

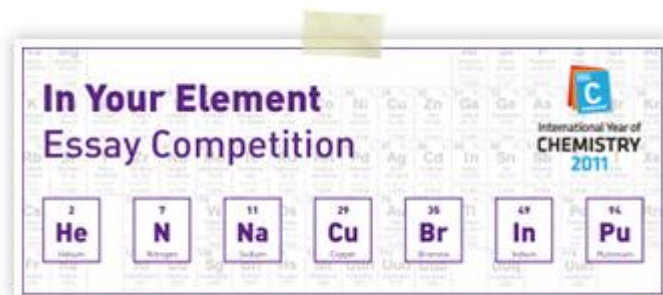
## Essays on Elements

### *Nature Chemistry* launches essay competition

Aspiring science writers are invited to submit an 'In Your Element'-style essay on one of the following elements – He, N, Na, Cu, Br, In or Pu.



To celebrate the International Year of Chemistry, *Nature Chemistry* is launching an essay competition based on the 'In Your Element' feature that appears on the last page of every issue of the journal. We invite aspiring science writers to submit an 'In Your Element'-style essay on any one of the following elements — helium, nitrogen, sodium, copper, bromine, indium or plutonium. The winning essays will be published in *Nature Chemistry* and authors of the winning entries will also receive a year-long subscription (print and online) to the journal.



We encourage undergraduates, graduate students and postdocs to enter the competition, but it is also open to those slightly further on in their careers. To submit an essay, however, it must be no more than 5 years since the author has completed their final training appointment (Ph.D. or postdoctoral position) as of the 1 August 2011.

Only one entry is permitted per person, so choose wisely which element you wish to write about! Entries must be written by a single author; multiple-author essays are not permitted.

**The deadline for receipt of essays is 11:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time, 1 August 2011.**

Essays should make some mention of current research involving the chosen element, but should go beyond a simple dry summary of such uses. We're looking for essays that stand out from the crowd, perhaps by including interesting stories about an element's discovery and/or history, or by highlighting unusual aspects of an element's chemistry or some crucial relevance to our everyday lives beyond simply academic or industrial research. Essays should be written in an informal and entertaining manner that would appeal to a wide audience of chemists. Essays must be original and should not, either entirely or in part, have been previously published elsewhere, including online-only sources.

[For more details, check out this activity.](#)