

WRITE IT/DO IT EVENT DESCRIPTION

OCTOBER 2010 NSSL

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ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL

Technical writing skills are an important part of a scientist's abilities to communicate precisely and clearly. This event will test a competitor's ability to effectively communicate with a colleague in writing by having their partner construct a device from this written description.

Team of 4

Approximate time: 50 minutes for the entire event

1. Two students are shown a certain number of items that are in an arrangement, system, diagram or object built from blocks, science equipment, science materials, straws, pipe cleaners or other inexpensive materials.
2. These students have **20 minutes** to write a description of the object and how to build it. There will be no advantage to finishing early. Only words and numerals may be used. Symbols, drawings and diagrams are not allowed, with the exception of common editing symbols, such as strikethroughs, underlining, circling words/paragraphs or ^ for insertions. All abbreviations must be defined either at the beginning or when the abbreviation is first used. Any improper use of any of the above will result in the team being ranked below other teams or disqualification at the discretion of the organizers of the event.
3. The supervisor of the event will pass the description to the remaining team members who will take the description and attempt to recreate (build) the original object in **20 minutes**.

SCORING:

The team which builds the object nearest to the original and has properly written instructions is declared the winner. Those teams with improperly written instructions will be ranked below other teams. A point will be given for each piece of material placed in the proper connection and location compared to the model. Pieces that are connected correctly beyond the incorrect connection will be counted in the score. No penalty will be assessed for parts that were not used. Time for the construction phase only may be used as a tiebreaker. **If additional tiebreakers are needed, orientation of pieces may be considered.**