The Newnham Modern and Medieval Languages Essay Prize 2017-18

The Newnham Modern and Medieval Languages Essay Prize is open to all girls currently in Year 12 (Lower Sixth) at a UK school. This prize may be of particular interest to those currently studying, or considering studying, languages, but we welcome entries from interested students studying any combination of subjects.

Entrants are invited to submit a response to any one of the questions overleaf, which should be between 1,500 and 2,500 words (including footnotes and captions). Essays should be written primarily in English. All sources must be appropriately acknowledged and cited, and a bibliography – including websites consulted – should be attached (though excluded from the word count). Up to five entries may be submitted per school.

Each of the Newnham Essay Prizes has a first prize of £400, a second prize of £200, and third prize of £100.

Good essays will present a clear argument using specific examples, but beyond this many different approaches are welcome.

Entrants should upload their submissions to the webform, found here: http://www.newn.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduates/newnham-essay-prizes/

The cover sheet should also be uploaded to this webform. Please ensure that a school/college representative has completed the appropriate section. Entries will not be valid without this information.

The deadline for receipt is 12pm on Friday 9th March 2018. For any queries not answered here, please contact Sophie Parry (Schools Liaison & Outreach Officer) by email at slo@newn.cam.ac.uk or by telephone on 01223 330471.
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Questions

1. ‘It is wrong to think of foreign languages as the languages spoken in other countries.’ Discuss.

2. 'Great literature remains untranslatable in the digital age.' Discuss.

3. 'Globalization need not sound the death knell for minor local languages, whether Catalan, Welsh, Ukrainian or Frisian.' Discuss.