



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON
GATE 2, KARANGALAN VILLAGE
1900 CAINTA, RIZAL



January 04, 2022

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
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Virtual Spelling Bee Competition (3rd Edition)

Relative to the letter from the **International British Academy (IBA)**, there will be
a **Virtual Spelling Bee Competition (3rd Edition)** on January 24-27, 2022.

This activity aims to reach out school communities to raise awareness on the
importance of spelling skills to a wider community, specifically within the province of
Cavite. The IBA believes that spelling skills are essential on the aspect of reading
comprehension.

The activity is open to public and private schools including homeschooled
learners within Cavite. Registration is open until **January 10, 2022** at
<https://forms.gle/FJhxvwsy4U6orEZ7>.

There is a registration fee of five hundred pesos (Php 500) to cover technology
infrastructure, certificates, awards, tokens for spellers and other activity-related
expenses. Please see attached competition guidelines for details.

For further information and inquiries, please contact:

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INTERNATIONAL BRITISH ACADEMY

VIRTUAL SPELLING BEE

COMPETITION

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

2021/22

ELIGIBILITY

1. The competition is open for both for both private and public schools in the province of Cavite.
2. The speller should be officially enrolled in any year level from Years 3 through 10 for academic year 2021/22.
3. The speller must not have reached the age of 16 on or before August 31, 2021.
4. The speller may not have won any top 3 placements in the Spelling Bee last year.
5. Spellers must have access to a computer with a working webcam and microphone. Spellers will be required to use Google Meet.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to those placing in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. For each category, the following prizes will be awarded:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1 st Place: | Champion medal, framed certificate, book gifts |
| 2 nd Place: | First Runner up medal, framed certificate, book gifts |
| 3 rd Place: | Second runner up medal, framed certificate, book gifts |

*All spellers who will make it to the Oral Rounds will get a digital certificate. Cash and in-kind gifts will be announced via email and on the IBA Facebook account as soon as the Organisers have determined these items. **In addition to the above prizes, the following cash gifts will be awarded:**

Champion: Php 1,000.00

1st Runner up: Php 750.00

2nd Runner up: Php 500.00

The winning coach will receive gifts from the Organisers.

REGISTRATION

Registration is open until **January 10, 2022** or until capacity is reached. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis for all interested participants. Applicants should fill out this Google Form link: <https://forms.gle/FJhxvwspy4U6orEZ7> . The registration fee is Php500 for every two delegates per school. The school may send in up to 6 participants encompassing the three categories. Private participants, those who do not wish to represent a school, may apply for a cost of Php300 per participant. Those who are on a homeschool programme may also apply.

WORD LIST

A study word list will be given to all spellers after successfully submitting this Google Registration Form. Surprise words may be given to spellers who will qualify in the finals. These words are age-appropriate, and grade/ year level appropriate.

CATEGORIES

There will be three categories. Category I is for Years 3 to 4 (middle primary). Category II is for Years 5 to 7 (upper primary). Category III is for Years 8 to 10 (lower secondary).

SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION

Written Test: Jan. 17-21, 2021 for all categories (2.30pm onwards **but may be scheduled earlier in the day; to inform Spellers of this.**) This will NOT take more than 20 minutes.

Oral Rounds: **January 24-** Category I, **January 25-** Category II, **January 26-** Category III

Final Oral Rounds: **January 27** for all categories

BEE FORMAT

Written Round– This is the preliminary round that will be taken at an assigned time prior to the Bee, and must be completed in a 20-minute time slot. This will be closely monitored by an invigilator. So, there will be 5-6 spellers for each invigilator. The spellers will be listening to a pre-recorded test by the pronouncer. There will be a total of 20 words to spell. The spelling section requires a correct spelling, and we ignore capitalization, spaces or hyphens between words, and accents. All words for the written test will come from the Study Word List. Spellers will hear the word, its meaning and a sample sentence, and the word will be pronounced again. While listening to this information, the speller should already start typing the word next to the appropriate number. **Note that speed and accuracy are both essential for this round as results in this round will be used to determine who will advance into the Final Oral Rounds.**

The Organizers will determine how many will qualify for the oral rounds. Also, the scores in this round will be released to the spellers via the email provided on the Google Form.

Oral Rounds 1-2 - These will happen at an assigned time slot with 25 to 50 (or as decided by the Organizers) spellers online at the same time concurrently. These are both on the miss-and-out rounds.

For Oral Rounds 2 and onward, spellers may ask for all or any of the following: (1) a repeat of the pronunciation; (2) alternate pronunciations; (3) part(s) of speech; (4) definition; (5) etymology; and/or (6) a sentence.

1. Each speller will use his/her webcam to show the entire room including closed doors and spellers' ears.
2. Speller's computer will be on a table with speller facing the wall.
3. Speller will have his/her face and hands visible the entire time he or she is spelling.
4. Oral Round 1 word will be given from the Study List provided. If this word is missed, speller is out of the competition.
5. If spelling for Oral Round 1 word is correct, speller will immediately be given an Oral Round 2 word.

6. If speller's Oral Round 2 word is correct, that speller is eligible to advance to the final rounds, depending on placement determined by the Preliminary Test.
7. During these two oral rounds, spellers may request any of the following: alternate pronunciations, part of speech, definition, etymology and a sentence. Spellers may request for the word to be repeated.
8. All oral rounds will be timed. The speller will have one minute with 30 seconds to gather information, and 30 seconds to finish spelling.

Final Oral Rounds (3 and higher) - Upon completion of Oral Rounds 1 and 2, all spellers who are still in the competition will have their scores from the Preliminary Test used to determine who will advance.

- All spellers' scores from the Preliminary Written Test will be ranked from high to low, and spellers will advance at each consecutive scoring level until a level is reached that is no more than 50 spellers (or as decided by the Organizers).
- These top spellers will continue on to the final rounds, and all spellers not placing in this group of spellers will be eliminated from the remainder of the Spelling Bee.
- Oral Rounds 3 and onward will be on a miss-and-out basis.
- If all spellers in any round miss their word, all are reinstated.

RULES ON HOW TO DETERMINE THE WINNERS

The Champion must spell two more words correctly than the runner(s)-up.

- No matter how many contestants are in the round when only one speller correctly fields his or her word, the lead speller must spell one additional word to win.
- If the lead speller misses this deciding word, all spellers in the previous round are reinstated in original order.
- We will make every effort to avoid a tie for champion, but if this does occur, the Tiebreaker Written Test will be used to break the tie.
- If a Champion has been declared, and there is a tie for 2nd place, the Tiebreaker Written Test will be used to break the tie.
- If there is a 1st place winner and a 2nd place winner, and there is a tie for 3rd place, the Tiebreaker Written Test will be used to break the tie.
- After the two rounds in the final oral rounds, surprise words will be given by the pronouncer.

SECURITY AND INTEGRITY GUIDELINES

Throughout the competition, we put in place several requirements to preserve security and integrity of the Spelling Bee due to its online mode of conduct. There is close monitoring of the written and oral rounds at all times and spellers must follow the following guidelines or they will be eliminated from the competition or completely disqualified along with the forfeiture of whatever inherent privileges upon joining.

Written Round Guidelines

- Spellers must use a webcam to pan the room at the start of the written round.
- The speller must take the test in an isolated room with no others present.
- Doors to the room must remain closed until the written test is completed. *(NOTE: If there are no doors in the room, the use of a sheet or curtain can be used to cover room openings. We retain the right to make accommodations as needed.)*
- A speller may not leave the room at any time during the written round.
- All spellers' screens must be shared with those monitoring the test for the duration of the test.

- If at any time another browser is opened, another person is determined to be present, or the integrity of the test is determined to have been compromised by any break in guidelines, the speller will be eliminated from the competition.

Oral Round Guidelines

- Spellers must be in a room alone using a computer that is on a table with a wall as a backdrop.
- Oral Rounds will be held on Google Meet, recorded, and/or streamed online.
- At the start of his/her spelling, each speller will be asked to use his/her webcam to show all parts of the room, including all doors which are required to be closed.
- Spellers may not access outside help or resources at any time during the competition. This includes people, devices, word lists, books, an additional computer monitor, earbuds, or software of any kind.
- At any time while a speller is online spelling, he or she may be asked again to pan their environment with the computer's webcam. Ensure that the webcam is movable and not fixed or screwed to a hard base.
- At all times a speller is fielding and spelling a word, he or she must be visible for the judges to watch remotely, and his/her hands must also be kept visible. Sound may not be turned off at any time while a speller is spelling their word.
- A speller may not use a computer, written material, or get outside help at any time.
- At any time a speller is connected to the online bee, test monitors may ask that he/she share their computer screen.
- If at any time another browser is opened, an additional person is determined to be present, or the integrity of the test is determined to have been compromised by any break in protocol, the speller will be eliminated from the contest.
- If there is a failure in the speller's Internet connection after a speller has been given a word to spell or during their attempt to spell, it is automatically declared a missed word and the speller may not continue. Hence, it is important that a speller checks his or her connectivity prior to joining the competition.

PRONOUNCERS

The pronouncers will alternate pronouncing by round. The lead pronouncer in a round will give all available word information requested by the speller for the round.

JUDGES

If a judge feels that the pronunciation of a word is incorrect, they may request that the pronouncer corrects his or her pronunciation. The judges' decisions are final.

APPEALS/CHALLENGES

Appeals must be made via Google Meet chat prior to when the speller would have received his or her next word. If in a late round, the speller must appeal immediately, or the appeal will be automatically denied. Appeals will only be entertained if a speller offered a correct spelling of a given word listed in the official dictionary that exactly matches the pronunciation, definition, and etymology given. Archaic variants are not appealable. Appeals based on a speller's misunderstanding, mispronunciation, or any other reason other than a correct spelling, will be denied.

LEGAL

All portions of the IBA Virtual Spelling Bee will be recorded and potentially live streamed via live-stream technology by Google. The contestant's parent or guardian consents to allow use of the contestant's name and likeness, performance, voice and image in any form for the purpose of promoting and delivering this event.