



## CWSF 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



## **James Harris**

## **How Has English Vocabulary Changed Over Time?**

**Division:** Earth & Environmental Sciences / None

Category: Junior

**Region:** Chignecto East **City:** Scotsburn, NS

School: West Pictou Consolidated School

Abstract: This project analysed how the size of English vocabulary has changed over

time by analysing a random sample of electronic books from Project Gutenberg using a home-made Python script. The unique and common word counts over time were then graphed by decade. Both the unique and common word counts show an increase over the time period studied.

## **Biography**

I was born on October 6th, 1993, in Vancouver BC. My younger sister Claire and I were both home schooled until 2006. I've worked with computers since before I can remember; Mom says I learned the alphabet on the computer when I was two and started designing SimCity maps a year later. We moved to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia in 1997. I had the good fortune to find a homeschooling computer teaching lab, run by Dr. Christian Blouin, who introduced me to the programming language Python. I have played the piano since I was five, love classical music in particular, and am working on my grade five Royal Conservatory of Music exam. I started playing flute in the school band in 2004. I started school in West Pictou Consolidated in the fall of 2006 (yes, two years after I joined the school band), and have been in the Pictou Mariners Swim Team since then. I also joined Sea Cadets (RCSCC Royal William) that winter, and currently hold the rank of Able Cadet. I like weaving, but haven't been able to find time (or a loom) since I started public school. I am hoping to study Engineering at the Royal Military College.

Awards	Value
The University of Western Ontario Scholarship	\$2 000
Gold Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	
Gold Medal - Computing & Information Technology - Junior	\$1 500
Sponsor: Intel of Canada, Ltd.	
Total	\$3 500





