

Solar Tomorrows Science Fiction Narrative

What could a solar powered future look like?

EDUCATORS: Please feel free to make a copy of this assignment sheet and adjust for your own needs and purposes!

“Science fiction gives us a venue to consider the futures that we want, and those we don’t, and how our actions contribute to one or the other.”¹

“The best science fiction accords careful attention to what it means to be human and to live in human societies.”²

Your assignment is to write a **well-imagined science fiction story** that **presents a near-future powered by solar energy** using **effective techniques, well-chosen details**, and **well-structured event sequences**.

Your story must include:

- ☐ A problem, situation, or observation related to solar energy
- ☐ One or more points of view (a narrator, characters)
- ☐ A smooth progression of experiences and events
- ☐ A variety of narrative techniques (for example: dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, multiple plot lines) to develop the experiences, events, and/or characters.
- ☐ A variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole & a particular tone and outcome.
- ☐ Precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
- ☐ A conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative
- ☐ Effective use of conventions

You will bring a draft of your story to class for self-reflection workshop before turning in your final draft.

1

<https://hieroglyph.asu.edu/2016/04/what-is-the-purpose-of-science-fiction-stories/#:~:text=In%20creating%20a%20link%20between,contribute%20to%20generating%20the%20future.>

² Miller and Bennet, “Thinking Longer Term About Technology: Is There A Value In Science Fiction-Inspired Approaches To Constructing Futures?” *Science and Public Policy*, 35(8), October 2008, pages 597–606 DOI: 10.3152/030234208X370666; <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/beechn/spp>

Solar Tomorrows Narrative Assignment & Rubric Grades 11-12

You will share your story with you class as well as have the opportunity to share it with a wider statewide audience on social media using the hashtag #solartomorrow. You also may choose to enter your story into a short story contest focused on energy futures.

RUBRIC

Base rubric on this:

https://padlet.com/mz_ess_az/act-conference-arizona-s-6-12th-grade-writing-standards-model-lp2k751xtvh7014r/wish/2402647081