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Grade: 8

**WRITEATHON 2018**

NSM GURUCOOL WRITEATHON 2018 WISHWIN

Level 3: Grades 6, 7, 8



(December 16, 2018)

The essays of Writeathon were graded independently by 2 judges.

Essay Prompt: You have been elected to become the next president. As the new president of the United States explain what steps you have planned/are planning for the country in terms of addressing environmental issues.

Please find attached, the winning essay by the Writeathon Level 3 first runner up: Neha Chelamkuri.

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Essay Prompt: You have been elected to become the next president. As the new president of the United States explain what steps you have planned/are planning for the country in terms of addressing environmental issues.

As having recently been appointed the president of the United States, it is my obligation, among many others, to address the impending environmental issues. Much progress has been made, however, we lack the serious drive and motivation to find solutions to these imminent obstacles. One cannot simply say that the individuals of our nation will be able to reduce their carbon footprint and minimize greenhouse gas emissions, for that is easier said than done. By emphasizing renewable resources, finding effective means of recycling, and protecting crucial ecosystems, we may hope to foment the movement for a healthier environment.

First, our reliance on non-renewable energy sources (fossil fuels) has proven to be detrimental to the environment. The increase in pollution over the last century has prompted our nation and others to find effective alternatives. For example, solar energy has experienced significant growth in the last decade, due to its prevalent energy source, the Sun. Of course, this alternative comes with its downsides, as many have realized, but by promoting the growth of these innovations, we can hope to see improvement in efficiency. Another renewable resource is hydro-electric energy. Countries such as China have implemented many dams to compensate for their monolithic population. Even our nation is working to implement more of these that will be effective and still maintain aquatic ecosystems.

Next, we should focus our attention on recycling. While it is a sagacious method of reusing and saving our resources, it does not garner enough attention for more recognition across the nation. There are many organizations that strive to spread awareness about its importance and can do what national forces cannot. For example, Teens4Green is a student-based organization like other recycling groups that have many chapters across the United States. They perform community clean-ups and litter pick-up. Their small services help their respective communities significantly. If our government could provide more support to organizations like these, we would be improving our nation as a whole, and not by force.

Finally, ecosystem protection is something our government does not pay enough attention to. This issue does not just encompass the cutting down of trees. The pressing subject, rather, is quite omnibus. Wildlife reserves are not just an

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opportunity to view the many different species of a particular area. They implement necessary protection to ensure that the biodiversity and preservation of an ecosystem are not compromised due to imprudent urban development. Though compensation for population growth is a sine qua non, conscious urban development is even more necessary for the environment. This means minimizing environmental destruction and bolstering preservation of existing ecosystems and wildlife.

In conclusion, these changes will be anything but simple. And of course, with change comes controversy. Growth will not always mean more factories, buildings, or highways. If we can evoke these fundamental changes, we can soon grow a healthier nation. This is, evidently, not just a national issue. Global cooperation will be a massive achievement in making Earth less reliable on “bad habits” and detrimental practices such as deforestation. We must also note that these alterations do not start here, with our government, they start with the citizens of this nation. By providing even more national outreach to those whose voices should be heard, we can pave the way for futuristic innovation, and ways we can find solutions to the issues, including environmental, that face our nation.