



**New Hampshire Bar Foundation
High School Civics Essay Contest**

2025–2026 Essay Prompt

Should Artificial Intelligence companies be required to compensate authors whose works they use?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) companies create large language models, such as ChatGPT, by scanning books, articles, and other sources – sometimes representing years of research and study. These companies profit by either selling their services directly, or by offering them free while monetizing the data collected from users.

Essay Requirements

- Write a well-structured essay of **750–1,000 words**, with an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion.
- Ensure your essay is your own original work that reflects your thoughts and analysis.
- Take a clear position on whether AI companies should be required to compensate authors whose works they use.
- Discuss both sides of the argument, addressing the opposing viewpoint and explaining why your position is stronger.

Judging Criteria

Essays will be judged on a **100-point scale**, using the following criteria:

- Understanding of constitutional principles – **60 points**
- Originality, clarity, and depth of analysis – **30 points**
- Grammar, spelling, composition, and citations – **10 points**