

The Young Statisticians Writing Competition

The why, the what and the how



The why

- *Significance* is a showcase for statistics
 - Busting myths
 - Answering questions
 - Supporting decisions

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 - Busting myths
 - Answering questions
 - Supporting decisions
- Written by statisticians for anyone interested in the analysis and interpretation of data

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 - Strong writers
 - Compelling storytellers

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 - Enthusiastic statisticians
 - Strong writers
 - Compelling storytellers
- To find these people, we launched the Young Statisticians Writing Competition

The what

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- Runners-up are also featured on the *Significance* website

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 - A great piece of content from a talented young writer

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 - Exposure to our international readership of professional statisticians

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- What's in it for you?
 - Exposure to our international readership of professional statisticians
 - Coverage in mainstream/science media
 - The chance to present at the 2015 RSS International Conference in Exeter

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The what

- What we're looking for
 - 1,500 to 2,500 words on any subject... as long as it involves statistics and/or statistical analysis
 - An easy-to-read, magazine-style feature
 - An original article that isn't under consideration for publication elsewhere
- See significancemagazine.com/writingcomp for the full set of competition rules

The how

- How do you decide on a topic?

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- Remember: you can write about *anything*
 - The population of rats in New York City
 - Using probability distributions to plan a wedding
 - Analysing Google search data to see whether Christmas really does come earlier each year

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 - Answer a burning question
 - Provide evidence to support decision-making

The how

Make sure it's a topic you're interested in,
personally and professionally

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If you're not interested in
what you're writing about,
your audience definitely won't be

The how

- How do we pick a winner?
 - Our judging panel, including *Significance* editors and YSS committee members read and debate the entries

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- How do we pick a winner?
 - Our judging panel, including *Significance* editors and YSS committee members read and debate the entries
- Judges are looking for:
 - Interesting, engaging and easy to read articles
 - A strong story, married to sound statistics and fault-free analysis

The how?

The winner will be announced at the
2015 RSS International Conference

Best of luck in the competition

Any questions?

