

To: Scenario Writing Coach
From: Future Problem Solving Program International
Re: 2011-12 Scenario Writing

Future Problem Solving Program International (FPSPI) provides the tools and strategies students need to face the challenges of today and the future. FPSPI is the perfect vehicle to encourage and develop the thinking skills necessary for success in the 21st Century. FPSPI teaches students to think critically, creatively, and futuristically.

FPSPI's six-step model addresses the 21st Century Skills and is aligned with both the National Curriculum Standards and the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) Standards. The scenario writing component provides opportunities for students to meet and exceed these standards by encouraging students to develop and refine their creative writing skills. Scenario writing allows an individual to create a futuristic story based on one of the FPS topics in three category areas: Science/Technology, Social/Political and Business/Economics.

Scenario writing strives to help students enlarge, enrich, and make more accurate those images of the future. Scenario writing personalizes a student's ever-growing perspective of the future.

An FPSP scenario is a story in which one possible outcome of the future is developed through character(s) and plot. It is a prediction of the future and is written as though the future were the present.

To participate in the competitive portion of the program, a scenario writer follows standard guidelines:

- **Each scenario must be set at least 20 years in the future with evident futuristic thinking.**
- **Each scenario must have a recognizable relationship to one of the current year's FPSPI topics (see cover sheet).**
- **Scenarios must not exceed 1,500 words (See rules).**
- **The title must be on the first page of the scenario and the scenario must be typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman or Arial (See rules).**

Scenario writing serves as an excellent complement for a student participating in team problem solving and can serve as an extension of work on any of the topics. Scenario writing also appeals to students not drawn to the more team-oriented focus of FPS. Scenario writing can be used as a stand-alone activity by an FPS coach, a writing teacher, or any individual interested in creative writing. Scenario writing is an excellent option for student portfolios.

Component Structure

Students in grades 4 through 12 may participate in the scenario writing component. The junior division includes students in grades 4-6; the middle division, grades 7-9; and the senior division, grades 10-12.

A registration fee entitles a student to submit one scenario to the scenario writing competition. While an individual student may submit only one scenario, there is no limit to the number of scenarios a coach may register. Students in Georgia participate through the Georgia Future Problem Solving program.

We look forward to your participation.