



Essay Template

The following writing elements should be included in your essay in order to meet the LANL STEM Challenge submission requirements. Be original in how you communicate these points. A good essay must be able to visualize your STEM idea with words only. The judges must be able to imagine your design for the future, how it will work, what it will look like, who it is for, and any other details.

Required Elements

1. **Title:** Name your proposed STEM design.

2. **Tag Line:** Write a small amount of text (approximately three to ten words), which sums up your STEM design in a dramatic and memorable way. For the best examples of tag lines, visit the Apple.com website.

- Ipod. A thousand Songs in your pocket.
- Macbook pro. More power with every pixel.

3. **Highlight three key features:** Using creative and descriptive language, highlight three to five key features, benefits, or advantages of your STEM Design.

- Photographs could show the people or location that it would serve.
- Bullets could highlight why it would be important or useful.
- Drawings might show why someone would want to use it, build it, have it, etc.
- Infograhics could illustrate how it would help people, your community, the world.

4. **STEM Research in three bullet points:** Using detailed descriptions, show your supporting research.

- A diagram could show how it works.
- A chart could show statistics behind the design.
- Drawings could illustrate how it would be built.
- Text might describe the science behind the design.

Submission Requirements: Your essay must meet the format specifications below to be accepted.

- PDF format only
- Up to 1000 words
- 12 pt Times Roman
- Include one image to represent your essay
- The design elements outlined above must be included.
- Link to team Pinterest Board.
- STEM Challenge Survey completed (online)



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Resources: The [LANL STEM Challenge website](#) has links to websites and blogs with great tips and tools for designing your essay. Search online for essays that you like, and use them as examples. Read the articles, and do some research on your own so that you have a good understanding of how to write an essay.

Documentation: Remember that keeping an active Pinterest board documenting every stage of the design process will win you points in the Challenge competition! Here are some ideas:

- If you find a great website or tool, pin it!
- Explore other Pinterest boards, and repin to your board.
- As you do research for your essay, post them right away into Pinterest. This way, you have a personal bulletin board to share with the team. This helps for brainstorming.