

English Expo Student Contest Descriptions

- A. **Posters:** Displayed and explained on-site, but prepared in advance. Poster must promote some aspect of English language arts and can be no larger than 3' x 4'. The student explains his/her poster to a judge. The oral presentation is part of the final score. Explanations may not exceed one minute. This contest is held during Round I, and the entrant **MUST** be present to explain the work.
- B. **Book Cover:** Displayed and explained on-site, but prepared in advance. Students design a book cover for one of the ten titles on the appropriate division's reading list. Students must read the book. The total book cover cannot exceed 8- 1/2" x 14" in size. Covers developed by computer graphics must be drawn with graphics software, not scanned as a copy. At Expo, students explain their covers to a judge in one minute or less. The explanation is part of the score. This contest is held during Round II, and the entrant **MUST** be present to compete.
- C. **Literature:** Multiple choice test based on the appropriate division's reading list of the ten books for this year's competition. Essays may be used as tie-breakers.
- D. **Business Letters:** Students write a business letter(s) from information provided. Standard business letter format is used. Judges will look for consistency in format.
- E. **Social Notes:** Students write at least two different social note(s) from information provided. Possible types include a thank you, sympathy note, invitation, letter of acceptance, etc.
- F. **Poetry:** From a prompt, which may be music, video, art, or other stimulus, students write at least eight lines of verse.
- G. **Prose:** Students write a descriptive paragraph, a character sketch, or a persuasive essay from given information.
- H. **Personal Narrative:** From several prompts, students choose one and write about a personal experience.
- I. **Short Story- Fantasy:** Students write a short story in the fantasy genre using a given set of characters, setting, and conflict.
- J. **Short Story- Teen Life:** Students write a short story in the teen life genre using a given set of characters, setting, and conflict.
- K. **Team Dialogue Writing:** From a given situation, students write dialogue to complete a story in play-type format. Different scenarios are provided. Students write in teams of two for this event. It is important that advisors indicate on the registration form which students are paired, so that they may be placed in the same room for competition.
- L. **Technical Writing:** From a given set of scientific and/or technical facts, students write a piece of prose, which incorporates the necessary details in a clear, concise manner.
- M. **Listening:** Multiple choice test over three to five different oral selections, which may include a television tape of a newscast, storytelling, poetry, instructions, etc. No note-taking is allowed.
- N. **Proofreading:** Multiple choice test over grammar, punctuation, parts of speech, spelling, editing, capitalization, analogies, synonyms, antonyms, and other techniques for demonstrating knowledge.
- O. **Vocabulary:** Multiple choice test over vocabulary words both in context and in isolation. The test may include analogies, synonyms, antonyms, and other techniques for demonstrating knowledge.

STUDENTS CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN 2 SPEAKING FINALS. THEREFORE, A STUDENT CAN COMPETE IN ONLY 1 SPEAKING CONTEST IN CASE S/HE PLACES FOR THE FINALS.

- P. **Storytelling- Original:** Students tell original stories which they have created to a judge(s) in the room. Stories may not exceed five minutes in length. No costumes, props, set, make-up, or furniture, except a single chair, may be used in telling the story. While words from other cultures may be used, the majority of the story must be told in English. . Students can only participate in ONE speaking contest.
- Q. **Storytelling- Traditional:** Students tell traditional stories which they have learned to a judge(s) in the room. Stories may not exceed five minutes in length. No costumes, props, set, make-up, or furniture, except a single chair, may be used in telling the story. While words from other cultures may be used, the majority of the story must be told in English. Students can only participate in ONE speaking contest.