



# Guidebook Essay 2026





## GUIDELINE DESCOM 2026

### International DENTINE Scientific Essay Competition

#### I. Theme

Bringing Together Local Wisdom and Modern Dentistry for Sustainable Health Care

#### II. Competition Categories

International Scientific Essay Competition

#### III. Theme Description

Oral health care often involves the lifestyle habits of a community, including its socio-cultural aspects. Prevention and treatment of dental and oral diseases often depend on an individual's awareness and habits, making them a key indicator of the success of oral health care services. An approach to oral health care based on the social and cultural aspects of the community, particularly its local wisdom, will be more appealing as it relates to their daily habits. When determining innovation-related topics, innovators must understand the social conditions of the community so that innovations can be implemented in their daily lives. Social and cultural aspects are not merely about customs but also involve daily habits that constitute the local wisdom of a region. The innovations offered can include preventive measures, diagnosis, and therapy related to oral health by integrating local wisdom and current advanced technology. The preservation of local wisdom must keep pace with the times to align with the social conditions of society, which are inseparable from the use of current technology. Through this integration, it is hoped that the quality and equity of oral health services in a region can be improved sustainably.

#### IV. Sub Theme

Participants are encouraged to think creatively and explore diverse perspectives within this subtheme:

##### 1. Local Natural Resources for Innovative Dental Solutions

Exploring and developing the potential of local natural ingredients and materials as innovative, accessible, and sustainable dental solutions, from preventive care to diagnostic and therapeutic applications.

##### 2. Lifestyle-Oriented Approaches to Dental Treatment

Designing dental care strategies that integrate lifestyle habits, such as dietary patterns, daily routines, and social behaviors, to enhance treatment adherence and ensure long-term oral health in the community.

##### 3. Culturally-Based Oral Health Promotion

Implementing culturally-sensitive oral health promotion programs that reflect traditional values and community practices to foster awareness, behavior change, and sustainable oral health improvement..

##### 4. Technology-Based Oral Health Care for Disparities Community

Developing digital and technological innovations to enhance oral health access, literacy, or quality of care for disadvantaged and underserved communities.

## V. General Requirements

1. Participants are high school students around the world, evidenced by a valid student identity card (SMA/MA/SMK or the same level of education in Indonesia).
2. Participants compete as a team, with the requirements below :
  - a. One team consists of 2–3 members and 1 (one) of them as a team leader. Each team must have 1 supervisor from the same high school.
  - b. Participants in one team represent the same high school institution. Each high school is allowed to send more than 1 (one) team.
  - c. Each team can send more than one essay, on the terms under a different team leader.
3. Participants must obey the rules and regulations.
4. Participants who are cheating either before, during, or after the competition will be disqualified.
5. Participants do the registration for the International Essay Competition on the Dentine Essay Competition 2026 page by accessing [dentine-fkgunair.com](https://dentine-fkgunair.com)
6. The decisions of the judges and the committee are inviolable. The judging process will be conducted privately and will not be transparent.

## VI. Full Paper Requirements

1. The essay is written using English in accordance with formal American English grammar.
2. The submitted essay is original work, not AI-generated, and not someone else's work.
3. The essay must never have been published in any media, never been submitted to any competition, and has not won in any competition before.
4. The title and content of the work must match the theme and sub-theme category. The created work represents one sub-theme.
5. The essay is written in the form of original innovative and solutive ideas according to the theme. Essays can't be written in the form of research.
6. The essay does not contain elements of racism, violence, and pornography.
7. The essay must not mention the school name and logo in any section.
8. The essay is written up to 3000 words starting from the introduction until closing (not including the title sheet, originality sheet, and bibliography).
9. Essay writing guidelines:
  - a. Written on A4 paper in one column with margin: left 4 cm, right 3 cm, top 3 cm, and bottom 3 cm.
  - b. Use Times New Roman font with size 12 pt; 1,5 space, except for the title sheet (see point 10a).
  - c. Written in justifying format.
  - d. The beginning of each paragraph is indented by 1 cm.
  - e. Use arabic page numbering in the bottom right corner, except for the title sheet which doesn't need page numbering. Page numbering starts from the originality sheet until bibliography.
10. Essay section (in order):
  - a. Title sheet





The title sheet must consist of the following section:

- Maximum title of 20 words, written in uppercase, Times New Roman size 14 pt, bold, 1,5 space, and must describe the entire content.
- Subtheme of essay according to section IV, written in Times New Roman size 12 pt, bold, 1,5 space, and only represent one subtheme.
- DENTINE logo. The logo can be accessed in starter pack drive.
- Names of authors and/or co-author(s) with the NISN/national student identity number, written in Times New Roman size 12 pt, bold, 1,5 space.
- School name and logo is not allowed to be presented in the title sheet.

b. Originality statement sheet.

The originality sheet can be wet-signed or digitally signed by team's leader on legal stamp duty (Indonesian: Rp10.000 stamp duty) and team's supervisor without legal stamp duty.

c. Introduction (topic background discussed)

d. Content (topic discussion and analysis)

e. Closing (essay conclusion)

f. Bibliography written in Harvard terms.

g. The inclusion of any attachments/appendix in the essay is prohibited.

11. Bibliography writing terms:

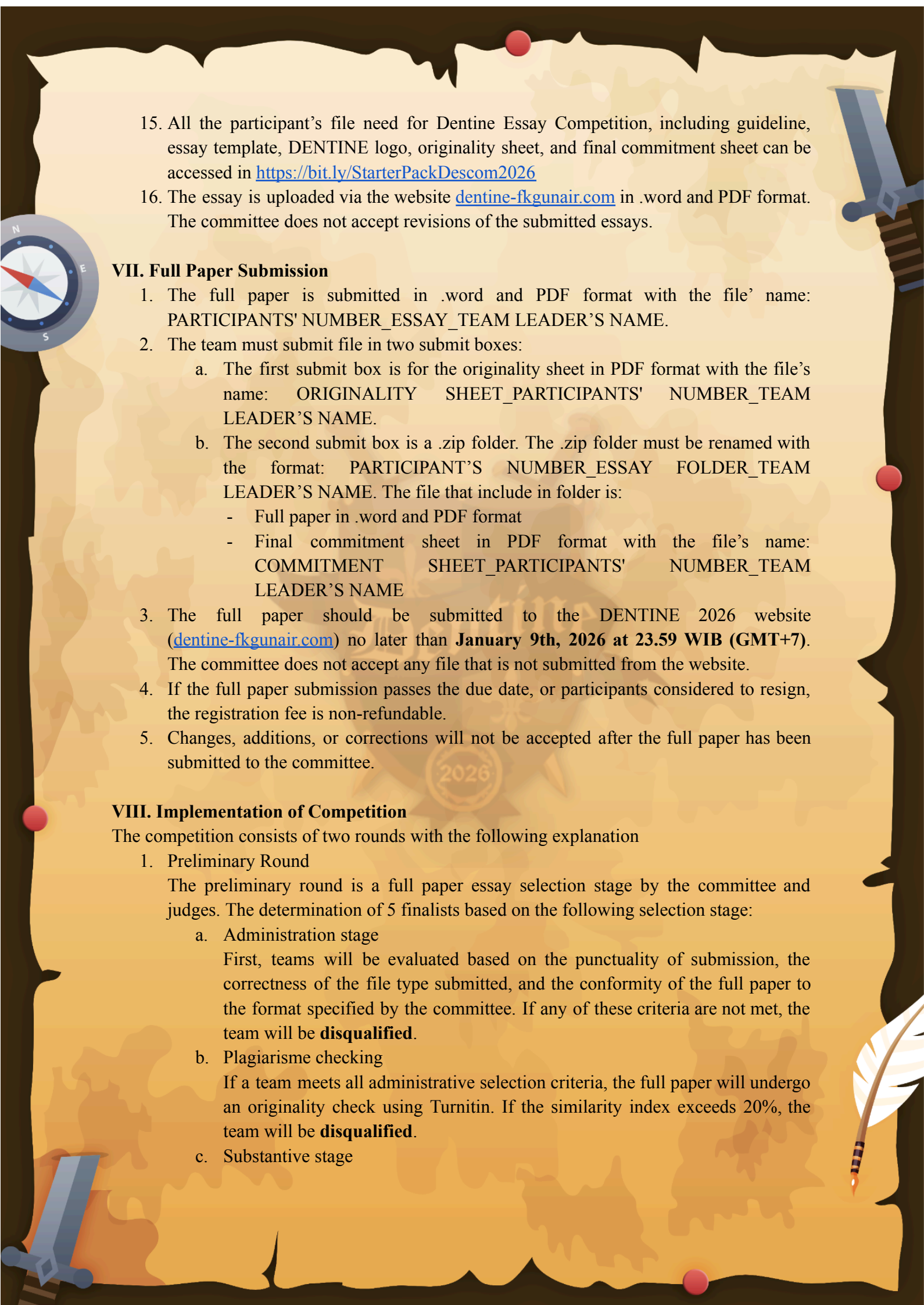

- All the references must have been published 10 years recently.
- Citation and bibliography written in Harvard method.
- The reference list is organized in alphabetical order.
- The reference list is written in Times New Roman font 12; 1,5 pt; justify; hanging indentation 1 cm.

12. Table and image writing terms:

- There is no limitation on the number of tables and figures that may be included in the essay. Remember that the attachment page is prohibited.
- Table captions must be placed above the tables, while figure captions should be placed below the figures.
- Tables and figures must be titled with numbers in Arabic format according to their appearance sequence in the text. The numbering must be written in Times New Roman 10 pt, bold, 1 space.
- Table and figure caption must be written in Times New Roman 10 pt, 1 space.
- If tables and figures are not self-created or are excerpted from a source, the end of the captions in tables and figures must be cited in the Harvard system.

13. If the format does not follow the conditions set by the committee, then the full paper will be immediately eliminated. For detailed formatting and layout examples, please refer to the essay template that is available in the starter pack drive.

14. All Indonesian teams must submit the commitment letter to attend the final presentation in the Faculty of Dental Medicine, Universitas Airlangga. The commitment letter can be accessed in the starter pack drive.

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15. All the participant's file need for Dentine Essay Competition, including guideline, essay template, DENTINE logo, originality sheet, and final commitment sheet can be accessed in <https://bit.ly/StarterPackDescom2026>
  16. The essay is uploaded via the website [dentine-fkgunair.com](https://dentine-fkgunair.com) in .word and PDF format. The committee does not accept revisions of the submitted essays.

## VII. Registration of Competition

The entire registration process for the DENTINE 2026 scientific essay competition is conducted on the website [dentine-fkgunair.com](https://dentine-fkgunair.com). The registration process for the scientific essay competition can be found in the starter pack folder.

## VIII. Full Paper Submission

1. The full paper is submitted in .word and PDF format with the file' name: PARTICIPANTS' NUMBER\_ESSAY\_TEAM LEADER'S NAME.
2. The team must submit file in two submit boxes:
  - a. The first submit box is for the originality sheet in PDF format with the file's name: ORIGINALITY SHEET\_PARTICIPANTS' NUMBER\_TEAM LEADER'S NAME.
  - b. The second submit box is a .zip folder. The .zip folder must be renamed with the format: PARTICIPANT'S NUMBER\_ESSAY FOLDER\_TEAM LEADER'S NAME. The file that include in folder is:
    - Full paper in .word and PDF format
    - Final commitment sheet in PDF format with the file's name: COMMITMENT SHEET\_PARTICIPANTS' NUMBER\_TEAM LEADER'S NAME
3. The full paper should be submitted to the DENTINE 2026 website ([dentine-fkgunair.com](https://dentine-fkgunair.com)) no later than **January 9th, 2026 at 23.59 WIB (GMT+7)**. The committee does not accept any file that is not submitted from the website.
4. If the full paper submission passes the due date, or participants considered to resign, the registration fee is non-refundable.
5. Changes, additions, or corrections will not be accepted after the full paper has been submitted to the committee.

## IX. Implementation of Competition

The competition consists of two rounds with the following explanation

### 1. Preliminary Round

The preliminary round is a full paper essay selection stage by the committee and judges. The determination of 5 finalists based on the following selection stage:

#### a. Administration stage

First, teams will be evaluated based on the punctuality of submission, the correctness of the file type submitted, and the conformity of the full paper to the format specified by the committee. If any of these criteria are not met, the team will be **disqualified**.

b. Plagiarisme checking

If a team meets all administrative selection criteria, the full paper will undergo an originality check using Turnitin. If the similarity index exceeds 20%, the team will be **disqualified**.

c. Substantive stage

If the team has passed both evaluation phases, the full paper will be assessed by committee and judges based on the following criteria:

- Compliance with the theme and sub theme
- Systematics of writing
- Originality of ideas
- Analysis and argumentation
- Innovation, creativity, and feasibility
- Sharpness analysis
- The usefulness, feasibility, and potential of the idea

2. Technical Meeting for Finalists

Technical meeting will be held on :

Date : Saturday, January 31th, 2026

Time : 18.30 WIB until finish (GMT+7)

Place : Zoom Meeting

Notes :

- a. Participants should attend 15 minutes before the technical meeting begins.
- b. Participants should wear formal attire.
- c. All questions can only be asked during the technical meeting. After that, only urgent technical inquiries will be responded to via the official contact.

3. Final Round

Finalists must explain and present their essay paper through the PPT. Furthermore, the top 5 finalists will take part in the final round which will be held offline for Indonesian participants and online for International participants. The judge's decision will be final. The judging process will not be transparent.

## X. Final Round

Five selected full paper essay manuscripts will be presented at the final. Participants are required to present their work in PowerPoint. The PPT should be submitted no later than **February 7th, 2026 at 17.59 WIB (GMT+7)**. Indonesian finalists should attend the final round in person in the Faculty of Dental Medicine, Universitas Airlangga, while foreign finalists are able to attend the final round virtually through the platform that has been determined by the committee. The final round consists of a presentation with a question and answer session. The presentation session was carried out by presenting the PPT that had been previously sent by the finalists, while the question and answer session was conducted directly between the finalists and the judges. The final competition is a PowerPoint presentation with certain conditions for 25 minutes. Finalists should attend the final round at the predetermined time. If there are member(s) of the team that do not attend the final round, that member(s) can not be replaced for any reason. Presentations can be done with full team members. All participants who entered the final round received a finalist certificate.



Final Round will be held on :

Date : Sunday, February 8th, 2026

Time : 09.00 WIB until finish (GMT+7)

Place : Faculty of Dental Medicine, Universitas Airlangga (offline for Indonesian participants); Platform that has been determined by the committee (online for International participants)

Activity : Full paper Presentation from Finalist; Q&A Session

## XI. PPT

- a. Consistent with the chosen topic as well as the full paper that has been collected in the preliminary round.
- b. PowerPoint contents that consist of :
  - 1) Title
  - 2) Introduction and objective
  - 3) Content (methods, discussion, and analyses)
  - 4) Conclusion
  - 5) References
- c. The PowerPoint consists of a maximum of 20 slides (including the title and references)
- d. The first slide includes the title of the work, the authors' name, and the logo of DENTINE.
- e. Finalists are allowed to use any fonts and size letters according to the creativity of the finalists (readable by the judges and all finalists of the competition).
- f. Use formal American English.
- g. Do not include the name of the highschool or the highschool's logo on the presentation slide.
- h. PowerPoint must fulfill the criteria in the below :
  - 1) Visible
  - 2) Interesting
  - 3) Structured
  - 4) Useful
  - 5) Accurate
  - 6) Legitimate
  - 7) Simple
  - 8) The contents of the slide must not contain racial and pornographic or insulting certain groups.

## XII. Timeline

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|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Early Bird           | : October 22nd – 31th, 2025              |
| 2. Batch 1 Registration | : November 1st – November 28th, 2025     |
| 3. Batch 2 Registration | : November 29th 2025 – January 5th, 2026 |
| 4. Full Text Submission | : January 9th, 2026 at 23:59 WIB (GMT+7) |
| 5. Top 5 Announcement   | : January 29th, 2026                     |

6. Technical Meeting : January 31th, 2026  
7. PPT Submission : February 7th, 2026 at 17:59 WIB (GMT+7)  
8. Final Round and Winner Announcement : February 8th, 2026

## **XII. Registration Fee**

Local participant

- Early Bird : IDR 100.000,00
- Batch 1 Registration : IDR 125.000,00
- Batch 2 Registration : IDR 140.000,00

International participant: USD 15\$

## **XIII. Reward**

- 1st Winner : IDR 3.500.000,00 Cash + Trophy + Medals + Certificates  
2nd Winner : IDR 2.500.000,00 Cash + Trophy + Medals + Certificates  
3rd Winner : IDR 1.500.000,00 Cash + Trophy + Medals + Certificates  
Best Paper : IDR 800.000,00 Cash + Medals + Certificates  
Best Presentation : IDR 500.000,00 Cash + Medals + Certificates

For more information, please contact :

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