

2017 Prompt -- NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing

“With great power comes great responsibility.” These words, which were popularized by the *Spider-Man* comics and films, reflect a sentiment that has been echoed across cultures and throughout the ages.

If we base our evaluation of modern society on the degree to which people who have been privileged with power demonstrate responsibility, we could ask: How are we doing?

Conversely, we could also consider how people who have been perceived as having little power demonstrate responsibility -- and what this reflects about our modern society and the nature of power.

You may narrow the scope of your consideration to a local (or even a personal) level or widen it to a state, national or global level.

Share your perspective in a prose form (i.e., paragraphs). Select a genre that allows you to express your ideas, to employ evocative language, and to convey your unique perspective and voice. You may wish to create either fiction or nonfiction.

Some Writing Tips:

- *Take time to consider your response to the prompt -- and respond to the prompt in a way that is authentic to you. What would you like to say to your readers, and what means might you use to persuade, to inform, or to illustrate this for your readers? What perspective do you have that is unique and that will both inform and engage your readers?*
- *Use details, specific images and active verbs to enliven your writing.*
- *Revise your work. Time spent on revision can turn a good draft into a great draft.*
- *Read your work aloud to hear where your voice, language and content are most powerful-- and/or where you might strengthen your writing.*
- *Draw inspiration from reading other writers' work.*