

**NATIONAL SOCIETY  
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST**

*Topic for 2019–2020*

2020 marks the 400th Anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower and the founding of the Plymouth Colony. Imagine you are one of the passengers on the Mayflower. Knowing what materials were available in 1620, what would you have packed to prepare for the trip and starting a new life in the wilderness? After experiencing more than two months at sea then finally landing at Plymouth Colony on November 9, 1620, do you think you would have made different choices and why?

**GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES**

**STUDENT'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF WORDS IN ESSAY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS FOLLOWED: (All must be answered affirmatively)**

1. **FORM:** Handwritten in black ink, typed or prepared on computer or word processor with non-script font no smaller than 12 pt. and no larger than 14 pt.  
(ESSAY MUST BE STUDENT'S OWN WORK) Yes? \_\_\_\_\_ No? \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. **NUMBER OF WORDS:** Yes? \_\_\_\_\_ No? \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade 5: 300–600  
Grades 6–8: 600–1,000  
(All words count. Title page and bibliography excluded.  
Dates count as one word.)
  
3. **TITLE PAGE:** The following must be listed on the title page: Yes? \_\_\_\_\_ No? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Title of Essay: **“The Voyage of the Mayflower”**  
(A subtitle is permitted if written below the topic.)
  - Contestant's full name and address  
(includes street, rural route, or PO Box, city, state, zip code)  
Note: If the school's regulations prohibit providing the student's contact information, then contact information for the school may be substituted.
  - Contestant's phone number and area code
  - Contestant's e-mail address, if available
  - Name of contestant's school and grade level
  - Name of sponsoring DAR chapter
  - Number of words in essay

**JUDGING BASED UPON:** (must have a bibliography or is disqualified)

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| 1. Completeness of title page (1 to 5 points) | _____ |
| 2. Historical accuracy (1 to 25 points)       | _____ |
| 3. Adherence to subject (1 to 15 points)      | _____ |
| 4. Organization of material (1 to 10 points)  | _____ |
| 5. Originality (1 to 10 points)               | _____ |
| 6. Interest (1 to 10 points)                  | _____ |
| 7. Spelling and punctuation (1 to 10 points)  | _____ |
| 8. Grammar (1 to 10 points)                   | _____ |
| 9. Bibliography (1 to 5 points)               | _____ |
| Total Points                                  | _____ |

**JUDGE'S SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_

*(A copy of this guide should be given to each judge and final points tabulated by chair. Chair can determine if title page is correct instead of judge, if desired.)*