



# Judges' Scoring Rubric

PREFIX	ENTRY#
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## Content (35 points)

- 1. Originality** **0 – 10 Pts**  
  - Does the idea identify a new or fresh approach to an environmental issue? (If enhancing an idea previously presented, originality will be based on improvement of idea.)
- 2. Environmental Benefits** **0 – 5 Pts**  
  - How substantial is the environmental impact and benefit? (e.g. number of people reached and/or geographic region improved)
- 3. Scope of Idea** **0 – 5- Pts**  
  - Does the idea reflect a deep understanding of the problem or issue?
  - What are the costs of labor and materials?
- 4. Research, Development & Technology** **0-10 Pts.**  
  - What kinds of research or experimentation support the idea?
  - What, if any, action has been taken?
  - Research has been cited. **0 – 5 Pts**
  - Is it feasible, innovative, well-developed?
  - Does it comply with existing laws?
  - Are there undesirable side effects?
- 5. Graphics/Visuals** **0 – 5 Pts**  
  - Charts, graphs, sketches models, etc. How well do the graphics and/or visuals enhance the proposal?(Graphics must reinforce the idea, not repeat or replace the proposal, to be awarded points. PowerPoint presentations will only be considered a graphic supplement if they contain material that is additional to the written proposal.)

**SUBTOTAL**

## Mechanics (20 points)

- 1. Organization** **1 – 5 Pts**  
  - Clearly develops central idea
  - Well-developed paragraphs
  - Subtitles, bullets, or numbers increase readability.
  - Clear introduction and conclusion
  - Pages are numbered.
  - APA in-text citations
  - APA Reference page
- 2. Effective Word Choice** **1 – 5 Pts**  
  - Precise vocabulary
  - Strong action verbs
  - Technical terms and abbreviations are defined.
  - Limits use of cliches and slang
- 3. Sentence Structure** **1 – 5- Pts**  
  - Varied sentence structure
  - Avoids fragments and run-ons
  - Natural, fluent style enhances understanding of the proposal.
- 4. Writing Conventions** **1 – 5 Pts**  
  - Correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, and usage.
  - Avoids indefinite “you”

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**SUBTOTAL**

**TOTAL**