

RULES AND REGULATIONS

ELIGIBILITY

- Participants must be enrolled with a participating school.
- Participants must be enrolled in 5th to 8th grade at the time of the competition.
- Each school may enter a maximum of two participants per category (1 per grade).

APPLICATION & DEADLINES

- Registration at www.corplascondes.cl must be concluded by **Monday, September 30^h, 2019**
- The inter-school competition will take place on **November 12th, 2019**

COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- The competition will be divided into two categories (5th & 6th grade, 7th & 8th grade).
- Schools will select a maximum of **2 students** per category (**1 student per grade**) to represent them at the inter-school competition.
- In order to select their participants, schools are encouraged to conduct their own internal competition.
- In each category, there will be a prize for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed students.
- For each category there will be one pronouncer and two judges.

COMPETITION RULES

- The pronouncer announces the word to be spelled slowly and clearly, without distorting the normal pronunciation of the word.
- The speller listens carefully to the pronouncer and may ask for the word to be repeated or used in a sentence if necessary.

Example: "Please repeat the word" or "Please use the word in a sentence"

- When the speller is sure and understands the word, he/she pronounces it and spells it. The participant must say it loudly enough for the judges to hear it.

Example: book... b- o- o- k

- If the speller wants to start again in the middle of spelling a word, they may ask for permission to do so. They may only do this once.

Example: "Please may I start again?"

- Once the speller has finished spelling the word, the judges determine whether or not the word was spelled correctly.
- Homophones will not be included in any of the word lists.
- The judges will accept both American and British spellings.
- In the first stage of the competition, there will be two rounds of words for the participants to spell. For each word, participants may be awarded a maximum of 3 points for spelling the word correctly without any lifelines (repeat, use in a sentence or false start). For each lifeline used, 1 point will be deducted from the participant's score. Should the participant spell the word incorrectly, they will be awarded 0 points.

- After spelling 2 words each, the judges will add up the participants' scores (with a maximum of 6 points). The lowest scoring participants will then be eliminated from the competition, with **at least 5 students** advancing to the next round.
- In subsequent rounds, if the spelling was incorrect, the participant is eliminated from the competition. The judges give the correct spelling of that word. Then the pronouncer reads a new word to the next student.
- When there are only two spellers left, if one participant misspells a word, the other participant must spell that word correctly, plus one more word to be declared the winner of the spelling bee.
- Spellers must not be given any help to spell their word. If the judges consider that a speller has received help, the speller must be given a new word to spell.
- The words used in the spelling bee will be taken from the official word list for each category, which will be distributed to the participating schools upon registration.
- The judges and pronouncer will have a list of emergency words in case the official word list is exhausted before the end of the competition. This list of words will **not** be shared with the participating schools before the day of the competition.

ROOM LAYOUT

- The spellers will be seated in a semi-circle at the front of the room.
- When a speller is eliminated, they must leave the stage.
- The judges and pronouncer will be seated together at the front of the room, facing the spellers.

PRIZES

- There will be prizes for the winner, the runner-up and the third-placed speller in each category.
- There will be a certificate of participation for each speller.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

- Teachers may not prompt spellers or coach them in any way during the competition. Non-observance of this rule will result in disqualification of the speller.
- Each school is encouraged to bring supporters - students, teachers - to accompany their spellers. (max 3 people)
- Although there will be no time limit for spelling the words, a timekeeper will keep a record of how long the student took to spell each word in case this is needed as a reference in the case of a tie-breaker in the final.