

Third Mwanza-Area Secondary School English Competition

Feb 27, 2017

A collaboration between the Tanzania English Teachers Association (TELTA), The Saint Augustine University Department of Languages and Linguistics, and the U.S. Department of State English Language Programs.

Instructions for Holding School Cluster Competitions (for English Club leaders)

A) It is expected that all school clusters participating in the Third TELTA-Mwanza Secondary-School English Competition will host their own cluster competitions before the big competition, in order to:

1. Increase student engagement with the school English club.
2. Motivate students to work hard on an English speech.
3. Select one student to represent the school in English speaking at the big regional competition at SAUT on February 27th.

B) The event will involve a 3-5 minute speech that addresses the following prompt:

Tell us a story about something that inspires you and helps you to overcome obstacles. It can be a person, an activity, a thing, etc.

C) TELTA Mwanza recommends the following for hosting these competitions:

1. Give the whole English club a detailed description of what the cluster competition involves and what the judging rubrics look for. Showing them this is a good way to teach your group how to write strong speeches for many different circumstances.
2. Choose a competition date and time that most/all English Club members and advisors can conveniently attend.

3. Encourage many students to participate: girls and boys at all grade levels. It does not matter if they think they can win or not. Their #1 goal should be to become better than they used to be, not to be better than each other.
4. Emphasize that students who choose not to compete should still come to the mini-competition to see and hear their classmates' hard work and to cheer them on. Consider inviting students not in the club to watch also. Some schools have hosted their competitions in front of the whole student body to make their club members proud and to inspire other students to work hard at their language skills. Every student who attends the competition is contributing by choosing to be involved.
5. Decide how to reward the students. Certificates are a good option, as they are very cheap to copy and make the students and their families proud.
6. Either (1) photocopy the rubrics or (2) hand-write a clear scoring form based the rubrics before the day of the competition. It is important to be properly prepared.
7. Appoint 2-3 neutral judges to rate the stories. Your TELTA cluster representative can be one of these judges if you'd like them to.
8. Make sure students know that choosing to compete is an accomplishment in itself and that all of them did a good job by applying themselves and doing their best.
9. Notify TELTA-Mwanza once a student participant and a teacher teacher chaperone for the big competition at SAUT on Feb 27th have been chosen. TELTA-Mwanza will then send you details about the big competition.
10. Great job! Your students are now ready to represent their families, their communities, and their schools at this fun and educational competition.

Remember:

- * More copies of competition materials can be downloaded at www.TELTAmwanza.weebly.com.
- * You can contact your cluster's TELTA representative with questions or suggestions at any time.