



ONLINE BLOG WRITING COMPETITION

PROBLEM STATEMENT :

“Blogging isn’t for everyone, but it’s important that people realize it is part of the many ways scientists talk to each other.” - Stephen Heard, author of blog “Scientist Sees Squirrel”

Over the years, blogs, essays and research papers have played a crucial role in the field of Astronomy. Astronomy has a long, rich history and an ever expanding futurity. With various phenomena unfolding every day, blogging aids the spread of ideas, theories and observations across the global fraternity of science enthusiasts.

Estrella (pronounced: ehs-TREH-ya) is spanish for the word **Star**. This is also our theme for this contest. **Stars, Solar Physics, Radiophysics, Gravitational astrophysics, space weather, space missions, data driven astronomy, astrobiology, Dark matter.**

Participants will be required to write a blog/article/essay on anything related to the above theme and send their submission to [submission link](#).

TIMELINE:

- This is an online blog writing competition. The competition begins on **24th April, 2021**.
- The reacts and shares up until **23:59 hrs IST, 13th May, 2021**, will be considered for each submission.
- Participants must submit their article latest by **23:59 hrs IST, 10th May, 2021**.
- The results will be announced on **16th May, 2021**, during the closing ceremony.
- The results will also be displayed on the website astrax.in.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

The articles will be judged based on how clearly ideas were expressed, how does the article justify the theme, scientific relevance, authenticity, analysis & interpretation, creativity and most importantly presentation. The articles will be judged by a panel of judges, so remember to be as clear and fluent as you can be in expressing your ideas. **80% of the total points will be decided by the judges according to the following factors with given weightage:**

Scientific Relevance	20
Authenticity	20
Analysis & Interpretation	20
Creativity	15
Presentation	25

The remaining 20% will be given to the popularity of your article on Facebook (applicable only to Original post of your article uploaded by Astrax):

Each reaction will be marked according to the following scheme:

Like	1 Point
Wow	2 Points
Love	3 Points
Share	5 Points (sharing of original post only)

Auto reacts will not be taken into consideration and the entry may be disqualified. A percentile will be taken to calculate the total score out of 20.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. Participants found in the act of plagiarism and/or submit an article which resembles any recognized work by other organizations will be disqualified and will not be considered in the final standings.
2. Please submit your entry in .doc or .pdf formats to [submission link](#). Submissions of any other formats will not be considered in the final standings.
3. Don't forget to mention any image (up to 3) sources and references, from which you have drawn your inspiration, wherever required.
4. Auto reacts will not be taken into consideration and the entry may be disqualified.
5. Your blogs can be as long as they need to be but remember that when readers search for what, who, or when something is, they typically want a quick answer or explanation. So the final call would be yours(800-1000 words).
6. The images you use in your blog posts tell a story as much as the words do. It's crucial not only to include images but also to include the right images to support your words and hold your argument together. So you can add up to 3 images in your entry.

In case of any doubt/concern regarding the event, either call the coordinators or write an email to all@astrax.in

EVENT COORDINATOR:

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