



**EFF**

**HIGH SCHOOL**

**ESSAY**

**COMPETITION**

# BACKGROUND

The Economic Freedom Fighters is the third largest political party in South Africa with over 1000 public representatives, occupying official opposition status in three provinces: Limpopo, North West and Mpumalanga. This year, 2023, it turns 10 years since its formation in 2013.

In marking the 10th Anniversary, the Economic Freedom Fighters calls for submissions for entry into the Secondary School Essay competition. This competition is open for all secondary school-going learners of all walks of life and in all South African Official Languages; English, IsiZulu, IsiXhosa, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, IsiNdebele, Xitsonga, Tshivenda, SiSwati and Afrikaans.

## OBJECTIVES

Through this competition, the EFF seeks to inculcate a culture of writing among the youth. The ability to express oneself in a written form is central to modern life in all and every part of its aspects. With the advent of social media and short text messaging, the art of writing is daily undermined. The youth who spend so much time on social media and message platforms like WhatsApp and iMessage turn to lose the general ability required for comprehensive long written works with complex and consistent arguments.

Above all, the EFF also wants to promote the diverse languages of South Africa. The essay competition will not privilege any language; all essays will be as per each of the official languages. Meaning there will be 11 winners, each standing for each official language. The competition opens on 10th March 2023 (Human Rights Month) and will close on 30 April 2023 (Freedom Month). The announcement of the winners will be made in June, during Youth Month.



## ELIGIBILITY

All South African-based active High School going learners from both the public and private education systems between Grade 10 -12. Entrants will be required to provide evidence of their enrolment at their school.

## TOPIC

The EFF High School Essay Competition topic is “**A 10-year history of the EFF?**” The topic emanates from the occasion of the EFF 10th Anniversary as all the winners will be published in a single booklet to mark this very occasion.

Accordingly, the topic covers subthemes relate to *what conditions led to the formation of the EFF? When and where was it formed? What have been its major turning points over the past 10 years? Who are the key actors in the development of the EFF? What has been the key impact of the EFF in South African politics over the 10 years?*

# ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS

All entries should be typed and submitted in an electronic version on PDF format. All essays entering the competition should be in one of the South African official languages, i.e. English, IsiZulu, IsiXhosa, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, IsiNdebele, Xitsonga, Tshivenda, SiSwati and Afrikaans.

All submissions must be accompanied by an EFF High School Essay Competition Entry Form which should contain full contact details of the entrant, including, an ID-sized photograph, physical address, telephone, fax number and email address; and contact details of the entrant's parent or guardian. Note: The essay should be 1200 and not shorter than 900 words.

The deadline for submission of entries is  
**30 April 2023.**

Submission Email  
[essays@effonline.org](mailto:essays@effonline.org)



# JUDGING CRITERIA

Uniqueness – the essay must be unique in its style and original in its form such that it stands out from the pack.

Knowledge and understanding - Assessing how well one has understood the question and how much they know and articulate the subject matter, and demonstrate the breadth and depth of knowledge.

Critical Thinking – proper analysis of facts, events, and evidence to form an argument. The essay must not simply deploy events using evidence, but deploy a critical evaluation of evidence to arrive at an analysis/argument or judgement.

Use of sources – The Essay must make use of reliable and credible sources, both primary and secondary material. These must be properly cited using any citation style of choice.

Style and presentation – The essay must be consistent in terms of style and presentation such as spelling, punctuation, grammar and sentence construction, etc.

## COMPETITION RULES



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All essays must not have been published before on any platform, including blogs, newspapers or broadcast on any radio or television platforms.

**No Plagiarism:** There must not be any plagiarism; no one should reproduce ideas belonging to someone else as if they are theirs. The use of citations must help deploy original thoughts and arguments.

Each learner can only submit one essay in any language of their choice e.g. one cannot submit an essay in IsiZulu and English or even the same essay in different languages.

All essay entries will be judged by a panel of judges chosen by the EFF and their decisions will be final.

The EFF reserves the right not to award any prize if, in its assessment, the entries do not meet the minimum requirements.

The EFF reserves the right to use the winning essays as and when required, including publication. The winners are not allowed to publish or distribute the essays without explicit agreement with the EFF.

## PRIZES

A winner will receive an amount of R40,000 which will be paid to the account details of the learner's choice. Winners will be required to present themselves physically at the event organised for the awarding of prizes.

