more suitable to work with at the particular levels, *all* forms are available for submissions at all levels. We suggest two categories of forms:

1. Formula poems: Poems which provide an “organizational scaffolding” of form from the very simple (e.g., acrostic poems) to the more complex (e.g., sonnets). It is important, although not necessarily of primary importance, that the poet honours the expectations set for a particular form.

2. Free form poems: Free form poems use non-metrical and non-rhyming lines as well as poetic devices such as diction, imagery, and enjambment in order to convey meaning and create effective word play.

Submissions should include reference to the particular form of poem being submitted.

Submissions

We hope that you will submit and/or perform your poetry for some local celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your poetry will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit poems that best match the guidelines given here. This date is **December 15, 2017**. Teachers are asked to select no more than *three entries* per level. Each school may determine its own selection process. Please send the text of your poem in portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a poem, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording poetry readings on video or preparing an audio recording and then uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video link should be included with the submissions of the written text of the poem.

Please send these poems and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**. You will find multiple links to it on our webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on to the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian’s) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018, should your poem be selected.

Poems will be evaluated and selected for publication based on

- **Word Choice**—words are carefully selected to convey ideas clearly and vividly
- **Poetic Devices**—poem makes effective use of sound devices such as rhythm, rhyme and alliteration; poem makes creative use of figurative language such as symbol, analogy, metaphor and simile
- **Voice**—the tone of the poem is passionate, compelling, authentic, full of energy and commitment; poem evokes an emotional response from the reader
- **Content / Ideas**—the topic and content meet guidelines, the doctrinal and historical content are accurate, the subject matter is interesting and shows depth of thought
- **Conventions**—the conventions of writing (spelling, punctuation, grammar) and the poetic form (free verse, sonnet, acrostic etc.) are followed correctly or broken for effect

Guidelines for Poetry: Intermediate Category (Gr. 7–10)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to create a poem that touches their readers so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Poetry is a powerful and creative form of written expression that is well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of its readers. Because of its conciseness, poetry allows the writer to focus more closely on the nuances of meaning and sound, make creative connections through figures of speech, and consider the interplay of the content with the form.

Content

The poem submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes:

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15 and 16th centuries)
- Ideas and/or experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- Biblical doctrine debated and reclaimed by the reformers (see: Belgic Confession, articles 13, 27–29; Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Days 10 & 21; Canons of Dort, 1.18 & 2.9; Westminster Confessions, chapter 25)
- A personal response expressing deep gratitude and praise to the Lord for keeping his Church faithful to Scripture
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as they reflect on what has happened in the past

Poetry Guidelines

The poem must be no longer than 360 words.

Poetry comes in many forms. While particular forms would be more suitable to work with at the particular levels, *all* forms are available for submissions at all levels. We suggest two categories of forms:

1. Formula poems: Poems which provide an “organizational scaffolding” of form from the very simple (e.g., acrostic poems) to the more complex (e.g., sonnets). It is important, although not necessarily of primary importance, that the poet honours the expectations set for a particular form.

2. Free form poems: Free form poems use non-metrical and non-rhyming lines as well as poetic devices such as diction, imagery, and enjambment in order to convey meaning and create effective word play.

Submissions should include reference to the particular form of poem being submitted.

Submissions

We hope that you will submit and/or perform your poetry for some local celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your poetry will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit poems that best match the guidelines given here. This date is **December 15, 2017**. Teachers are asked to select no more than *three entries* per level. Each school may determine its own selection process. Please send the text of your poem in portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a poem, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording poetry readings on video or preparing an audio recording and then uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video link should be included with the submissions of the written text of the poem.

Please send these poems and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**. You will find multiple links to it on our webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on to the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian’s) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018, should your poem be selected.

Poems will be evaluated and selected for publication based on

- **Word Choice**—words are carefully selected to convey ideas clearly and vividly
- **Poetic Devices**—poem makes effective use of sound devices such as rhythm, rhyme and alliteration; poem makes creative use of figurative language such as symbol, analogy, metaphor and simile
- **Voice**—the tone of the poem is passionate, compelling, authentic, full of energy and commitment; poem evokes an emotional response from the reader
- **Content / Ideas**—the topic and content meet guidelines, the doctrinal and historical content are accurate, the subject matter is interesting and shows depth of thought
- **Conventions**—the conventions of writing (spelling, punctuation, grammar) and the poetic form (free verse, sonnet, acrostic etc.) are followed correctly or broken for effect

Guidelines for Poetry: Senior High School Category (Gr. 11–12)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to create a poem that touches their readers so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Poetry is a powerful and creative form of written expression that is well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of its readers. Because of its conciseness, poetry allows the writer to focus more closely on the nuances of meaning and sound, make creative connections through figures of speech, and consider the interplay of the content with the form.

Content

The poem submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes:

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15 and 16th centuries)
- Ideas and/or experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- Biblical doctrine debated and reclaimed by the reformers (see: Belgic Confession, articles 13, 27–29; Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Days 10 & 21; Canons of Dort, 1.18 & 2.9; Westminster Confessions, chapter 25)
- A personal response expressing deep gratitude and praise to the Lord for keeping his Church faithful to Scripture
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as they reflect on what has happened in the past

Poetry Guidelines

The poem must be no longer than 360 words.

Poetry comes in many forms. While particular forms would be more suitable to work with at the particular levels, *all* forms are available for submissions at all levels. We suggest two categories of forms:

1. Formula poems: Poems which provide an “organizational scaffolding” of form from the very simple (e.g., acrostic poems) to the more complex (e.g., sonnets). It is important, although not necessarily of primary importance, that the poet honours the expectations set for a particular form.

2. Free form poems: Free form poems use non-metrical and non-rhyming lines as well as poetic devices such as diction, imagery, and enjambment in order to convey meaning and create effective word play.

Submissions should include reference to the particular form of poem being submitted.

Submissions

We hope that you will submit and/or perform your poetry for some local celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your poetry will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit poems that best match the guidelines given here. This date is **December 15, 2017**. Teachers are asked to select no more than *three entries* per level. Each school may determine its own selection process. Please send the text of your poem in portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a poem, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording poetry readings on video or preparing an audio recording and then uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video link should be included with the submissions of the written text of the poem.

Please send these poems and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**. You will find multiple links to it on our webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on to the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian’s) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018, should your poem be selected.

Poems will be evaluated and selected for publication based on

- **Word Choice**—words are carefully selected to convey ideas clearly and vividly
- **Poetic Devices**—poem makes effective use of sound devices such as rhythm, rhyme and alliteration; poem makes creative use of figurative language such as symbol, analogy, metaphor and simile
- **Voice**—the tone of the poem is passionate, compelling, authentic, full of energy and commitment; poem evokes an emotional response from the reader
- **Content / Ideas**—the topic and content meet guidelines, the doctrinal and historical content are accurate, the subject matter is interesting and shows depth of thought
- **Conventions**—the conventions of writing (spelling, punctuation, grammar) and the poetic form (free verse, sonnet, acrostic etc.) are followed correctly or broken for effect

Guidelines for Poetry: Post-Secondary Category (College or University)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to create a poem that touches their readers so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Poetry is a powerful and creative form of written expression that is well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of its readers. Because of its conciseness, poetry allows the writer to focus more closely on the nuances of meaning and sound, make creative connections through figures of speech, and consider the interplay of the content with the form.

Content

The poem submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes:

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15 and 16th centuries)
- Ideas and/or experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- Biblical doctrine debated and reclaimed by the reformers (see: Belgic Confession, articles 13, 27–29; Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Days 10 & 21; Canons of Dort, 1.18 & 2.9; Westminster Confessions, chapter 25)
- A personal response expressing deep gratitude and praise to the Lord for keeping his Church faithful to Scripture
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as they reflect on what has happened in the past

Poetry Guidelines

The poem must be no longer than 360 words.

Poetry comes in many forms. While particular forms would be more suitable to work with at the particular levels, *all* forms are available for submissions at all levels. We suggest two categories of forms:

1. Formula poems: Poems which provide an “organizational scaffolding” of form from the very simple (e.g., acrostic poems) to the more complex (e.g., sonnets). It is important, although not necessarily of primary importance, that the poet honours the expectations set for a particular form.

2. Free form poems: Free form poems use non-metrical and non-rhyming lines as well as poetic devices such as diction, imagery, and enjambment in order to convey meaning and create effective word play.

Submissions should include reference to the particular form of poem being submitted.

Submissions

We hope that you will submit and/or perform your poetry for some local celebrations around October 31. Please inquire with the organizers of local assemblies and rallies in your area. This deadline could be **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for you to submit poems that best match the guidelines given here, for possible publication. This date is **December 15, 2017**. Please send the text of your poem in portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a poem, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording poetry readings on video or audio recording and then uploading the recording to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). Please include the link with the submissions of the written text of the poem.

Please send these poems and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**. You will find multiple links to it on our webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on to the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018, should your poem be selected.

Poems will be evaluated and selected for publication based on

- **Word Choice**—words are carefully selected to convey ideas clearly and vividly
- **Poetic Devices**—poem makes effective use of sound devices such as rhythm, rhyme and alliteration; poem makes creative use of figurative language such as symbol, analogy, metaphor and simile
- **Voice**—the tone of the poem is passionate, compelling, authentic, full of energy and commitment; poem evokes an emotional response from the reader
- **Content / Ideas**—the topic and content meet guidelines, the doctrinal and historical content are accurate, the subject matter is interesting and shows depth of thought
- **Conventions**—the conventions of writing (spelling, punctuation, grammar) and the poetic form (free verse, sonnet, acrostic etc.) are followed correctly or broken for effect

Guidelines for Poetry: Advanced Open Category (for those not currently being schooled, but skilled in poetry)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to create a poem that touches their readers so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Poetry is a powerful and creative form of written expression that is well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of its readers. Because of its conciseness, poetry allows the writer to focus more closely on the nuances of meaning and sound, make creative connections through figures of speech, and consider the interplay of the content with the form.

Content

The poem submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes:

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15 and 16th centuries)
- Ideas and/or experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- Biblical doctrine debated and reclaimed by the reformers (see: Belgic Confession, articles 13, 27–29; Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Days 10 & 21; Canons of Dort, 1.18 & 2.9; Westminster Confessions, chapter 25)
- A personal response expressing deep gratitude and praise to the Lord for keeping his Church faithful to Scripture
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as they reflect on what has happened in the past

Poetry Guidelines

The poem must be no longer than 360 words.

Poetry comes in many forms. While particular forms would be more suitable to work with at the particular levels, *all* forms are available for submissions at all levels. We suggest two categories of forms:

1. Formula poems: Poems which provide an “organizational scaffolding” of form from the very simple (e.g., acrostic poems) to the more complex (e.g., sonnets). It is important, although not necessarily of primary importance, that the poet honours the expectations set for a particular form.

2. Free form poems: Free form poems use non-metrical and non-rhyming lines as well as poetic devices such as diction, imagery, and enjambment in order to convey meaning and create effective word play.

Submissions should include reference to the particular form of poem being submitted.

Submissions

We hope that you will submit and/or perform your poetry for some local celebrations around October 31. Please inquire with the organizers of local assemblies and rallies in your area. This deadline could be **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for you to submit poems that best match the guidelines given here, for possible publication. This date is **December 15, 2017**. Please send the text of your poem in portable document format (**pdf**) to ensure consistency in formatting.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a poem, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording poetry readings on video or audio recording and then uploading the recording to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). Please include the link with the submissions of the written text of the poem.

Please send these poems and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**. You will find multiple links to it on our webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on to the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018, should your poem be selected.

Poems will be evaluated and selected for publication based on

- **Word Choice**—words are carefully selected to convey ideas clearly and vividly
- **Poetic Devices**—poem makes effective use of sound devices such as rhythm, rhyme and alliteration; poem makes creative use of figurative language such as symbol, analogy, metaphor and simile
- **Voice**—the tone of the poem is passionate, compelling, authentic, full of energy and commitment; poem evokes an emotional response from the reader
- **Content / Ideas**—the topic and content meet guidelines, the doctrinal and historical content are accurate, the subject matter is interesting and shows depth of thought
- **Conventions**—the conventions of writing (spelling, punctuation, grammar) and the poetic form (free verse, sonnet, acrostic etc.) are followed correctly or broken for effect

3. All Song Guidelines

The description and guidelines for the song art form category are still under construction. We hope to have them up soon, Lord willing.

4. All Song Guidelines

Guidelines for Song Writing: One Category, Open to All

Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise . . . The gift of language combined with the gift of song was only given to man to let him know that he should praise God . . . by proclaiming [the Word of God] through music (Martin Luther, *Luther's Works*, vol. 53, 323–24).

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth-century Protestant Reformation in song. Participants—whether singly or in collaboration—are asked to write both an original musical setting (music) and a matching original metrical composition adapted for singing (words) that are connected with the themes of the church reformation. Songs that flow from the Word of God will make the devil flee, and as such all submissions in this art form will contribute to glorifying God.

Submission Guidelines

We hope that you will submit your song for performance at some local celebrations around October 31. It will be up to you to contact local organizers to offer your song. You might also be present at an event to answer questions. This deadline will be established locally, anytime between June and October 20, 2017.

A second submission deadline has been established for submission of songs to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. This date is December 15, 2017.

Each entry should be accompanied by a filled-out submission form, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your song is passed on the adjudication committee.

- Submissions are to be submitted in pdf format. Engraved manuscripts are not required, but hand-notated manuscripts must be clean and legible. Illegible entries will not be considered.
- To preserve anonymity, the name of the composer (music) and author (words) should not be on the copies submitted for judging.
- Submitting an audio recording of a performance of your song is optional.

- Include a short reflection (maximum 200 words) describing the song and its intent, inserting this information in section 3 of the submission form.
- All submissions must be previously unpublished and should not be simultaneously submitted for consideration in any other contest or for publication.
- A maximum of two submissions per participant is allowed.

Permissions

Signatures by the songwriter, lyricist, composer (or legal guardian) are required on our submission form as applicable, giving permission for the song —should it be selected—to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Content (Topic Suggestions)

A song should be written based on ideas/topics/structures *such as but not limited to* the following

Word/Lyrical Content:

- Statements in any of the Reformed confessions of faith
- The “*Te Deum*,” or the Solas of the Reformation
- Martin Luther’s spiritual struggles that led him to re-discover the righteousness of Christ as revealed in Scripture
- Martin Luther’s thunderstorm conversion
- The assembly at Worms, Germany, when Luther was called to appear before the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V
- A Scripture text important to the Reformation, e.g. Rom 1:17, “For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, ‘the righteous shall live by faith.’” See also John 4:24; Eph 2:8–9, 1 Cor 2:15, etc.
- Biblically-based statements made by the reformers
- Worship that is pleasing to the Lord, based on a Bible text. The Reformation significantly changed the way people worshipped (see John 4:23; 14:6).
- How the Reformation made a lasting impact on worship, art, culture, education, music, science, commerce, politics, and/or colonialism

Musical Content:

- The musical setting may be in either a traditional hymnic style or a contemporary musical idiom using a verse, chorus, and optional bridge structure
- The music must demonstrate an intentional choice of musical style

Song Writing Guidelines

- Submissions must be 100% original in both music and lyrics
- A lyricist and composer may work together for a joint submission; in fact, we encourage collaboration among those with such skills
- Songs must demonstrate creativity
- Lyrics in a language other than English should have an English translation
- Lyrics must fit well with the music
- Lyrics must be biblically sound
- Songs must be relevant to the Reformation
- Music must be appropriate for the text
- Melody should be singable, whether by congregation, soloist, and/or choir, as appropriate.

5. All Story and Storytelling Guidelines

Guidelines for Story and Storytelling: Junior Category (Gr. 4–6)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth-century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to write and/or narrate a story that touches their audience so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Story and storytelling are powerful and creative forms of written expression that are well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of readers and listeners. Story writing and telling allow the author to flesh out some of the nuances of events surrounding the circumstances of the reformation. They also give the opportunity to make characters come alive by having them give voice to their experiences through thought and dialogue.

Content

The story submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15th and 16th centuries—a list of specific topic possibilities is available)
- Experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as he or she reflects on what has happened in the past

Story & Story Telling Guidelines

- Stories must be original works based on historical record, and fitting for the time period of the setting described.
- All stories must be submitted in written form.
- Narrations of stories must be submitted electronically and include a written transcript.
- The narrative story may be written by one person and read by another.
- Stories must be between 500 and 2500 words in length depending on the category of submission.

There are 5 categories of entry for story submissions:

1. Junior (Grades 4–6; 500 words)

2. Intermediate (Gr. 7–10; 500–1000 words)
3. Senior High School (Gr. 11–12; 1500–2500 words)
4. Post-Secondary (College or University level: 1500–2500 words)
5. Advanced Open (for persons not currently being schooled, but skilled in writing and/or presentation: 1500–2500 words)

Submissions

We hope that you will submit your story and/or perform your storytelling for some local Reformation celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your talents will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017.**

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit stories that best match the guidelines given here. Each school may determine its own selection process. This submission deadline is **December 15, 2017.**

In the junior category, participating schools should submit *no more than one story per category*. In the intermediate and senior high school categories, participating schools should submit *no more than two entries per category*. Each school may determine their own qualifying process to select and submit the best stories from each age group. Participants in the post-secondary and advanced open categories may submit one story per entrant.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a story, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording your storytelling on video or audio and uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video links should be included with the submission of the written texts of the stories.

Please send these stories and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. Your written text must be submitted in portable document format (**pdf**). The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian's) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work—should it be selected—to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Guidelines for Story & Storytelling: Intermediate Category (Gr. 7–10)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth-century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to write and/or narrate a story that touches their audience so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Story and storytelling are powerful and creative forms of written expression that are well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of readers and listeners. Story writing and telling allow the author to flesh out some of the nuances of events surrounding the circumstances of the reformation. They also give the opportunity to make characters come alive by having them give voice to their experiences through thought and dialogue.

Content

The story submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15th and 16th centuries—a list of specific topic possibilities is available)
- Experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as he or she reflects on what has happened in the past

Story & Story Telling Guidelines

- Stories must be original works based on historical record, and fitting for the time period of the setting described.
- All stories must be submitted in written form.
- Narrations of stories must be submitted electronically and include a written transcript.
- The narrative story may be written by one person and read by another.
- Stories must be between 500 and 2500 words in length depending on the category of submission.

There are 5 categories of entry for story submissions:

1. Junior (Grades 4–6; 500 words)
2. Intermediate (Gr. 7–10; 500–1000 words)
3. Senior High School (Gr. 11–12; 1500–2500 words)

4. Post-Secondary (College or University level: 1500–2500 words)
5. Advanced Open (for persons not currently being schooled, but skilled in writing and/or presentation: 1500–2500 words)

Submissions

We hope that you will submit your story and/or perform your storytelling for some local Reformation celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your talents will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit stories that best match the guidelines given here. Each school may determine its own selection process. This submission deadline is **December 15, 2017**.

In the junior category, participating schools should submit *no more than one story per category*. In the intermediate and senior high school categories, participating schools should submit *no more than two entries per category*. Each school may determine their own qualifying process to select and submit the best stories from each age group. Participants in the post-secondary and advanced open categories may submit one story per entrant.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a story, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording your storytelling on video or audio and uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video links should be included with the submission of the written texts of the stories.

Please send these stories and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. Your written text must be submitted in portable document format (**pdf**). The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on the adjudication committee.

Permissions

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Guidelines for Story & Storytelling: Senior High Category (Gr. 11–12)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth-century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to write and/or narrate a story that touches their audience so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Story and storytelling are powerful and creative forms of written expression that are well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of readers and listeners. Story writing and telling allow the author to flesh out some of the nuances of events surrounding the circumstances of the reformation. They also give the opportunity to make characters come alive by having them give voice to their experiences through thought and dialogue.

Content

The story submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15th and 16th centuries—a list of specific topic possibilities is available)
- Experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as he or she reflects on what has happened in the past

Story & Story Telling Guidelines

- Stories must be original works based on historical record, and fitting for the time period of the setting described.
- All stories must be submitted in written form.
- Narrations of stories must be submitted electronically and include a written transcript.
- The narrative story may be written by one person and read by another.
- Stories must be between 500 and 2500 words in length depending on the category of submission.

There are 5 categories of entry for story submissions:

1. Junior (Grades 4–6; 500 words)
2. Intermediate (Gr. 7–10; 500–1000 words)
3. Senior High School (Gr. 11–12; 1500–2500 words)

4. Post-Secondary (College or University level: 1500–2500 words)
5. Advanced Open (for persons not currently being schooled, but skilled in writing and/or presentation: 1500–2500 words)

Submissions

We hope that you will submit your story and/or perform your storytelling for some local Reformation celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your talents will be established locally, probably by your teacher, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit stories that best match the guidelines given here. Each school may determine its own selection process. This submission deadline is **December 15, 2017**.

In the junior category, participating schools should submit *no more than one story per category*. In the intermediate and senior high school categories, participating schools should submit *no more than two entries per category*. Each school may determine their own qualifying process to select and submit the best stories from each age group. Participants in the post-secondary and advanced open categories may submit one story per entrant.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a story, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording your storytelling on video or audio and uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video links should be included with the submission of the written texts of the stories.

Please send these stories and recording links to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. Your written text must be submitted in portable document format (**pdf**). The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your poem is passed on the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian’s) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work—should it be selected—to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Guidelines for Story & Storytelling: Post-Secondary Category

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth-century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to write and/or narrate a story that touches their audience so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Story and storytelling are powerful and creative forms of written expression that are well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of readers and listeners. Story writing and telling allow the author to flesh out some of the nuances of events surrounding the circumstances of the reformation. They also give the opportunity to make characters come alive by having them give voice to their experiences through thought and dialogue.

Content

The story submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15th and 16th centuries—a list of specific topic possibilities is available)
- Experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as he or she reflects on what has happened in the past

Story & Story Telling Guidelines

- Stories must be original works based on historical record, and fitting for the time period of the setting described.
- All stories must be submitted in written form.
- Narrations of stories must be submitted electronically and include a written transcript.
- The narrative story may be written by one person and read by another.
- Stories must be between 500 and 2500 words in length depending on the category of submission.

There are five categories of entry for story submissions:

1. Junior (Grades 4–6; 500 words)
2. Intermediate (Gr. 7–10; 500–1000 words)
3. Senior High School (Gr. 11–12; 1500–2500 words)

4. Post-Secondary (College or University level: 1500–2500 words)
5. Advanced Open (for persons not currently being schooled, but skilled in writing and/or presentation: 1500–2500 words)

Submissions

We hope that you will submit your story and/or perform your storytelling for some local Reformation celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your talents will be established locally by conference, assembly, and rally organizers, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017.**

A second submission deadline has been established to submit stories that best match the guidelines given here, for possible publication. This submission deadline is **December 15, 2017.**

Participants in the post-secondary and advanced open categories may submit one story per entrant.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a story, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording your storytelling on video or audio and uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video link should be included with the submission of the written text of your story.

Please send your story and recording link to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. Your written text must be submitted in portable document format (**pdf**). The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your story and narration are passed on the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work—should it be selected—to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Guidelines for Story & Storytelling: Advanced Open Category (for persons not currently being schooled, but skilled in writing and/or presentation)

Goal

Our goal is to celebrate the heritage and continued relevance of the sixteenth-century Protestant reformation. Participants are asked to write and/or narrate a story that touches their audience so that faith is strengthened, understanding increased, and praise given to our faithful Lord who continues to gather, defend, and preserve his Church. Story and storytelling are powerful and creative forms of written expression that are well suited to exploring ideas and feelings and touching the minds and hearts of readers and listeners. Story writing and telling allow the author to flesh out some of the nuances of events surrounding the circumstances of the reformation. They also give the opportunity to make characters come alive by having them give voice to their experiences through thought and dialogue.

Content

The story submitted can be on one of the following topics or themes

- Specific events during the Great Reformation (15th and 16th centuries—a list of specific topic possibilities is available)
- Experiences of key figures of the Reformation
- A representation of what lives in the heart of the Reformed Christian today as he or she reflects on what has happened in the past

Story & Story Telling Guidelines

- Stories must be original works based on historical record, and fitting for the time period of the setting described.
- All stories must be submitted in written form.
- Narrations of stories must be submitted electronically and include a written transcript.
- The narrative story may be written by one person and read by another.
- Stories must be between 500 and 2500 words in length depending on the category of submission.

There are five categories of entry for story submissions:

1. Junior (Grades 4–6; 500 words)

2. Intermediate (Gr. 7–10; 500–1000 words)
3. Senior High School (Gr. 11–12; 1500–2500 words)
4. Post-Secondary (College or University level: 1500–2500 words)
5. Advanced Open (for persons not currently being schooled, but skilled in writing and/or presentation: 1500–2500 words)

Submissions

We hope that you will submit your story and/or perform your storytelling for some local Reformation celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your talents will be established locally by conference, assembly, and rally organizers, **anytime between June and October 20, 2017.**

A second submission deadline has been established to submit stories that best match the guidelines given here, for possible publication. This submission deadline is **December 15, 2017.**

Participants in the post-secondary and advanced open categories may submit one story per entrant.

To fully appreciate the excellence of a story, it should be read aloud and heard. We encourage recording your storytelling on video or audio and uploading it to **YouTube** (please use the “unlisted” privacy setting). The video link should be included with the submission of the written text of your story.

Please send your story and recording link to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. You must include a filled-out **submission form**, for which you will find multiple links on our webpages. Your written text must be submitted in portable document format (**pdf**). The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submission to ensure complete anonymity when your story and narration are passed on the adjudication committee.

Permissions

By including your signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work—should it be selected—to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

5. All Visual Arts Guidelines

Visual Arts in Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 1517–2017

Guidelines for Visual Arts: Primary Category (K–Gr. 3)

Goal

These guidelines are not meant to be restrictive or to stifle creativity, but to be prompts to stimulate students' creativity to design artworks rich with heart and meaning that touch their audience in ways that strengthen their faith. We desire that the artists' and audiences' hearts will praise God for his grace, love, might and wisdom. We wish that artists might also find that their hearts have been challenged in terms of their own call to be faithful to the Lord.

Composition Guidelines: Primary (K–Gr. 3)

2-Dimensional media: any media, color or black-and-white (e.g., paint, pencil, marker, pencil crayon). Please title all artwork.

- Project topics could be narrative-based (e.g., the 95 Theses by Martin Luther, open-air preaching in the fields, printing workshops)
- *Suggested activity for teachers:* Tell a story from the Reformation, and have students illustrate that story

Submission Guidelines

We envision two rounds of interest in your artwork. First, we hope that you will submit your artwork for local Reformation celebrations around October 31 (such as school assemblies, Reformation rallies, conferences). The deadline for this use of your art will be established locally by your teacher, organizers of the assemblies, etc., and could be **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will not be directly involved in this round.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit to the Celebrate 1517 Committee one piece per age category that best matches the guidelines given here. This date is **December 2, 2017**.

Teachers will use answers to the following questions to determine which artworks should be submitted to the Celebrate 1517 Committee for a second selection process, with a view to possible publication.

Primary (K–Gr. 3):

- Is the artwork encouraging?
- Is the message/story clear?
- Is it relevant to the Reformation?
- Is it creative and original?

Technical Considerations:

- Is the design well-planned?
- Did the students use their pencils/markers/pencil crayons (media) skillfully?

For the purpose of this adjudication, artists whose work is selected will be asked to submit high quality photographs: For example, 8.5x11 size pictures taken with a SLR quality camera would need to be a minimum of 2040x2640 pixels but *preferably* 2550x3300 pixels. This means that the resolution of the file would be a minimum of 240 dots per inch (DPI) but *ideally* 300 DPI. Since the visual arts adjudication subcommittee cannot gather into one place all the original art from widely-dispersed students, judging will only take place based on photographs. Thus, you should send photographs that show detail and you probably should include more than one photograph.

Please send your files as uncompressed email attachments to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. *Please do not mail original artwork or photographs as these cannot be returned by mail.*

In addition, please note: All artwork must be original, no copies or reproductions. Please title all artwork. Please include a filled-out **submission form**, for which you will find multiple links on our Celebrate 1517 webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submissions to ensure complete anonymity when your art is passed on to the visual arts adjudication subcommittee. We hope your art will edify you and the committee, and then be chosen for publication.

Permissions

By including your (or your legal guardian's) signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work—assuming it is selected—to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.

Visual Arts in Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 1517- 2017

Guidelines for Visual Arts: Junior Category (Gr. 4–6)

Goal

These guidelines are not meant to be restrictive or to stifle creativity, but to be prompts to stimulate students' creativity to design artworks rich with heart and meaning that touch their audience in ways that strengthen their faith. We desire that the artists' and audiences' hearts will praise God for his grace, love, might and wisdom. We wish that artists might also find that their hearts have been challenged in terms of their own call to be faithful to the Lord.

Composition Guidelines: Junior (Gr. 4–6)

2-Dimensional media: any media, colour or black-and-white (e.g., pencil, printmaking, watercolor, pen and ink, paint). Please title all artwork.

Some ideas for artworks:

- Topic-based rather than narrative based: e.g., Act of Supremacy, Thomas Cranmer and the Reformation in England, Calvin's Institutes, the Huguenots, the Bible being printed in the common language, invention of the printing press and printing of the Bible, family worship with the luxury of having a Bible, persecution of those true to God's word.
- Then and now comparison - Some examples of topics that connect the Reformation to the present:
 - What does worship in our churches look like now compared to the churches before or during the Reformation and how did the Reformation help create this change? In the Roman Catholic churches the people didn't hear the preaching and Bible reading in the common language; access to God was only through the priests. Illustrate how worship and our relationship to God has changed.
 - Illustrate how modern technology has changed access to Biblical resources since the Reformation, when the Roman Catholic Church banned many books.
 - Are there any reformations that have happened or are happening in our churches since the Reformation of 1517?

- Encourage students to make it personal: What does the Reformation mean to you? How is it connected to your life? (e.g., What blessings do you experience today because of the Reformation?)
- *Suggested activity for teachers:* Spend some time studying woodcut prints and etchings of the time (e.g., Albrecht Dürer). Use Styrofoam block printing (carving or drawing into Styrofoam) to illustrate key events of the Reformation, similar to the way artists during the time of the Reformation used woodcut prints to depict Bible stories.

Submission Guidelines

We envision two rounds of interest in your artwork. First, we hope that you will submit your artwork for local Reformation celebrations around October 31 (such as school assemblies, Reformation rallies, conferences). The deadline for this use of your art will be established locally by your teacher, organizers of the assemblies, etc., and could be **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will not be directly involved in this round.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit to the Celebrate 1517 Committee one piece per age category that best matches the guidelines given here. This date is **December 2, 2017**.

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Junior (Gr. 4–6)

- Is the artwork encouraging?
- Is the message/story clear?
- Is it relevant to the Reformation?
- Is it creative and original?

Technical Considerations

- Is the design well-planned?
- Did the students use their pencils/markers/pencil crayons (media) skillfully?

For the purpose of this adjudication, artists whose work is selected will be asked to submit high quality photographs: For example, 8.5x11 size pictures taken with

a SLR quality camera would need to be a minimum of 2040x2640 pixels but *preferably* 2550x3300 pixels. This means that the resolution of the file would be a minimum of 240 dots per inch (DPI) but *ideally* 300 DPI. Since the visual arts adjudication subcommittee cannot gather into one place all the original art from widely-dispersed students, judging will only take place based on photographs. Thus, you should send photographs that show detail and you probably should include more than one photograph.

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Permissions

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Visual Arts in Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 1517- 2017

Guidelines for Visual Arts: Intermediate Category (Gr. 7–10)

Goal

These guidelines are not meant to be restrictive or to stifle creativity, but to be prompts to stimulate students' creativity to design artworks rich with heart and meaning that touch their audience in ways that strengthen their faith. We desire that the artists' and audiences' hearts will praise God for his grace, love, might and wisdom. We wish that artists might also find that their hearts have been challenged in terms of their own call to be faithful to the Lord.

Composition Guidelines: Intermediate (Gr. 7–10)

Any 3-Dimensional or 2-Dimensional media (e.g., any drawing or painting media, printmaking, photography, sculpture, textiles, not including video). Please title all artwork.

All submissions should include an artist's statement—150 word maximum.

Teachers may want to focus on one medium, looking at the processes used by the artists during the time of the Reformation (e.g., oil painting, etching). *Suggestion:* Have students do self-guided research on Reformation topics that interest them (perhaps provide a list).

or:

Teachers may want to present some of the Reformation history to the class. *Suggestion:* Study art from the time of the Reformation such as the woodcuts, etchings, paintings, and other works by:

- Albrecht Dürer
- Lucas Cranach the Elder
- Lucas Cranach the Younger
- Hans Holbein the Younger
- Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Some ideas and topics for conceptual and thematic artworks (or generate your own):

- Have there been any reformations in the church in your lifetime, or your grandparents' lifetime?
- How would you illustrate the five "solos"?
- What is the role of art for Christians and the Church, then and now?
- What is the role of the church in politics, then and now?
- God protects and gathers his people wherever they are. How does your experience in Canada compare to the experiences of Christians during the Reformation?
- Illustrate how the Reformation has impacted the world on a global scale.
- Examine the difference between a ritualistic/church-mediated relationship with God and a personal relationship with God.
- Look into the backstories of some of the Reformers, e.g., what did they produce/write, what were some of their personal struggles and how did God use these personal struggles to refine them? Illustrate some personal aspects of their lives and how that connected to their part in the Reformation. (e.g., Luther, Farel, Zwingli, Cranmer, Calvin, Beza, Bullinger, Guido de Brès, etc.).
- Look at how God used broken individuals to do great things for him both in the Reformation and during Biblical times.
- What does it look like to stand up for the Word of God like Luther did at the Diet of Worms? What does it look like to represent Christ in your workplace/sports team/neighbourhood?
- Luther had to do hand calligraphy on a piece of paper to produce the theses he nailed to the door. Compare how you could spread gospel truths in the present using the technology that is available to you.
- Illustrate how education changed because of the Reformation. That is, how education, becoming more widely available, equipped believers to read the Word of God for themselves.
- How would you feel to be able to read the Bible for yourself for the first time? Imagine what Protestant worshippers began to experience as they left the superstitions of Roman Catholicism and discovered the freshness of the gospel message and the release from guilt and worry.

Submission Guidelines

We envision two rounds of interest in your artwork. First, we hope that you will submit your artwork for local Reformation celebrations around October 31 (such as school assemblies, Reformation rallies, conferences). The deadline for this use

of your art will be established locally by your teacher, organizers of the assemblies, etc., and could be **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will not be directly involved in this round.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit to the Celebrate 1517 Committee one piece per age category that best matches the guidelines given here. This date is **December 2, 2017**.

Teachers will use answers to the following questions to determine which artworks should be submitted to the Celebrate 1517 Committee for a second selection process, with a view to possible publication.

Intermediate (Gr. 7 – 10)

- Is the artwork edifying?
- Is it celebratory?
- Is it constructive?
- Is it truthful?
- Is it meaningful?
- Is it relevant to the Reformation?
- Does it have strong visual communication?
- Is it creative and original?

Technical Considerations

- Does the artwork have good style and overall unity?
- Does it have strong composition?
- Does it have skilled and effective use of media and technique?
- Is the use of media intentional?

For the purpose of this adjudication, artists whose work is selected will be asked to submit high quality photographs: For example, 8.5x11 size pictures taken with a SLR quality camera would need to be a minimum of 2040x2640 pixels but *preferably* 2550x3300 pixels. This means that the resolution of the file would be a minimum of 240 dots per inch (DPI) but *ideally* 300 DPI. Since the visual arts adjudication subcommittee cannot gather into one place all the original art from widely-dispersed students, judging will only take place based on photographs. Thus, you should send photographs that show detail and you probably should include more than one photograph.

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Visual Arts in Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 1517–2017

Guidelines for Visual Arts: Senior High School Category (Gr. 11–12)

Goal

These guidelines are not meant to be restrictive or to stifle creativity, but to be prompts to stimulate students' creativity to design artworks rich with heart and meaning that touch their audience in ways that strengthen their faith. We desire that the artists' and audiences' hearts will praise God for his grace, love, might, and wisdom. We wish that artists might also find that their hearts have been challenged in terms of their own call to be faithful to the Lord.

Composition Guidelines: Senior High School (Gr. 11–12)

Any 3-Dimensional or 2-Dimensional media (e.g., any drawing or painting media, printmaking, photography, sculpture, textiles, not including video). Please title all artwork.

All submissions should include an artist's statement—150 word maximum.

Teachers may want to focus on one medium, looking at the processes used by the artists during the time of the Reformation (e.g., oil painting, etching). *Suggestion:* Have students do self-guided research on Reformation topics that interest them (perhaps provide a list).

or:

Teachers may want to present some of the Reformation history to the class. *Suggestion:* Study art from the time of the Reformation such as the woodcuts, etchings, paintings, and other works by:

- Albrecht Dürer
- Lucas Cranach the Elder
- Lucas Cranach the Younger
- Hans Holbein the Younger
- Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Some ideas and topics for conceptual and thematic artworks (or generate your own):

- Have there been any reformations in the church in your lifetime, or your grandparents' lifetime?
- How would you illustrate the five "solos"?
- What is the role of art for Christians and the Church, then and now?
- What is the role of the church in politics, then and now?
- God protects and gathers his people wherever they are. How does your experience in Canada compare to the experiences of Christians during the Reformation?
- Illustrate how the Reformation has impacted the world on a global scale.
- Examine the difference between a ritualistic/church-mediated relationship with God and a personal relationship with God.
- Look into the backstories of some of the Reformers, e.g., what did they produce/write, what were some of their personal struggles and how did God use these personal struggles to refine them? Illustrate some personal aspects of their lives and how that connected to their part in the Reformation. (e.g., Luther, Farel, Zwingli, Cranmer, Calvin, Beza, Bullinger, Guido de Brès, etc.).
- Look at how God used broken individuals to do great things for him both in the Reformation and during Biblical times.
- What does it look like to stand up for the Word of God like Luther did at the Diet of Worms? What does it look like to represent Christ in your workplace/sports team/neighbourhood?
- Luther had to do hand calligraphy on a piece of paper to produce the theses he nailed to the door. Compare how you could spread gospel truths in the present using the technology that is available to you.
- Illustrate how education changed because of the Reformation. That is, how education, becoming more widely available, equipped believers to read the Word of God for themselves.
- How would you feel to be able to read the Bible for yourself for the first time? Imagine what Protestant worshippers began to experience as they left the superstitions of Roman Catholicism and discovered the freshness of the gospel message and the release from guilt and worry.

Submission Guidelines

We envision two rounds of interest in your artwork. First, we hope that you will submit your artwork for local Reformation celebrations around October 31 (such as school assemblies, Reformation rallies, conferences). The deadline for this use

of your art will be established locally by your teacher, organizers of the assemblies, etc., and could be **anytime between June and October 20, 2017**. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will not be directly involved in this round.

A second submission deadline has been established for teachers to submit to the Celebrate 1517 Committee one piece per age category that best matches the guidelines given here. This date is **December 2, 2017**.

Teachers will use answers to the following questions to determine which artworks should be submitted to the Celebrate 1517 Committee for a second selection process, with a view to possible publication.

High School Senior (Gr. 11–12)

Is the artwork edifying?

Is it celebratory?

Is it constructive?

Is it truthful?

Is it meaningful?

Is it relevant to the Reformation?

Does it have strong visual communication?

Is it creative and original?

Technical Considerations

Does the artwork have good style and overall unity?

Does it have strong composition?

Does it have skilled and effective use of media and technique?

Is the use of media intentional?

For the purpose of this adjudication, artists whose work is selected will be asked to submit high quality photographs: For example, 8.5x11 size pictures taken with a SLR quality camera would need to be a minimum of 2040x2640 pixels but *preferably* 2550x3300 pixels. This means that the resolution of the file would be a minimum of 240 dots per inch (DPI) but *ideally* 300 DPI. Since the visual arts adjudication subcommittee cannot gather into one place all the original art from widely-dispersed students, judging will only take place based on photographs. Thus, you should send photographs that show detail and you probably should include more than one photograph.

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Visual Arts in Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 1517- 2017

Guidelines for Visual Arts: Post-Secondary (College & University)

Goal

These guidelines are not meant to be restrictive or to stifle creativity, but to be prompts to stimulate students' creativity to design artworks rich with heart and meaning that touch their audience in ways that strengthen their faith. We desire that the artists' and audiences' hearts will praise God for his grace, love, might, and wisdom. We wish that artists might also find that their hearts have been challenged in terms of their own call to be faithful to the Lord.

Composition Guidelines: Post-Secondary (College & University)

Any 3-Dimensional or 2-Dimensional media (e.g., any drawing or painting media, printmaking, photography, textiles, sculpture, not including video). Please title all artwork.

Submissions accepted from students in any post-secondary Visual Arts or Design program.

All submissions should include an artist's statement—200 word maximum.

You may want to focus on one medium, looking at the processes used by the artists during the time of the Reformation (e.g., oil painting, etching).

Or you may want to, for example, draw inspiration from art from the time of the Reformation such as the woodcuts, etchings, paintings, and other works by:

- Albrecht Dürer
- Lucas Cranach the Elder
- Lucas Cranach the Younger
- Hans Holbein the Younger
- Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Some ideas and topics for conceptual and thematic artworks (or generate your own):

- Have there been any reformations in the church in your lifetime, or your grandparents' lifetime?
- How would you illustrate the five "solos"?
- What is the role of art for Christians and the Church, then and now?
- What is the role of the church in politics, then and now?
- God protects and gathers his people wherever they are. How does your experience in Canada compare to the experiences of Christians during the Reformation?
- Illustrate how the Reformation has impacted the world on a global scale.
- Examine the difference between a ritualistic/church-mediated relationship with God and a personal relationship with God.
- Look into the backstories of some of the Reformers, e.g., what did they produce/write, what were some of their personal struggles and how did God use these personal struggles to refine them? Illustrate some personal aspects of their lives and how that connected to their part in the Reformation. (e.g., Luther, Farel, Zwingli, Cranmer, Calvin, Beza, Bullinger, Guido de Brès, etc.).
- Look at how God used broken individuals to do great things for him both in the Reformation and during Biblical times.
- What does it look like to stand up for the Word of God like Luther did at the Diet of Worms? What does it look like to represent Christ in your workplace/sports team/neighbourhood?
- Luther had to do hand calligraphy on a piece of paper to produce the theses he nailed to the door. Compare how you could spread gospel truths in the present using the technology that is available to you.
- Illustrate how education changed because of the Reformation. That is, how education, becoming more widely available, equipped believers to read the Word of God for themselves.
- How would you feel to be able to read the Bible for yourself for the first time? Imagine what Protestant worshippers began to experience as they left the superstitions of Roman Catholicism and discovered the freshness of the gospel message and the release from guilt and worry.

Submission Guidelines for Post-Secondary and Advanced Open Categories

We envision two rounds of interest in your artwork. First, we hope that you will submit your artwork for local Reformation celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your art will be established locally and would probably be

sometime before the end of **October 2017**. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will not be directly involved in this round but we encourage you to contact your local Canadian Reformed School to find out how your original artwork can be included in any Reformation Day exhibitions, assemblies, conferences, or performances. Principals will have been advised of this visual arts invitation.

A second submission deadline has been established for you to submit photos of your art to the Celebrate 1517 Committee. This date is **December 2, 2017**.

For the purpose of this adjudication, artists are asked to submit high quality photographs: For example, 8.5x11 size pictures taken with a SLR quality camera would need to be a minimum of 2040x2640 pixels but *preferably* 2550x3300 pixels. This means that the resolution of the file would be a minimum of 240 dots per inch (DPI) but *ideally* 300 DPI. Since the visual arts adjudication subcommittee cannot gather into one place all the original art from widely-dispersed entrants, judging will only take place based on photographs. Thus, you should send photographs that show detail and you probably should include more than one photograph.

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Visual Arts in Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 1517- 2017

Guidelines for Visual Arts: Advanced Open (for those not currently being schooled, but who are practiced and proficient in visual arts)

Goal

These guidelines are not meant to be restrictive or to stifle creativity, but to be prompts to stimulate students' creativity to design artworks rich with heart and meaning that touch their audience in ways that strengthen their faith. We desire that the artists' and audiences' hearts will praise God for his grace, love, might, and wisdom. We wish that artists might also find that their hearts have been challenged in terms of their own call to be faithful to the Lord.

Composition Guidelines: Advanced Open

Any 3-Dimensional or 2-Dimensional media (e.g., any drawing or painting media, printmaking, photography, textiles, sculpture, not including video). Please title all artwork.

Submissions accepted from artists who are beyond post-secondary studies or who are self-taught artists.

All submissions should include an artist's statement—200 word maximum.

You may want to focus on one medium, looking at the processes used by the artists during the time of the Reformation (e.g., oil painting, etching).

Or you may want to, for example, draw inspiration from art from the time of the Reformation such as the woodcuts, etchings, paintings, and other works by:

- Albrecht Dürer
- Lucas Cranach the Elder
- Lucas Cranach the Younger
- Hans Holbein the Younger
- Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Some ideas and topics for conceptual and thematic artworks (or generate your own):

- Have there been any reformations in the church in your lifetime, or your grandparents' lifetime?
- How would you illustrate the five "solas"?
- What is the role of art for Christians and the Church, then and now?
- What is the role of the church in politics, then and now?
- God protects and gathers his people wherever they are. How does your experience in Canada compare to the experiences of Christians during the Reformation?
- Illustrate how the Reformation has impacted the world on a global scale.
- Examine the difference between a ritualistic/church-mediated relationship with God and a personal relationship with God.
- Look into the backstories of some of the Reformers, e.g., what did they produce/write, what were some of their personal struggles and how did God use these personal struggles to refine them? Illustrate some personal aspects of their lives and how that connected to their part in the Reformation. (e.g., Luther, Farel, Zwingli, Cranmer, Calvin, Beza, Bullinger, Guido de Brès, etc.).
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- How would you feel to be able to read the Bible for yourself for the first time? Imagine what Protestant worshippers began to experience as they left the superstitions of Roman Catholicism and discovered the freshness of the gospel message and the release from guilt and worry.

Submission Guidelines for Post-Secondary and Advanced Open Categories

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