

2006 PA-TSA Judges Event Feedback

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Challenging Technology Issues

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Students debated topic➤ Eye contact➤ Body mechanics	

Computer Applications

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Knowledge of software➤ Creativity➤ Follow directions of tasks➤ Completeness➤ Possess all hardware required by the event (i.e. PRINTER)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Make sure to read event rules to be fully prepared for all parts of the event

Communication Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Follow the directions – make sure you have every item in the rules➤ Documentation for photos➤ Eye-catching design in the newsletter – create a “hook” to draw the reader into the letter➤ Be sure to include correct letter format	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Don't make the letterhead too large➤ Make a check list of requirements for each component of the competition➤ Legible print➤ Use spell check

Digital Photography Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Follows the TSA guidelines➤ Well thought-out with a clear focus➤ Clear, well-processed photos➤ Easy to ready, view, understand➤ Shows creativity and originality in your subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Poor presentation of photos➤ Photos without a clear focus➤ Over-edited photos➤ Hard to understand descriptions

Electrical Applications

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Knowledge of electronic components➤ Knowledge of key concepts (ohm's law)➤ Ability to read a schematic➤ Bring required equipment	

Environmental Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Personal research➤ Personal data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Eliminate school names and personal names➤ Number pages➤ Title page should state project

Flight Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Names on notebook➤ Lack of pictures➤ Sloppy documentation➤ Lack of information in flight logs➤ If wings fall off during a launch, the fuselage cannot be launched as a plane. There must be at least one wing, not just the stabilizers and tail fin. At that point, it becomes a projectile rather than a plane.

Graphic Design Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Creativity – eye appeal➤ Correct information➤ Readability➤ Clean graphics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Breaking regulations regarding size, paper, conference information➤ Irrelevant information

Inventions and Innovations

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Invention must be workable➤ Presentation must contain all required materials (i.e. CD of PowerPoint presentation)➤ Description for use should be clearly explained➤ Good brainstorming➤ Effective use of presentation technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Incomplete work➤ Incorrect grammar, spelling, etc.➤ Avoid over-explaining on slides during presentation. Slides should be bullet points and the presenter should do the explaining.➤ Absence of a prototype➤ Team members should avoid talking over each other during the interview/presentation.

Leadership Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Well prepared; know all contest rules including the scoring rubric➤ Good manners – courteous, patient, kind, generous, quiet➤ Speaking calmly and analytically➤ Business attitude➤ Proper dress	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Not properly prepared; rules, scoring rubric➤ Bad manners – impatient, loud, obnoxious➤ Poor speech and irrelevant content➤ Silly, non-serious attitude➤ Improper dress

Manufacturing Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Good working drawings – Products often illustrate students' lack of understanding of orthographic projection drawings needed for manufacturing a project➤ Remember to choose a product that is cheap and easy to make to solve a consumer problem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Letters from industry to students identify the school that created the competition entry. This unwittingly causes a rules violation in anonymity of contest entrants. Block out/white out school/student name(s).➤ Regulations state that students should collect discarded materials. Many Bill of Materials showed the total cost of materials to be higher than \$80.00. This isn't consistent with the goal of the event.

Marine Design Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Neatness in presentation➤ Images and pictures throughout writeup and display➤ Follow the rules!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Incorrectly measuring the boat➤ Using the student's full name in any paperwork or presentation➤ Information that is taken from another source is given proper credit (citations)

Mechanical Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Must have at least 3 simple machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Parts should fit together well without too much slop

Medical Technology Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Visual appeal – organization, eye appeal➤ Organized portfolio➤ Comprehensive knowledge of topic during presentation➤ Well-organized verbal presentation➤ Loud, clear voice – speaking with confidence	

System Control Technology

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Successful solution to the problem➤ Repeatability➤ Timelines➤ Adequate computer and resource materials➤ Positive attitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Forgetting supplies➤ Feuding among teammates➤ Building a model that is not structurally sound➤ Inability to program➤ Over-reliance on sensors

Technical Design Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Placement of views➤ Line work quality➤ Neatness of drawing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Follow instructions➤ Pay attention to detail

Technical Writing Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Clear notecards that contain info as specified in rules (Research on one-side, references on the other side)➤ Neat, legible penmanship➤ Focus on topic➤ Tight, concise writing – don't be redundant!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Follow directions – Read, read, and re-read!➤ Sloppiness hurts➤ Vague introduction and rambling conclusion➤ Grammatical errors➤ Poor sentence structure

Video Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Read rules➤ If using copyrighted materials, get proper permission.	

PA-Safety Illustration Computer Graphics

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Follow the rules for dimensions, theme, and materials➤ Pick a theme and use pictures and ideas to develop that theme➤ Clean, simple easy to read text or pictures that add to that theme, but not just to fill the page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Blurry pictures or clip art, rough pixels, dim colors, faded look➤ Cluttering the page➤ Inappropriate sized fonts➤ Irrelevant graphics, themes➤ Incorrect size➤ Improper mounting