

Paragraph

► The Pulitzer Prize came about as part of an attempt by newspaperman Joseph T. Pulitzer to upgrade the profession of journalism. Pulitzer, the owner of the New York World and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, made a proposal in 1903 to Columbia University to make a \$2 million bequest to the university for the dual purposes of establishing a school of journalism at the university and also supporting the university's work in the fields of journalism and other fields. However, the university did not initially respond as one might expect to such a seemingly generous proposal.

► Interestingly, Columbia University did not immediately respond favorable to the proposal. The Pulitzer Foundation, which was held in trust in regard to general and Pulitzer's papers were more known for their sensationalization of the news than for the high quality of the journalism. The trustees of the university were more interested in establishing a school of journalism because newspaper reporting was considered more of a trade than a profession at the time, and they did not want to diminish the academic prestige of their institution. It took years of discussion and negotiations before the university accepted the proposal and the prizes bearing Pulitzer's name, and it was not actually until the year after Pulitzer's death in 1911 that construction began on the building to house Columbia's new school of journalism. The first Pulitzer Prizes were awarded in 1917, for work done the previous year.

► The method for selecting Pulitzer Prizes remains the same to this day. There are more than twenty-one different award categories, however in three different areas, with the majority of awards going to journalists; four out of the awards are for various aspects of journalism (i.e., news reporting, feature writing, cartooning, and photojournalism), and one award is for literature, history, drama, poetry, and biography, and one award in music. Award categories are reevaluated and modified as modes of written communication have altered. Categories that become obsolete are removed, and new categories are added. Categories that become more popular are expanded to include written work produced and presented through advancements in technology. For example, in 2008, the first online-only submissions were accepted for review. Previously, any work had to be submitted in original form from a printed source.

► The process to achieve an award has several steps. First, the Pulitzer Prize hopeful submits his work for consideration. Anyone who has published work that meets the conditions for entry is allowed to submit work, and the prize committee will not look at any publication that have not been formally entered. Columbia University appoints numerous committees, one for each category, who carefully evaluate the submitted entries.

► The juries select the top three entries in each category that they feel are most qualified and they submit these nominations to the Pulitzer Prize Board, which makes the final decisions. The juries are responsible for selecting the top three entries for the different categories, a single board makes the decisions for all of the categories.

► Because of its prestige, the Pulitzer Prize is one of the most sought after awards in writing. The award is not only a monetary award, and for this reason, thousands of authors submit their work each year, even though the monetary compensation for winning is relatively small. Past winners have used the positive publicity and recognition to further their careers and increase their sales.

► The award is not without its detractors, however. One of the most famous opponents of the award was Robert R. "Colonel" McCormick, former editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune. He disputed the validity of the prize, feeling that it was little more than a bribe. He also felt that the award was given to any Chicago Tribune journalists who were named as winners. His stance against the Pulitzer Prize continued throughout his tenure at the newspaper, ending in 1961.

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10. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 7? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

(A) Joseph Pulitzer generally offered to donate \$2 million to Columbia University for the specific purpose of establishing a school of journalism and the journalism prize from Columbia University.

(B) In 1903, an attempt was made by Joseph Pulitzer to establish a school of journalism and the journalism prize from Columbia University.

(C) In 1903, Joseph Pulitzer tried to set up his proposal as head of two competitors to take over the department of journalism at Columbia University.

(D) University officials were unhappy about Pulitzer's proposal, and they felt that the newspaper reports would damage the image of journalism at their institution.

(E) In 1903, Joseph Pulitzer was interested in working with Pulitzer to establish journalism as a course of study because they did not consider journalism to be a respectable or acceptable profession, or one that would award scholarships.

(F) The trustees were unclear about how the exchange of reporting with the Pulitzer newspaper would affect the quality of what was being taught in Columbia University's school of journalism.

12. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 7? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

(A) Telegraphic reporting, an unpopular category, were taken out of the competition.

(B) Categories that are no longer relevant, such as telegraphic reporting, are removed from the competition.

(C) When a mode of written communication goes out of style, as telegraphic reporting did, its removal from the competition is necessary.

(D) It was nearly impossible to eliminate telegraphic reporting category from the prize list.

13. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 7? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

(A) The prize committee only evaluates official entries, though anyone who is eligible is allowed to submit.

(B) Official entries must meet the strict conditions for entry can submit their work.

(C) The prize committee selects works from the official entries and then announces the results.

14. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in paragraph 7? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

(A) Though the amount of money won for the prize is pretty small, smuggling writers still submit their work.

(B) Writers who win the prize become the best in their field of writing, despite the lack of money.

(C) Winning writers become well-known for their work and gain a large financial windfall from the prize.

(D) Writers mainly submit their work for the boost it gives to their writing reputation, and not for the prize money.

Competition and Cooperation

► Once viewed as two disparate behavioral patterns largely independent of one another, explanations of competition and cooperation have evolved over time. Early research into competition and cooperation defined each of them in terms of the distribution of rewards related to each. Competition was defined as a situation in which rewards are distributed in a manner that is disadvantageous to one party on the other hand, was defined as a situation in which rewards are distributed in a primarily equitable manner on the basis of mutual interactive behavior among individuals. By this definition, competition is a situation in which one party wins and the other party, each competitor that wins, while a cooperative situation offers a reward only if all members of a group receive it.

► Researchers have found definitions of these two conditions based upon rewards inadequate, primarily due to the fact that definitions of these two concepts with regard to competition and cooperation often depict them as opposites. In current understanding, competition is not viewed as the opposite of cooperation; instead cooperation is perceived as an integral component of competition. Cooperation is necessary among team members, perhaps in a sporting event or in a soldier's unit, to be successful. Cooperation is also important in business, as competition is of great significance between opposing teams as well, inasmuch as the competing sides need to be in agreement regarding the basic ground rules of the game, or election that each side will follow.

► Interestingly, the word "competition" is derived from a Latin verb which means "to come together." An understanding of the definition of competition further supports the understanding that competition, rather than evoking a competitive spirit at the opposite extreme of human nature from competition, is in reality a necessary factor in competition. If the structure of a competition is analyzed more deeply, it is easily seen that, in fact, two competing parties require that two or more parties work in order to begin the competition. Thus, in and of itself, requiring two or more parties to achieve a goal.

► A society's expectation of social cohesion also influences the state of competition and its expectation to cooperate. While the vast majority of people have an inherent sense of belonging to a group, the desire to belong to a group often overshadows that of those others is softened by the desire for social connection and acceptance. In other words, as a person may want to focus on accomplishing his goals and "winning" his competition, the party, he may do so without fully connecting with his group and with friends and family, connections that he values more than achieving his individual goals. For this reason, people often modify their competitive nature to allow for more cooperative actions, such as the formation of a team, or the change in the competition to allow for similar levels of success.

► However, even with the motivation of social cohesion influencing the competitive mind, and moving it more toward a collaborative way of thinking, this does not mean that competitors always become strictly cooperative within their close social circles.

► Although a competitor may moderate his achievements to benefit the group, a competitor may also seek to benefit his own self-interest by being a "winner" at the top of that circle. This typically translates to competition within the circle in which a competitor or group of competitors attains the position of "winner" within the social grouping and then uses that position to further his own self-interest, and not necessarily the group's much.

► Another option is that the "winner" becomes more cooperative with others of his group in order to help them reach his level subsequently, the competitors can begin a new round of competition.

► In social groupings, where a competitor violates these intrinsic guidelines, whether intentionally or by accident, the competitor can find himself ostracized from the rest of the group. This typically translates to competition within the circle in which a competitor or group of competitors attains the position of "winner" within the social grouping and then uses that position to further his own self-interest, and not necessarily the group's much.

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