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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 Champion:
Shriya Bhat.

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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.

Here is the blunt truth: our environment is deteriorating. Prevalent issues such as Global Warming and water pollution plague Mother Nature's purity and beauty. Thankfully, I, as the new President of the United States of America, have several innovative solutions to rejuvenate the environment.

First of all, Global Warming is one of the most detrimental environmental issues we face today. But what is Global Warming? The Earth has a layer of atmospheric gases called ozone (O₃ is the chemical symbol.) This layer is called the Ozone layer, and it prevents the Sun's harmful Ultraviolet radiation from entering the earth's atmosphere. If this ozone layer was not present, all of the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation would enter the Earth's atmosphere, and all of human civilization would acquire skin cancer, and we would all like. Currently, millions of tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) are being released into the air every year through the exhaust of cars, buses, factories, and nuclear power plants. This CO₂ is disintegrating the atmosphere, fabricating holes in the Ozone layer, which is causing us more vulnerable to the sun's damaging radiation. Although scientists have proven that global temperatures are rising 2 degrees Celsius every year due to human activities, former President Donald Trump ignored this major issue, claiming that global warming does not exist. Thankfully, I have an ingenious solution to this worldwide epidemic: Renewable energy. Renewable energy is severely overlooked and underutilized despite the fact that it does not release carbon dioxide and would provide us with an environmentally friendly alternative to fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas. I will found a new organization called "Clean Energy" to advocate the usage of renewable energy over fossil fuels that are a detriment to the environment. This would significantly slow down the process of Global Warming and beautify our world.

Another currently pertinent issue present is water pollution. Recently, there have been several accounts of sea turtles mistaking plastic bags for jellyfish and eating them. After the plastic bag is eaten, it expands in the turtles' intestines, and unfortunately killing them. Where did the plastic bags come from in the first place? They certainly didn't fall from the sky! No. They came from us. Our carelessness to throw away a candy wrapper might cause the death of an oceanic creature. It's not just trash that is polluting the oceans, but oil as well. When oil leaks from a

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vehicle, it goes into the sewage system, which inevitably gets dumped into the ocean. Not only that, but there have been several oil spills in recent that have costed the lives of millions of sea creatures worldwide. It's time to put an end to this problem. My proposal is this: to promote a non-profit organization called "H2O Go" to endorse the production of biodegradable merchandise and the usage of renewable resources in favor of non-renewable energy. This would encourage the citizens to put an effort to try and the mass murder of sea life and the purification of our water and environment.

The last issue I would like to address not one that directly affects the environment, but one that impacts it nevertheless. The issue is the lack of awareness of our environment in general. In this day and age with technology at the tips of our fingers, we rarely think to look up from our phones and see that the beauty of our environment is diminishing. We don't even realize that the water is browning, the trees are vanishing, and the brilliance of the blue sky is being replaced with dark gloomy smoke. Which is why my solution is this: to fund an environmental awareness fair and form a national holiday called "Earth Day." The fair would have many different booths and stands that focused on different environmental issues, where you could go learn about the pressing environmental concerns of today. This would help spread awareness of our environment and encourage people to take a more active effort in the beatification of Mother Nature.

In conclusion, I, the president of the United States of America, have several solutions to currently relevant environmental issues our Earth faces. As president, it is my duty to do what is best for my citizens and the beauty of the environment is your best interest. Although I have addressed several, there is only so much I can do sitting at a desk. The future of our environment is in your hands, and it is your responsibility to keep it clean. Even if it's just picking up litter or throwing away a piece of trash, it still makes a big difference. It's like what former US president John F. Kennedy said; "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Be the change you want to see in the world.