

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Japanese Choral Speaking Competition for Secondary Schools

(In conjunction with the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Japanese Language Festival – JLfest 2012)

Date: May 6, 2012 (Sunday)

Venue: SMK (P) Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur

Organizers: The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia (JLSM)  
The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur  
The Embassy of Japan in Malaysia  
Ministry of Education, Malaysia

## Objectives

The competition aims to

- a) raise the level of interest and motivation among students in secondary schools in learning Japanese;
- b) build up their confidence in using Japanese; and
- c) enable them to enjoy the beauty of the language.

## Prizes

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Japanese Cultural Grant of RM3,000 and a Certificate

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Japanese Cultural Grant of RM1,200 and a Certificate

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Japanese Cultural Grant of RM800 and a Certificate

*The Japanese Cultural Grant is subjected to its governing terms and conditions set by the sponsor(s). A Certificate of Participation will be given to all members of the competing team.*

## Competition Rules and Regulations

### 1. Eligibility

- a) This competition is open to all Japanese language learners from Form 1 to Form 5.
- b) Each team is to come from ONE school.
- c) Each school can only send ONE team for the competition.

### 2. Team

- a) The ideal size of each team should be 30 students (excluding the student conductor). However, any team with less than 27 students or more than 33 students will incur a penalty.
- b) Each team is to be accompanied by a student conductor;
- c) Team members must also be the concurrent participants of the Japanese Language Festival (JLfest)

- d) Each team must be accompanied by their Japanese language teacher throughout the competition.
3. Presentation
- a) The duration of each presentation is between 5 and 7 minutes.
  - b) The arrangement of the teams on the stage will be fixed in 3-tiered rows and in any one row there should not be more than 12 persons.
  - c) Participants are not allowed to refer to any notes, printed materials or electronic devices during the performance.
  - d) Music, recorded sound effects, singing, sketches, skits or drama, dancing, costuming, props and LCD projector are not permitted.
  - e) Hot pants; miniskirts; and sleeveless, see-through & tight clothing are not permitted.
4. Script
- The script shall consist of two (2) parts, namely Fixed Script and the Build-up script.
- a) Fixed Script
    - i. All presentation must commence from the Fixed Script, which can be downloaded from the website of the Japanese Language Society of Malaysia (JLSM).
    - ii. The fixed script has to be presented in full. As teams will be evaluated on their creative interpretation of the text, the use of various choral speaking techniques is encouraged. Sound effects limiting to body percussion are allowed.
  - b) Build-up Script
    - i. As the Fixed Script is an incomplete story, competing team **MUST** complete the story with their Build-up Script convincingly and creatively.
    - ii. The script must be the original works of the competing team.
    - iii. Only Japanese language is allowed in the Build-up Script.
    - iv. The length of the Build-up Script must be at least half of the length the Fixed Script if not more.
    - v. Sensitive issues such as race, religion and gender must be avoided at ALL times.
    - vi. No changes in the script is allowed a week before the competition. The organizers must be informed officially of these changes.
5. Selection and Judging Criteria
- a) Entries
    - All eligible teams will be automatically accepted and there will be no prior screening of the scripts.

b) Preliminary rounds

Competing teams are required to compete in the preliminary rounds. Winners in the rounds will proceed to compete in the final held on the same day.

c) Evaluation Criteria

Performance of the team will be judged under the following criteria: -

- i. Audibility;
- ii. Enunciation (articulation, clarity, expression);
- iii. Interpretation (on the fixed script);
- iv. Content (on the build-up script);
- v. Choral speaking Techniques (variety, sound effects using body percussion only);  
and
- vi. Presentation (dressing, gestures, facial expression, interactions with the audience, opening & ending).

d) Penalty

A penalty will be imposed for non-compliance of Item 3 and 4 of the rules and regulation of this competition.

e) Decision of the judges is final and individual team marks will not be disclosed.

6. Disqualification

Participating team will be immediately disqualified if they are found: -

- a) Plagiarizing the work of others in their build-up script;
- b) Falsifying information in their competition application form;
- c) Misbehaving during the competition; and
- d) Refusing to follow instructions from the organizers

7. Rights of the Organizers

The organizers reserve the right to: -

- a) Cancel the competition should the number of participating teams fell below the desired number;
- b) Postpone the competition without prior notice and consultation;
- c) Amend or revise the rules and regulations of the competition without prior notice; and
- d) Make final decision on any disputes arising from the competition.

8. Copyright

The copyright of the scripts as well as any recordings taken during the competition belongs to the organizers.

### Application procedure

Complete the official application form and submit it together with the full script via email to [ijsm.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:ijsm.enquiries@gmail.com) by April 27, 2012.

## The Japanese Choral Speaking Competition: **The Japanese Cultural Grant**

### 1. The Grant

The grant is aimed at assisting schools in projects to enhance their students' understanding of the Japanese culture and language. This grant is limited to:-

- a) As part of the total cost in establishing a Japanese cultural room within the school;  
and
- b) The purchase of Japanese cultural items and resources.

### 2. Grant Implementation

- a) The project must be completed by end of the year in which the grant is given.
- b) A working paper outlining the description of proposed project, its objectives, target users, perceived benefits and cost estimation (attached with quotation) has to be submitted to the Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur for approval, prior to the commencement of the proposed project.

### 3. Grant Disbursement

- a) The grant will be disbursed to the school after the school submitted a status report on the project, together with an invoice (accompanied with photocopy of the receipts) demanding for payment to the Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur.
- b) The report must include among others:
  - i. Visual documentation of the project;
  - ii. Full itemization of the actual expenses incurred, including those not covered under the grant but incurred in this project.
- c) Once the documents received are in order, the Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur will disburse the money directly to the school.
- d) Disbursement of the Grant is based on the actual expense incurred. Any unused part of the Grant will be automatically withdrawn.

### 4. The name of the Grant's sponsor has to be displayed in association with the project.