



SIMPSON PRIZE 2007/8

Teachers of Year 9 and 10 students! Are you looking for something to keep your students engaged at the end of Term 4? The Simpson Prize may be the answer to your prayers.

Each year, one student from each state and territory wins one of the best prizes available to secondary students.

What's the prize?

An escorted trip to Gallipoli to participate in the Anzac Dawn and Lone Pine services, and ten days altogether in the Istanbul and Gallipoli areas.

Students are accompanied by two teacher chaperones and one or two members of the Australian War Memorial Staff, together with Turkish guides and drivers. Both the winning student and the runner-up from each state and territory also win a weekend in Canberra to receive their prizes in a ceremony in Parliament House.



[Simpson Prize winners at the statue of Simpson outside the Australian War Memorial, February 2007. Queensland winner, Emily Vale, from Glenmore SHS is on the far right.]

The highlight of the Canberra trip for most students is dinner at Duntroon, hosted by the Gallipoli barracks, with cadets and officers stationed there. As well, there are visits to the National Museum of Australia and Old Parliament House. As one of the sponsors, the Australian War Memorial hosts visits to the Treloar Centre, where scientific and history specialists work on restoring and repairing relics of Australia's military past. This is a fascinating experience. At the War Memorial, students are taken on tours of the World War I Galleries, as well as seeing the Sound and Light Experiences in the Anzac wing. Just before the Last Post at 5pm, they lay a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The prize includes all travel and accommodation expenses, as well as Simpson Prize memorabilia. It's a chance for students to meet their counterparts from all over the country. This year, two students – Emily Vale from Glenmore State High School in North Rockhampton and Alana Douma from Ipswich Girls' Grammar School were our winners. Their winning entries can be seen on <http://www.simpsonprize.org/>.

This website has all the details about the competition, which closes on December 14, the last day of term 4 for most Queensland students. The topic should appeal to different types of students. It can be presented as an essay or in a multi-media format.

TOPIC:

To what extent was Simpson a hero? How have his heroic qualities been demonstrated by other Australians since 1915? In response, you should aim to give approximately equal attention to each question.

Give your students a chance at this experience!

If you have a student entering the competition, then you may also apply to be a student chaperone. Even if you've already been to Gallipoli, this Gallipoli trip is like nothing you'll ever have a chance to experience.

Be like Simpson, Give it A Go!!!