

About the Competition

The “Story to Stage” competition is presented by the NET Section of the Education Bureau. The Puppetry Team of the NET Section organises a professional development workshop and a cluster meeting for teachers of each participating school. Professional advice will also be given to schools to help enrich the teaching and learning of English language through puppetry. This competition supports our commitment to catering for learner diversity and our belief that by creating a variety of learning opportunities, we can meet the needs of different students and foster their language and whole-person development.

Puppetry is an effective and versatile learning tool with a unique approach to the development of literacy skills in a fun and engaging manner. To enable students to make the most of the competition, it would be preferable if the EDB native-speaking English teacher (NET) and a local English teacher (LET) could collaborate to train and support a team of five KS2 students to select a story, devise a script, design puppets and props, and apply puppetry skills in their performance.

In situations where they are not deployed to directly support the competition, EDB NETs could contribute in one or more of the following ways:

- helping with selecting a story and script writing;
- offering training in pronunciation, and/or voice expression and projection;
- advising on the use of puppetry techniques and/or puppet design;
- advising on the use of special effects; and
- giving comments during rehearsals.

Events and Schedule

Important events, venues and dates:

Event	Venue	Date
1. “Puppet Making to Support the Use of Puppetry in English Lesson”	NET Section, Room 1120, 11/F, Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, 174-208 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan	14 November 2020
2. “Teaching English through Puppetry” Workshop (Re-freshec)	NET Section, Room 1120, 11/F, Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, 174-208 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan	18 & 19 November 2020
3. Online Cluster Meeting (For competition schools’ new teachers only)	Online meeting via zoom Meeting ID and passcode will be sent to schools before the Chinese New Year Holiday	23 February 2021
4. Puppetry Competition	By video submission. For details, please refer to Rules & Roles and Adjudication sections	Any time from 1 March to 31 May 2021
5. Experience-sharing Seminar “Integrating School-based Puppetry in the English Language Teaching”	NET Section, Room 1120, 11/F, Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, 174-208 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan	28 May 2021

Rules and Roles

*****Due to the uncertainty arising from the COVID-19, the competition is now changed from live performance to video submission. Schools will video-tape their students' puppet shows and submit their videos to the NET Section.**

Please note that with the change of the format, a few related changes have been made to the “Rules and Roles”, as well as the “Adjudication” of the competition, namely:

- 1. Schools will record their students' puppetry shows and submit their videos to the NET Section.**
- 2. The judging criteria remain the same (please refer to the relevant competition webpage at <https://nets.edb.hkedcity.net/page.php?p=495>).**
- 3. With respect to video editing, schools should observe the following guidelines:**
 - a. There should be no zooming in on the puppets while students' performance is being video-recorded;**
 - b. Special effects (see No. 3 of the judging criteria) can only be used during the video-recording of students' performance; and**
 - c. The visual and sound quality should be good enough for adjudication purposes.**

Remark: If schools do not follow the above rules, there will be a deduction of marks.

Video submission schedules:

- 1. Submission date: any time from 1 March to 31 May 2021. Late submission will not be accepted. Further submission details will be announced in February 2021.**
- 2. Schools will be grouped, with each group composed of 8-10 schools. This will be done by a computerised lucky draw in early June.**
- 3. The judging will be conducted from 15 June to 18 June 2021 and the competition results will be announced on 25 June 2021.**
- 4. The prize-giving ceremony will be conducted in early July, date and venue to be confirmed.**

(1) Expectations

Schools:

- must send the EDB NET and one LET to attend the professional development workshop on puppetry in October 2020 and the cluster meeting in February 2021.

Teachers will need to:

- participate fully in all puppetry activities at the professional development workshop;
- use what they have learnt to prepare their students for the competition.

Students will need to:

- participate fully in any training sessions organised by their teachers in preparation for the competition; and
- participate in the competition by staging and performing a 5 to 7 minute puppet show. Each team will perform only once.

(2) Conditions of Entry

- The 'Story to Stage' entry form must be submitted between 25 August and 11 September 2020. Late applications will NOT be accepted.

- If the competition is over-subscribed, priority will be given to schools which were accepted in the 2019/2020 school year as the competition was cancelled owing to the COVID-19 outbreak. The rest of the applicants will be selected through a lucky draw.
- The story title and the team members' names will be collected in February, after the cluster meeting.
- Certificates of Achievement will be distributed to the schools at the end of the competition.

(3) Student Participants

- Each school can enter one team only.
- A team consists of 5 puppeteers (performers). The team must be made up of students from Primary 4-6 (KS2). All students involved should play a part in the performance.

(4) Performance

- Only one teacher may stay backstage during the performance.
- Please note the penalties:

- 1) 30 marks deduction for an extra teacher or student backstage.
- 2) 10 marks will be deducted for every minute or part of a minute over or under in performance time.

(5) Preparation

- Teams may use commercial and/or hand-made puppets.

- Teams should practise setting up to avoid time penalties.
- Scripts should be practised, revised and refined prior to the competition.
- Time your performance to avoid penalties.
- Teams must provide their own music/sound effects.

Adjudication

- The judging panel may include representatives from the EDB and outside organisations with experience in drama, puppetry and English teaching.
- The decision of the judging panel will be considered final. No correspondence will be entered into after the results have been announced.

Judging Criteria

1. Language (40%)

- Script
- Range of vocabulary
- Pronunciation and fluency
- Expression in voice and audibility
- Appropriateness

2. Puppetry (40%)

- Puppetry technique
- Puppet design and relevance
- Dramatic technique

3. Special effects (20%)

- Use of props
- Scene changes and backdrops
- Sound and music effects

- Visual effects

Awards and Prizes

- First Prize Trophy
- Second Prize Trophy
- Third Prize Trophy
- Merit Award
- All participants will receive a certificate!

Support

- There will be a workshop and a mandatory cluster meeting for teachers new to the competition, which will be held in October 2020 and January 2021. Teachers with puppetry experience may be exempted from the workshop.
- For enquiries and support, please contact your Advisory Teacher.

Application and Entry Form

Submission of Entries

- For applying to join the competition, on 25 August 2020, a reminder letter will be faxed to all schools. It will include a link to the Entry Form for the competition.
- Schools can submit their application between 25 August and 11 September 2020 and they will be informed of their application result on or before 25 September 2020.
- Please note that if the competition is oversubscribed, priority will be given to schools which were accepted in the 2019/20 school year as the competition was cancelled owing to the COVID-19 outbreak. The rest of the applicants will be selected through a lucky draw.