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### **Essay Competition Framework**

**Theme Options** (choose one)

#### **Cause and Effect**

Prompt: Explain the main causes of informal settlements in the Caribbean, with examples, and discuss how one of these causes can be addressed by the government of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

# **Sustainable Development**

Prompt: How can sustainable development practices help reduce the growth of informal settlements and improve the quality of life in the Turks and Caicos Islands?

#### **Solutions**

Prompt: Propose realistic solutions that young people can champion to help reduce or eliminate informal settlements in TCI. Explain why these solutions would work and how they can be put into action.

#### **Rules and Submission Procedure**

Eligibility: Open to all secondary school students in the TCI

**Entry type**: Individual only. Each student may submit one entry.

Word count: 500-550 words.

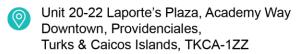
Format: Typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, font size 12 in PDF format.

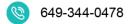
**Referencing**: Students should acknowledge sources where appropriate (no strict academic citation required, but plagiarism will lead to disqualification).

Deadline: 11:59 pm. on December 12, 2025.

**Submission process**: Essays must be uploaded to the ISU competition portal.









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## **Judging Criteria**

Understanding of Topic (30 percent): Depth of knowledge, accuracy, and use of information from ISU learning materials.

Critical Thinking (25 percent): Ability to analyse issues and present reasoned arguments.

Creativity and Originality (20 percent): Fresh insights, new ideas, or unique perspectives.

Clarity and Organization (15 percent): Logical flow, grammar, spelling, structure.

Practicality of Recommendations (10 percent): Solutions or suggestions should be realistic and applicable to the TCI context.