

St Benet's Hall, University of Oxford

Senior Essay Prize



The purpose of the essay is to give school students the experience of writing on a general question for which there is no 'right answer'. The markers are looking for a clear argument supported by relevant material chosen by the student. Students may draw on any subject discipline they wish. The essay must be their own unaided work.

The competition will be judged by Fellows of St Benet's Hall with support from a team of experienced school teachers. A prize of £150 will be awarded to the best essay, and the prize-winner will be invited to a celebratory meal at St Benet's. The judges may award a runner-up prizes consisting of a book-token and a commendation.

How to enter

- School students **resident anywhere in the British Isles, aged 15-18 on 31 August 2019**, are invited to submit an essay of **up to 2000 words** on **one** of the questions below. At the end of the essay, please include a list of all sources (including online resources and websites) used to research and write the essay. This list is not included in the word count.
- Please submit your essay as an email attachment to essay.prize@stb.ox.ac.uk. The essay must be accompanied by a completed entry-form, which must be in a separate Word document or pdf. Do not put your name on the essay itself.
- The closing date for entries is **9 September 2019**.
- We hope to notify the results on results on **4 October 2019**.

Regulations

- The judges' decisions are final.
- The judges reserve the right not to award a prize if they consider that the essays submitted have not reached a high enough standard.
- It is regretted that the judges will not be able to provide feedback (written or verbal) on the essays submitted. Receipt of the essay will be acknowledged but no entries will be returned.

Questions

- 1) Is ignorance bliss?
- 2) Are consumers in search of bargains complicit in modern slavery?