



Utah
Do The Write Thing

Agenda

- DtWT Challenge Overview
- Teacher Support & Resources for DtWT
- How to Participate & Evaluation Criteria
- Q&A

Nationally

Purpose:

Involve youths' voices from the country of Kuwait and the US to establish ways to keep Peace throughout the world.



Sponsored by the Kuwait-America Foundation

Managed by the National Campaign to Stop Violence

DtWT Magics

- Student behaviors
- Creating classroom community

Locally

- Sponsored by the Utah State Board of Education and managed by Prevention and Student Services since 2020
- 2025 Challenge:
 - 1,300+ Students
 - 930+ Writings
 - 338 Evaluated by College Students
 - 28 Students Honored



26th Anniversary

The DtWT Challenge

Answer three questions:



1. How has youth violence affected my life?
2. What are the causes of youth violence?
3. What can my community and I do to reduce youth violence?

Who and What



- Statewide for 7th- and 8th-grade
- students
- Encourages students to make a commitment to take positive steps to change the problem, break the cycle of violence in their home, school, and neighborhood.

Awards & Scholarships

All State Finalists:

- Students' gifts
- Singed certificate from the State Superintendent & the Governor

Scholarships:

- State Finalists: \$300 (2 scholarships per participating school)
- \$400 for two State Runners Up (a boy and a girl)
- \$500 for one National Finalists or "Ambassadors"

National Recognition Summit

- A 5-day trip to Washington DC in the Summer for the ambassador, one parent, and their teacher
- Plus, obligations to State's challenge, including attending the annual Promising Youth Conference, participating as VIP judge for next year's DtWT Challenge, and presenting at next year's DtWT Awards.

2025-2026 DtWT Contest Timeline

- Available: Sept. 2025, at schools.Utah.gov/prevention/dothewritethingchallenge
- Submission Deadline: Friday January 9, 2026
- Review and Selection Process
 - College students review: Jan. 19-Feb. 20, 2026
 - a top boy and girl per school will be selected as State Finalists
 - VIP Judges review: March 2nd – March 16th, 2026
 - Review top 12 boys and top 12 girls, statewide, to select two runners up and one National Finalists or “Ambassador”
 - Invite finalists to recognition event
- Recognition Event and Award Luncheon: May 1st, 2026 from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
- University of Utah Alumni House

Teacher Support & Resources

Kim Irvine

DtWT Committee Member

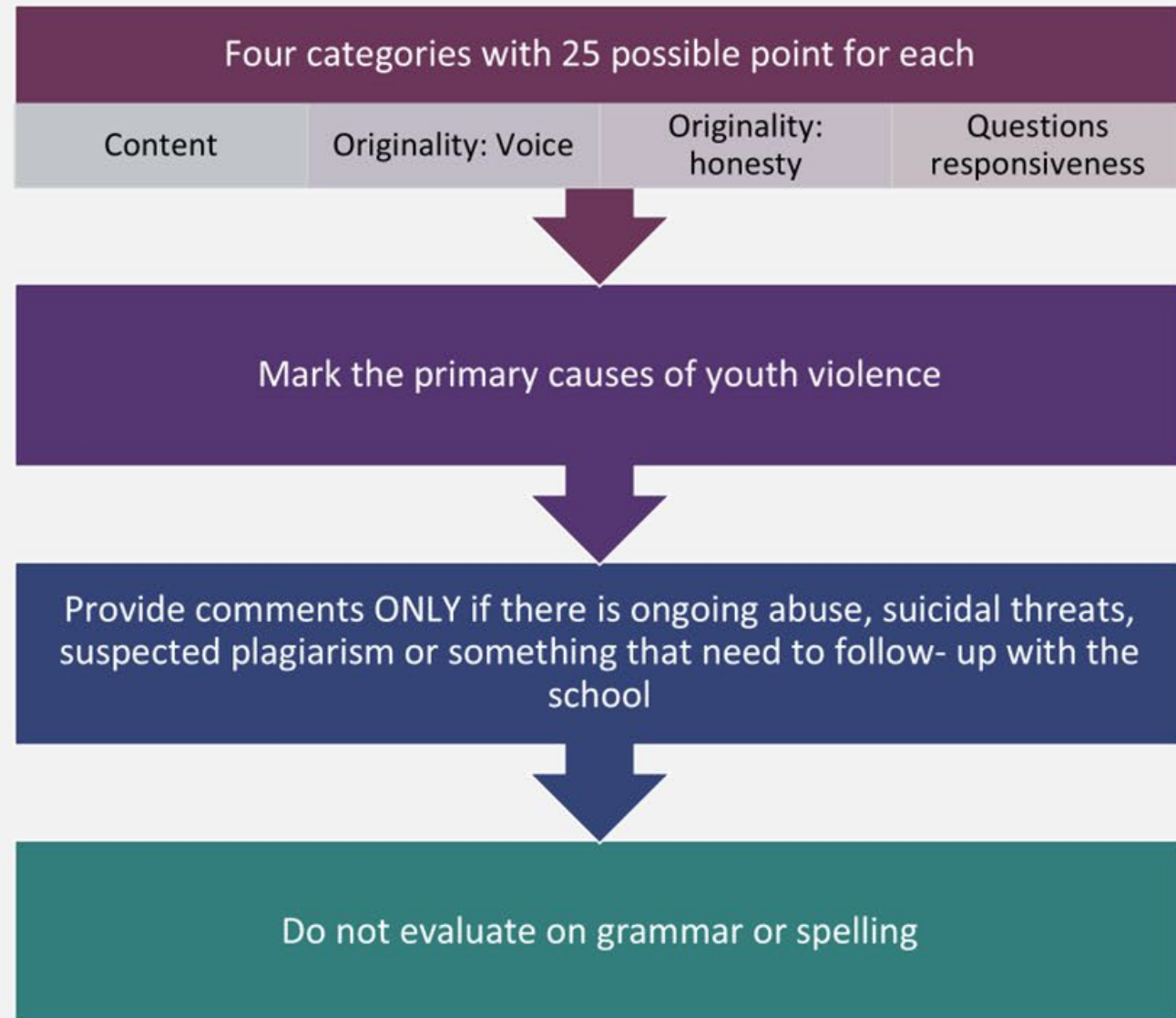


Click on QR Code
above for Lesson Plans



[Lesson Plan](#)

Evaluation Criteria



How to get started



Register as a participating teacher



Received a specialized link for distribution with consent form to parents and student



Collect at once and submit online via Qualtrics Survey on or before Friday January 9, 2026.



Teacher Registration
QR Code

Teacher
Registration



Utah's Challenge to Do the Write Thing!
2025-26 Teacher Registration Form

Contact Information

Teacher name

Teacher email address

Teacher phone number

District/Charter

School name

Course name

Teacher Checklist

2025 -2026 Utah's "Do the Write Thing" Challenge CHECKLIST

	Teachers interested in participating, please register using this link . Please register early.
	Teachers will receive an email from USBE with links for parent consent form, student entry and consent form, and teacher survey.
	Teacher forwards the parent consent form to all parents.
	Teacher forwards the student consent form to all students.
	Teacher reviews students' writings: make sure to review each student's writing for issues like ongoing abuse, suicidal threats, suspected plagiarism including AI use. Please follow your district's policy protocols to take appropriate professional action if warranted.
	Remind students to submit by January 9, 2026.
	Complete and submit the teacher survey .



Teacher Checklist
QR Code

Contact

- Details: [Schools.Utah.gov/prevention](https://schools.utah.gov/prevention)
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THANK YOU!