

### **Rules for Debate Competition (High School)**

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 9th – 12th in school year 2006-2007.
2. This is an individual contest; no teams allowed. Participants will be paired up and will be assigned affirmative and negative positions by DRAW. The affirmative always begins the debate. There will be two rounds. Only the top four participants will advance to the final/second round.
3. The structure of the debate is as follows:
  - 2 minutes affirmative constructive speech
  - 2 minutes negative constructive speech
  - 2 minutes affirmative rebuttal
  - 2 minutes negative rebuttal
  - 1 minute affirmative closing
  - 1 minute negative closing
4. When citing evidence during speeches, use the following example as a guideline:

As stated in the November 19 issue of Newsweek....
5. On a separate sheet of paper, list the exact sources (what books, magazines, or other sources you attained your evidence from). If possible, bring copies of your sources or your actual sources to the debate.

### **Rules for Essay Competition (High School)**

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> in school year 2006-2007.
2. The essay competition is impromptu. The topic will be announced right before the contest starts. The contestants will have up to one hour to thoroughly and articulately answer the prompt. They can use any existing knowledge they have on the topic to formulate strong arguments. There is no need to cite particular references. Only hand written essay on papers provided at the time of contest is valid.
3. Contestants should be on time to get the benefit of the whole one-hour of time. If the any of the contestant appears after the contest started, they will get only remaining time to finish the contest.
4. Laptops, books or any other supporting material are not allowed. Pens and papers will be provided. Contestants are free to bring their own pens/pencils.
5. Contestants are suggested to write legibly, although essays will not be judged on handwriting. There is no page limit. The essays will be judged on the following criteria
  1. Overall structure
  2. Strength of arguments
  3. Supporting statements
  4. Word choice
  5. Grammar
6. Contestants are free to take time to plan out their essay, but judges will see only the final draft. All essays will be judged by a panel of two judges to ensure fairness. In case of a tie, a third judge will evaluate the essay.
7. Parents/visitors will not be allowed in the competition area.

### **Rules for Vocabulary Competition (Middle School)**

1. Eligibility: Students entering grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> in school year 2006-2007.
2. The competition will consist of a multiple choice exam that will be suitable for the age group, and help prepare students for standardized tests (e.g. SAT)
3. Judges may adjust these rules depending on the number of contestants.
4. Laptops, books or any other supporting material are not allowed. Pens and papers will be provided. Contestants are free to bring their own pens/pencils.

### **Rules for Math Sense (Middle School)**

The rules below must be strictly followed or the contestant might endanger himself or herself to disqualification. Please read and understand the following rules. We thank-you for your cooperation and wish all the contestants a hearty good luck!

1. Eligibility: Students entering grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> in school year 2006-2007.
2. Contestants will have up to one hour to answer approximately sixty problems. Calculators, books or any such supporting materials are not allowed. Although papers and pencils will be provided to each contestant they are free to bring their own pencils and erasers.
3. Math Sense problems will cover challenging problems appropriate for Middle School students. Contestants must write an absolute answer for each question on their answer sheets. Only answer sheets will be evaluated. So Contestants must transfer all answers from their workbook to the answer sheet. The contestants are free to write the calculation steps or do rough works on the workbook, but they should write only final answer on the answer sheet, which they will handle at the end to coordinators for evaluation.
4. Contestants should be on time to get the benefit of the whole one-hour of time. If any of the contestants appear after the contest started, they will get only the remaining time to finish the contest.
5. Parents/visitors will not be allowed in the competition room.

### **Rules for Spelling Bee (Elementary)**

The rules below must be strictly followed or the contestant might endanger himself or herself to disqualification. Please read and understand the following rules.

1. Eligibility: Students entering grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> in school year 2006-2007.
2. The competition has two phases. The sample words (List #1) will be used in the first phase. At the end of the first phase, judges will decide who proceeds to the next phase. The judges may decide to move only limited number of contestants to second phase. The sample words (List #2) will be used in the second phase. Judges will determine if a third phase is needed, and may use words outside the provided word lists.
3. Each contestant will be given 30 seconds to say the word, spell it and say the word again. Saying the word before spelling is must, however saying the word after the spelling is optional.
4. Based on the number of participants, there may be a preliminary screening round before the above mentioned three phases. This will be a written round.
5. Parents will be allowed in the competition area, but we strongly ask that silence be maintained at all times. This is to help the judges listen clearly to the answers of the contestants. Any word that is spelled out, whether accidentally or intentionally will be thrown out.
6. Contestants are allowed to ask the word to be repeated if they did not hear it clearly. They also have a right to ask the meaning of the word. The Merriam Webster Dictionary will be used to answer all such questions. Once the contestant has asked the meaning of the word, he/she is compelled to spell that exact word out. This mean that if the word pronounced was 'pale', which can also be spelled as 'pail', and the contestant asked for the meaning, to which the enunciator reply, "lacking in intensity of color", then the contestant must spell 'pale' and not 'pail', because the word 'pale' was defined. 'Pail' would be considered wrong.
7. The decision of the presiding judges is always final. Parents are welcome to give suggestions or ask questions at the end of the contest.

### **Rules for Math Sense (Elementary)**

The rules below must be strictly followed or the contestant might endanger himself or herself to disqualification. Please read and understand the following rules. We thank-you for your cooperation and wish all the contestants a hearty good luck!

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> in school year 2006-2007.
2. Contestants will have up to one hour to answer sixty problems. Calculators, books or any such supporting materials are not allowed. Contestants may bring their own pencils and erasers.
3. Math Sense problems will cover challenging problems appropriate for Elementary students. Contestants must write an absolute answer for each question on their answer sheets. Only answer sheets will be evaluated. So Contestants must transfer all answers from their workbook to the answer sheet. The contestants are free to write the calculation steps or do rough works on the workbook, but they should write only final answer on the answer sheet, which they will handle at the end to coordinators for evaluation.
4. Contestants should be on time to get the benefit of the whole one-hour of time. If any of the contestants appear after the contest started, they will get only the remaining time to finish the contest.
5. Parents/visitors will not be allowed in the competition room.

### **Rules for Spelling Bee (Primary)**

The rules below must be strictly followed or the contestant might endanger himself or herself to disqualification. Please read and understand the following rules. We thank-you for your cooperation and wish all the contestants a hearty good luck!

1. Eligibility: Children upto and including 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in school year 2006-2007.
2. The competition has two phases. The sample words (List #1) will be used in the first phase. At the end of the first phase, judges will decide who proceeds to the next phase. The judges may decide to move only limited number of contestants to second phase. The sample words (List #2) will be used in the second phase. Judges will determine if a third phase is needed, and may use words outside the provided word lists.
3. Each contestant will be given 30 seconds to say the word, spell it and say the word again. Saying the word before spelling is must, however saying the word after the spelling is optional.
4. Based on the number of participants, there may be a preliminary screening round before the above mentioned three phases. This will be a written round.
5. Parents will be allowed in the competition area, but we strongly ask that silence be maintained at all times. This is to help the judges listen clearly to the answers of the contestants. Any word that is spelled out, whether accidentally or intentionally will be thrown out.
6. Contestants are allowed to ask the word to be repeated if they did not hear it clearly. They also have a right to ask the meaning of the word. The Merriam Webster Dictionary will be used to answer all such questions. Once the contestant has asked the meaning of the word, he/she is compelled to spell that exact word out. This mean that if the word pronounced was 'pale', which can also be spelled as 'pail', and the contestant asked for the meaning, to which the enunciator reply, "lacking in intensity of color", then the contestant must spell 'pale' and not 'pail', because the word 'pale' was defined. 'Pail' would be considered wrong.
7. The decision of the presiding judge is always final. Parents are welcome to give us suggestions or ask questions in the interim of rounds, but please bear with us.

### **Rules for Art Competition (Primary)**

1. Eligibility: Children upto and including 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade in school year 2006-2007.
2. Crayon and art paper will be provided to each contestant.
3. Contestants will be asked to draw for a simple theme that will be provided at the time of the competition.
4. Contestants will have to draw on their own. Parents may watch children participate but may not assist them.