

Los Altos Historical Commission and Los Altos History Museum
33rd Annual Margaret Thompson Historical Essay Contest
3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Graders

Rubric for Scoring
2017 Margaret Thompson Essay Contest

There will be a total of 30 points possible for an essay. These points will be allotted according to the following criteria:

1. Topic sentence clearly identifies and supports essay prompt
5 points
2. Ideas
10 points
 - Establish a clear focus
 - Use descriptive language
 - Provide relevant information
 - Communicate ideas in a creative manner
3. Expression
10 points
 - Use grammar conventions (mechanics) effectively
 - Use interesting vocabulary
 - Use a variety of sentences
4. Organization
5 points
 - Demonstrate a sequential flow of ideas
 - Bring closure to your ideas