



The English-Speaking Union



MAGNA
800th
CARTA

My Magna Carta is an international creative essay competition for 11 to 18 year olds in celebration of the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta. Young people from across the UK, the English Speaking Union's member countries and throughout the Commonwealth are invited to create their very own Magna Carta for the 21st century: one document that safeguards and promotes the rights, privileges and liberties of either their own country or the whole world.

The Competition is open to 11-18 year olds from the UK, Commonwealth and ESU member countries, divided into 2 categories: 11-14 and 15-18 (age at closing date). Essays for the Junior competition must be between 500-750 words in length and those for the Senior competition must be between 750-1250 words in length.

Further information on the competition, together with our full Terms & Conditions and Guidance Notes, can be found on page 4. If you prefer to submit your entry online, the competition can be found on our website www.esu.org/mymagnacarta

To enter the competition, please complete the form and send your entry to the address below. Entries must be received **before midnight (GMT) on Tuesday 5 May 2015**.

Good luck!

My Magna Carta
ESU
Dartmouth House
37 Charles Street
London, W1J 5ED
UK



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First Name		Address	
Surname			
Gender	Female Male		
Date of Birth		Postcode / Zipcode	
Telephone Number		Country	
Email Address		School Name	
Competition Entered	Junior Senior	School Address	

How did you find out about My Magna Carta?

If you are also submitting a video, please upload it to YouTube and write the link here:

For information on how to upload a video to YouTube, including how to set privacy settings, please refer to the YouTube help pages at <https://support.google.com/youtube>.

I confirm I have read and accept the Terms & Conditions



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Please enter your Magna Carta below. Please remember that the word count is between 500-750 words for the junior competition and 750-1250 for the senior competition.

Please use additional sheets if required.



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Terms and Conditions

1. The Competition is open to 11-18 year olds from the UK, Commonwealth and ESU member countries, divided into 2 categories: 11-14 and 15-18 (age at closing date).
2. Only one essay per entrant is allowed. Once an essay is submitted, you will not have the opportunity to revise it. Please carefully check and improve your writing before submitting the final copy, and also ensure that all supplementary information is filled in correctly (name, age, contact details, etc.).
3. Entries must be written in English.
4. Online video entries should be read, rather than performed, and a written entry must also be submitted.
5. Entries must be the original work of the writer. Whereas it might be relevant to receive help whilst discussing and shaping possible material for the piece of writing, the final copy submitted for the competition **MUST** be the entrant's own work, and cannot be unduly corrected or improved by another person.
6. Entrants must complete the entry form alongside their essay and fill in all the mandatory fields. Video entries should begin by giving the necessary supplementary information (name, age, contact details etc.).
7. The maximum word counts are 500-750 words for Junior entries and 750-1250 words for Senior entries. These word limits apply to all entries submitted, including those via video. Exceeding the word count will result in automatic disqualification.
8. All entries must be submitted before midnight (GMT) on Tuesday 5 May 2015.
9. Please note that finalists will be invited to London and will be required to present their Magna Carta orally, and participate in a question and answer session with the audience.
10. Those invited to London will have the opportunity to participate in cultural activities, as well as receiving training from ESU and Royal Holloway public speaking and debating experts. These will take place over the course of 5 days in October 2015. It is compulsory for finalists to attend the training and final performance days, although they may be excused from the days of cultural activities. Financial assistance will be available.



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Guidance Notes

1. Entries must be the original work of the writer. This does not rule out the input or assistance from others. However, an entry will be disregarded if there is any suggestion of plagiarism.
2. Award-winning entrants are expected to show originality and flair, linked to sound academic standards and competent use of English as a written language. This exercise will be predominately creative, but will also require a substantial degree of academic understanding of the history, contents, and significance of the 1215 document. Links to further resources are available on the website.
3. Entrants are advised that illustrations and designs additional to the text will not be taken into account by the judging panel. For video entries, it is content which will be judged; no performance elements will be considered by the panel.

Junior Awards Categories (Ages 11-14)

Junior Overall Winner
Junior UK Winner
Junior Regional Winners (by continent)
Specially Commended

Senior Awards Categories (Ages 15-18)

Senior Overall Winner
Senior UK Winner
Senior Regional Winners (by continent)
Specially Commended