

**Guidelines for Environment and Sustainable Development Competition
for Grade 12 Students**

The competition will consist of 3 stages namely:

- i. a nationwide essay competition
- ii. a power point competition (for shortlisted 10 best essays)
- iii. a debate (for the best 4 power point presentations)

Eligibility: Grade 12 Students

Participation: Group project with 3-4 students
Maximum submission per school: 2

Prizes

Winner: Rs 50,000

1st runner-up: Rs 30,000

2nd runner-up: Rs 15,000

1. **Essays**

Topic: Any environment and sustainable development issue (*Proposed topics for essays are enclosed*)

Language: English

Number of words: 800-1200 words

Format: A4 size paper with Font: Times new roman, size 12, line spacing 1.5

Submission:

In hard & soft copy (on CD or pen drive)

Deadline for submission of essay(s) by schools: **7 March 2019 at 14.00hrs**

Essays to be submitted to respective Education Zone Directorates and PSEA by Rectors after certifying the essays

2. 10 best essays will be selected by the Jury Panel. The authors will be called upon to deliver a **powerpoint presentation** of duration between 15-20 mins on their essays followed by about 5-10 minutes for questions and answers.
Presentations will be made before the Jury panel at the seat of this Ministry. Participants will be notified at least 2-3 weeks prior to the presentations.
3. Jury panel will thereafter retain 4 best power point presentations.
The selected schools will be communicated the topic of the debate and their opponent at least 3 weeks prior to the debate competition. The debate will comprise face to face between students of 2 designated colleges.

Conditions:

- Essays with plagiarism above 20% will be automatically disqualified. Essays should be properly referenced using Harvard referencing system.
- The Ministry reserves the right to publish best essays and/or post them on the Ministry's website, whilst acknowledging the schools and the authors.
- The Ministry reserves the right not to go ahead with the competition.

For further queries, please contact Mr G. Munhurrun or any other officer of the Information & Education Division on Tel : 203 6200

Proposed essay topics

1. The role of youth in promoting sustainable development
2. The role of school environment club in environmental conservation.
3. Food wastage. What are our responsibilities and how food wastes can be reduced?
4. How to manage the increasing e-wastes level in Mauritius?
5. Can we protect our biodiversity by promoting eco-tourism?
6. Is Mauritius really prepared to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals related to environment and sustainable development?
7. Recycling should be made mandatory. What are your views and how can it be implemented in Mauritius?
8. We should strive for a paperless society. How can this help in environmental conservation?
9. Discuss how we can beat plastic pollution in Mauritius.
10. Marine Protected Areas. Why should they be protected?
11. Discuss the importance of wetlands for humans and biodiversity.
12. Mankind is responsible for the large loss of biodiversity in nature. Please reflect.
13. Illegal dumping and littering are causing much harm to our environment. Discuss on measures that can be adopted to tackle this issue.
14. Endangered species need protection. How far do you agree and what needs to be done?
15. Global warming demands more joined global action. Discuss.
16. Building our resilience to climate change and its impacts. Discuss
17. The carbon tax should be the next stage in our capitalist world. Discuss

18. Renewable energies should be stimulated by the government. Discuss.
19. Environmental damage due to energy consumption forces us to use energy alternatives. Discuss.
20. Composting as a solution to waste minimization in Mauritius. Discuss.
21. Green energy is the solution for fossil fuel. Discuss on its feasibility in the Mauritian economy.
22. Conserving our global resources is fundamental for our survival. How does our lifestyle impact on resources and what changes are needed?
23. Rain forests need to be protected against development. They are our planet's lungs. How far do you agree?
24. What are the principal threats of land degradation and what are the solutions?
25. Ocean acidification endangers marine ecosystem. What are the main causes and how can these be prevented?
26. Why should we be concerned about ozone layer depletion in the Earth's Stratosphere?
27. Buying natural and organic products favour environmental conservation. How far do you agree?
28. Our ever-expanding consumerism is killing the earth. Discuss.
29. Buying environmentally friendly goods will save the world. Discuss.
30. Water pollution will be the world's biggest problem in the next years. Discuss.