City Essay: Suggested Outline

Tell your students to ask questions and take notes as you review the competition's suggested city essay outline and discuss how they can use it to draft their essay.

Part 1: The Introduction

Briefly introduce your future city by including the basic information about it. Your city's name, how old it is, where it is, and how many people live there all go in the introduction.

Part 2: A Closer Look

Paint a picture of life in your future city—as if you are describing it to someone who has never been there. Share details about:

- The climate and any natural features (like rivers, mountains, or a nearby ocean)
- Who lives in your city and what kind of work do they do
- Any innovative or futuristic aspects of your city's infrastructure (like housing, transportation, energy, pollution control, etc.)
- What services your city provides (such as education, healthcare, etc.)
- The average age and life span of your citizens, and your city's definition of senior citizen.
- Briefly share the features and services that make your city age-friendly.

Part 3: Define the Problem

Describe the typical challenges older adults in 21st century cities faced in remaining active and independent. Then identify one challenge in particular, describe its impact, and why your city decided this was the most important problem to address (with your two innovative solutions).

Part 4: Describe Your Solutions

Here's where you get to detail the two innovative solutions (to the problem you identified) that make your future city more age-friendly. Be sure to:

- Describe your two engineered solutions and how they work.
- Emphasize the innovative, futuristic features of your two solutions.
- Explain how your solutions improve your citizens' ability to remain active and independent.
- Describe some of the risks connected with using the solutions and how the solutions reduce these risks.
- Provide examples of how both solutions benefit other members of your future city (not only senior citizens) and/or enhances the quality of life in general.
- Explain why you made the choices you did and what tradeoffs, if any, were involved.
- Explain what types of engineering were involved and what kinds of engineers were most helpful.

Conclusion: The Impact of The Age-Friendly City

Summarize how your age-friendly solutions make your city a great place to live, especially for older adults, and how they keep your citizens active and independent in your future city.