

2008 PA-TSA Judges Event Feedback

HIGH SCHOOL

Animatronics

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Good notebook➤ Follows all rules➤ Custom-built items are better than pre-made items➤ Diagrams in notebook➤ Pictures in notebook	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Use of complete kits➤ Poor notebooks➤ Unrehearsed/disorganized presentations➤ Displays which take an excessive amount of time to set up➤ Projects which do not work

Architectural Model

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete journals and correct journals➤ Models that meet design criterion, not just "big" model➤ Correctly labeled pages and charts➤ Good craftsmanship and finish➤ Complete, concise journals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Models that are not finished➤ Sloppy, incomplete journals➤ Models that are too big➤ Too much emphasis on outdoor landscaping materials, such as fake grass and trees➤ Journals without a front cover page or cover insert

CAD Animation Engineering

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Meet all requirements of the problem	

Construction Systems

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A general knowledge of building construction➤ A general knowledge of the structure of a house	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The ability to work as a team➤ A basic knowledge of architectural styles

Cyberspace Pursuit

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Validation (www.w3.org) of site➤ Comprehensive design brief➤ Clean, easy to read design➤ The use of graphics➤ Teacher/advisor input	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Errors with code of site➤ Completion of design brief➤ Elements are too large➤ Sizing of graphic files➤ Do not use MS Publisher or MS Word➤ Have teacher/advisor/adult evaluate site prior to competition

Electronic Research and Experimentation

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Model should function on site➤ Instruction on operation should be provided➤ Rules and what is to be included should be followed➤ Neatness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ No school name as rules state➤ Devices that can't be demonstrated on site➤ Unwieldy displays – difficult for judge to handle or touch without problems

Extemporaneous Presentation

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Confidence➤ Fluid-speaking style➤ Prepared and organized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Don't mention school name➤ Don't read from notes too much➤ Address assigned topic➤ Don't speak too fast➤ Don't use too much personal experience for support

Film Technology

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A unique idea➤ Creativity and enthusiasm (narrators should be interesting)➤ Technical balance (audio should be even, camera should be smooth)➤ Obvious skill set➤ Hard work and thoughtfulness apparent➤ Make sure the notebook has all the required elements and is visually appealing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Overuse of violence with no apparent purpose➤ Unorganized notebook, missing elements➤ Choppy camera or too little movement➤ Choosing a topic that is not relatable to viewer➤ Make sure it works!

Imaging Technology

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Equipment checks prior to arrival➤ Strive for good composition➤ Variety of shots➤ Stick to theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Read the rules➤ Consent forms

Prepared Presentation

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Have a definite introduction and conclusion➤ Do not announce your topic prior to beginning your presentation➤ Do practice gestures➤ Do smile and demonstrate engagement with your topic➤ Do move in a meaningful way	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Do not read➤ Failure to use your visuals in your speech➤ Do not be overly dramatic; you are not acting➤ Practice! Practice! Practice!➤ Have a plan B as far as AV is concerned➤ Read the rules

RC Transportation

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Practice, communicate➤ Faster mobility➤ Strength, strong collection devices➤ Prepare for different floor surfaces➤ Read instructions for documentation	

System Control Technology

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Repeat-ability➤ Precision➤ Structural stability➤ Creativity➤ Aesthetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Unprepared➤ Know the rules!➤ Over engineering➤ Poor mechanisms

Technical Research and Report Writing

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Be clear➤ Grammar➤ Penmanship➤ Structure➤ Outline➤ More thorough research and incorporation of research into writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Slurs➤ Avoid disjointed articulation of ideas in the essay

Technical Sketching and Applications

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Pay close attention to the instructions➤ Review drawing weight lines➤ Preview the official rating form prior to the competition	

Technology Challenge

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Attention to detail➤ Follow and read directions clearly➤ Take risks➤ Challenge yourselves➤ Take it seriously	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Being too basic➤ Not taking any chances➤ Fluids flowing outside area

Technology Problem Solving

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Make sure to bring the required toolbox➤ Safety is not an option; it is a requirement	

Video Game Design

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Depth of video game play➤ Design process used to create concepts outlined➤ Playability and replayability, ability for the consumer to play the game over and over again➤ Originality of game, new concept➤ Complete binder that includes all paperwork; it should also be explained thoroughly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Remaking an old game without adding significant enhancements➤ Poor or missing documentation➤ Poor storyline or dull gameplay➤ Do not put stickers on the DVD itself as it affects the playing of the DVD➤ Ensure game is playable "as is" on CD or DVD without the need for special software. Game must "compiled executable."➤ Double check to make sure you got a good burn of

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Directions – the directions should be on the game and easily readable ➤ Knowledge of the game in the interview ➤ Correct spelling and grammar throughout the binder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the CD or DVD ➤ Incomplete binder ➤ Incomplete references ➤ Lacking directions to play the game
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PA-Materials Process

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Detailed, dimensioned drawings ➤ All paperwork in binder ➤ All rules, criteria, and constraints followed ➤ Original design ➤ Quality workmanship ➤ Follow rules ➤ Project should be at the student's level of ability ➤ Read rules in detail ➤ Quality working drawings required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Shop project ➤ Same old thing ➤ Not turning in a complete binder ➤ Copying design from other source ➤ Constructing a project outside personal skill level ➤ Not following rules ➤ Don't have any adult do your work

PA – Stencil Logo Design

Positive characteristics for entries	Negative characteristics for entries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read and understand all the instructions ➤ Make display and presentation easy for the judges ➤ Label everything ➤ Do original artwork (computer generated artwork is okay, if you know how to use the graphic programs) ➤ Never use clipart 	