

NET Section
‘Time to Talk’ Public Speaking Competition 2020/21 – Pilot

Conditions and Regulations

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1. Organiser

The ‘Time to Talk’ Public Speaking Competition 2020/21 is organised by the Native-speaking English Teacher (NET) Section, Curriculum Development Institute (CDI), Education Bureau.

2. Aims

The ‘Time to Talk’ Public Speaking Competition is an inclusive competition that aims to engage students of all ability levels to:

- learn public speaking techniques to hone their presentation skills;
- experiment with the use of English to develop confidence in front of an audience; and
- develop research, collaboration and IT skills to improve their communication skills.

3. Design of the ‘Time to Talk’ Competition

3.1. ‘Time to Talk’ is a pilot competition in the 2020/21 s.y. It is open to students from selected secondary schools in Hong Kong. Students will work in teams of 2–4 to deliver a public speech in English of 3–5 minutes, supported by the use of IT. The competition comprises two rounds, with Round 1 being conducted at the school level and Round 2 being the inter-school final.

- Round 1 of the competition is conducted for internal selection purposes within schools. This round is designed for schools to engage as many students as possible in public speaking. It can be school-based or it may be inter-school on a small scale (e.g. involving nearby schools, or schools from the same school-sponsoring body).

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- Round 2 is the final and will have a total of about 10 to 14 teams (TBC) from various schools per session.
- 3.2. If face-to-face classes are suspended due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the ‘Time to Talk’ Public Speaking Competition will be conducted in a different format, depending on the restrictions on social gathering at the time, and the same prizes will be awarded. If small gatherings are allowed, students may be able to perform as a small group in front of the judges with no other audience at a location deemed appropriate. If gatherings are heavily restricted, video recordings may be a consideration. The revised Conditions and Regulations document will be sent out at least 1 month in advance to ensure sufficient time for preparation. Only schools which have entered the competition will be eligible to compete in the revamped competition.

4. Schedule of Events and Submission Deadlines

Date	Event or Deadline	Related Documents
Mid-September 2020	Invitation to attend the ‘Time to Talk’ briefing session	Email/fax from the NET Section
24 September 2020 3.00 p.m.– 4.00 p.m.	Online Briefing session	EDB Training Calendar System (TCS) notification/online application (Course Code: CDI020210867)
12 November 2020	Workshop for teachers: Competition Series: Speaking with Purpose – From Public Speaking to Teaching Public Speaking (Refreshed) (Online)	EDB Training Calendar System (TCS) notification/online application (around 1 month before event)
30 November 2020	Deadline for submission of entries	‘Time to Talk’ Competition Entry Form
December 2020 to March 2021	Round 1 to be held in schools	
12 March 2021	21st Century Literacy Skills Series: Developing Effective Oral Communicative Skills in English Classes with a Diverse Range of Learning Needs (New)	EDB Training Calendar System (TCS) notification/online application (around 1 month before event) (Course Code: TBC)
29 April 2021	Public speaking workshop for teachers – 21st Century Literacy Skills Series: Mastering English Public Speaking (New)	EDB Training Calendar System (TCS) notification/online application (around 1 month before event) (Course Code: TBC)

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On the day of the competition session	Submission of ‘Permission for the Use of Image’ form and ‘Pledge and Team Name List’ form	‘Permission for the Use of Images’ form and ‘Pledge and Team Name List’ form
May 2021	Competition and prize-giving ceremony	Email from the NET Section, CDI, EDB, to notify schools of the confirmed date(s)

5. Expectations

5.1. Schools:

- are strongly encouraged to send one or two English teachers to attend the competition briefing session on 24 September 2020;
- are strongly encouraged to send one or preferably two English teachers (one of whom may be the NET) to attend the professional development workshop on public speaking on 12 November 2020; and
- send one or two teacher(s) to escort students to the competition finals in May 2021 (dates TBC).

5.2. Teachers will need to:

- attend the briefing session on 24 September 2020;
- hand out and collect parental consent forms for the NET Section to take images of students for later possible use for educational purposes and for uploading to the Internet;
- participate fully in all public speaking activities at the professional development workshop;
- use what they have learnt to prepare their students for the competition;
- organise to meet the RNC at their school for school support;
- organise a Round 1 at their schools (or between schools); and
- ensure that students are escorted to, and supervised at, Round 2 of the competition.

5.3. Students will need to:

- participate fully in any training sessions organised by their teachers in preparation for the competition;
- participate in Round 1 of the competition at their school (or between schools); and
- take part in the competition by giving a public speech, in a team, for 3–5 minutes on one date in mid-May 2021 (date TBC, not at the weekend).

6. Conditions of Entry

6.1. The deadline for submission of entries is 30 November 2020.

6.2. The briefing session will provide teachers with competition details and regulations and may introduce a few public speaking activities. Teachers who have attended previously are not required to attend.

6.3. There is a mandatory workshop on teaching public speaking on 12 November 2020. (See details in Section 5 above.) Teachers who have attended previously are not required to attend. Please refer to the EDB Training Calendar System (TCS) for online application.

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6.4. Schools will be expected to take part in school support. RNCs will visit the schools to offer different types of support, including consultation sessions and school-based teacher training workshops whenever appropriate. The type of support will be negotiated between the teacher-in-charge and the RNC concerned.

7. Topics

7.1. Schools must choose one of the following topics. The topic may be the same or different for Rounds 1 and 2.

- Science and Technology:
 - We can’t imagine life without it
 - The role of social media in our everyday life.
- Relationships:
 - When times are tough
 - Manners matter
- Arts, Culture and Humanities:
 - “Creativity takes courage”: Henri Matisse
 - What culture means to us
- Current Affairs:
 - The media makes mistakes
 - Climate changes, life changes

7.2. Teams must show evidence of research for their speeches.

7.3. Resources used for their research must be cited in the presentation (e.g. PPT slides) used.

7.4. Teachers are expected to encourage their students to research the topic as thoroughly as possible by reading relevant materials.

8. Student Participants

8.1. Each school can enter one team with 2–4 participants for Round 2 (Final).

8.2. The team can be made up of students from any year level or a combination of year levels.

9. Presentations in Round 2 (Final)

9.1. Teams must arrive at least 10 minutes before the competition starts. Start and end times will be confirmed later.

9.2. Limited notes of no more than 50 words are allowed. A palm card or mobile device is allowed.

9.3. The speech must be 3–5 minutes.

9.4. The first bell will be rung at 3 minutes. A second bell will be rung twice at 5 minutes. The student speaking when the second bell is rung may finish their sentence. The team should then sit down. In this case, no marks will be deducted.

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- 9.5. IT **must be used** to contribute to the speech. Video or animation is **not** allowed. IT sound effects **are** allowed, e.g. a bomb going off, a glass breaking.
- 9.6. Non-copyright music **is** allowed if it significantly contributes to the speech.
- 9.7. Small props are allowed if they significantly contribute to the speech.
- 9.8. The audience (teachers and students) should be respectful of all speakers. Mobile phones must be switched off or set to silent mode.

10. Adjudication

- 10.1. For Round 1, the judging panel must comprise at least two people. For Round 2, there will be at least two representatives from the EDB and outside organisations.
- 10.2. The decision of the judging panel will be considered final. No correspondence will be entered into after the results have been announced.
- 10.3. Student speeches will be assessed on the criteria below.

A. Use of spoken English	intelligibility, fluency, intonation, range of vocabulary, grammar, signposting
B. Use of voice	expression of emotions, voice projection/audibility, pace, pitch, pause
C. Content	ideas, structure, examples, entertainment value, evidence of research skills
D. Presentation style	stage presence, gesture, eye contact, rapport with audience
E. Use of IT	integration into presentation, written English, selection of images (if applicable)
F. Teamwork	All students interacting meaningfully with one another, contributing significantly to the presentation; fair distribution of content, smooth turn-taking

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11. Awards and Certificates

Awards and prizes will be given as below:

Team awards and prizes for Round 2 (Final):	
1 st Prize	Book coupons + team trophy + individual trophies + certificates
2 nd Prize	Book coupons + team trophy + individual trophies + certificates
3 rd Prize	Book coupons + team trophy + individual trophies + certificates
Merit	Book coupons + individual trophies + certificates
Merit	Book coupons + individual trophies + certificates
Other:	
Every team member	Certificate of Participation
Team awards and prizes for Round 1:	
Team and individual trophies will be provided for schools to present to students for the same prizes as above.	
Every team member	Certificate of Participation (template to be provided for schools to provide certificates) TBC

12. Reminder of Submission of Entry and Forms

Deadline	Related Document
30 November 2020	Entry Form
The day of the competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Permission for the Use of Images’ form • ‘Pledge and Team Name List’ form
Within 3 working days after the competition	A soft copy name list must also be submitted through Google Forms. This soft copy name list will be used to issue the Prize Winners’ Certificates and the Certificates of Participation. Teachers are responsible for the accuracy of the names. Certificates of participation will be posted out to the competition contact teachers within one month of the competition.

Please email entry forms to Ms Luana HASELL at luanahasell@edb.gov.hk.

13. Enquiries

For enquiries, please contact Ms Luana HASELL at 3549 8337 or by email at luanahasell@edb.gov.hk.