

Local Letters for Global Change Writing Contest Rubric

Entry form and guidelines: www.pulitzercenter.org/localletters

Deadline: Friday, November 14, 2025 at 11:59pm EST

Components	4-Exceptional	3-Accomplished	2-Developing	1-Beginning
Organization (__/8)	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses standard letter format <input type="checkbox"/> Information is organized in a way that clearly articulates the writer's message	<input type="checkbox"/> Mostly uses standard letter format <input type="checkbox"/> Organized in a way that mostly articulates the writer's message	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat uses standard letter format <input type="checkbox"/> Organized in a way that somewhat articulates the writer's message	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not use standard letter format <input type="checkbox"/> Not organized in a way that clearly articulates the writer's message
Content (__/20)	<input type="checkbox"/> Addresses a specific, appropriate representative <input type="checkbox"/> A Pulitzer Center news story is summarized and cited accurately and concisely in a way that supports the explanation of a global issue <input type="checkbox"/> A clear, specific connection is made between the global issue and the writer and/or their local community <input type="checkbox"/> A persuasive argument is made for the local and global importance of the issue; the writer shows how this issue is systemic <input type="checkbox"/> A persuasive argument is made for what the representative should do, and the action is appropriate to their position	<input type="checkbox"/> Addresses a specific, mostly appropriate representative <input type="checkbox"/> A Pulitzer Center news story is summarized and cited accurately in a way that supports the explanation of a global issue <input type="checkbox"/> A clear connection is made between the global issue and the writer and/or their local community <input type="checkbox"/> A somewhat persuasive argument is made for the local and global importance of the issue; the writer makes an effort to show how this issue is systemic <input type="checkbox"/> A clear argument is made for what the representative should do	<input type="checkbox"/> Addresses a specific but not appropriate representative <input type="checkbox"/> A Pulitzer Center news story is referenced in connection with a global issue <input type="checkbox"/> Makes a connection between the global issue and the writer and/or writer's local community <input type="checkbox"/> An argument is made for the local and global importance of the issue <input type="checkbox"/> An argument is made for what the representative should do	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not address a specific representative <input type="checkbox"/> A Pulitzer Center news story is not referenced <input type="checkbox"/> Does not connect the global issue and the writer and/or writer's local community <input type="checkbox"/> It is not clear how this issue connects to the writer and/or their community <input type="checkbox"/> An argument is not clearly made for what the representative should do, or that argument is unrelated to their position
Language (__/8)	<input type="checkbox"/> No spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity <input type="checkbox"/> Consistent powerful use of language to persuade the reader	<input type="checkbox"/> Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity in one or two instances <input type="checkbox"/> Thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader	<input type="checkbox"/> Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity in several instances <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader	<input type="checkbox"/> Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter's clarity throughout <input type="checkbox"/> The tone of the letter is not persuasive

Total: _____ / 36