

The 8th Annual Japanese Language Festival (JLfest 2014)

JAPANESE SONG COMPETITION

Date: Sunday, May 4, 2014

Venue: Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology, UTM

Objective

The competition aims at enhancing the appreciation of the Japanese language and Japanese music among Japanese language learners through composing suitable Japanese lyrics to a given melody/song and presenting it to an audience.

It also promotes creativity, teamwork, music sensitivity and discipline among the learners.

Rules and Regulations

1. ELIGIBILITY

This is a team competition and is open students of the schools, colleges, universities and private language schools as well as members of the NGOs.

The team must not be less than 10 performers nor exceed 30.

Each team must compete under the name of their organization. Each organization is limited to one (1) team.

All contestants must be officially registered as the participants of the JLfest 2014.

2. PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded:-

- Champion: Trophy & Certificate
- 1st Runner-up: Trophy & Certificate
- 2nd Runner-up: Trophy & Certificate

All contestants will also receive a Certificate of Participation.

3. GENERAL RULES

3.1 Lyrics Composition: Each team must use the melody of 「春が来た」 to compose suitable lyrics in Japanese that match the musical notes. The lyrics should also tell a story.

3.2 Presentation: The 'recomposed' song shall be performed by the team as a choir group, led by a student conductor at the competition.

3.3 Music: The song is to be performed live without any background music or musical instrument (ie a cappella) but the team is allowed to use vocal sound (such as humming, whistling) or body percussion (such as clapping, stamping the feet) to create rhythm and background music to enhance their performance.

3.4 Execution/Stage Time: The team must be on standby 5 minutes before time. Once your team has been announced, you have a total of 2 minutes to get in position on stage, set up the required props as well as to clear the stage after the dance routine.

The song presentation must NOT exceed 4 minutes.

As this is a competition, NO rehearsal will be allowed on stage. However, the team is allowed to walk through the stage to get their positioning before the competition starts.

3.5 Props: They are also allowed during the performance.

Use of LIVE animal is prohibited.

Prop set-up time should not be more than 30 seconds.

Props bearing religious/political symbols or images are strictly prohibited.

3.6 Costumes: Hot pants, miniskirts and sleeveless, see-through & tight clothing are NOT permitted. Costumes bearing religious and political symbols and images are also NOT allowed.

3.7 Preliminaries: All teams will go through the preliminary rounds before top 3 to 5 teams be selected to compete for the top placing at the closing ceremony of the JLfest 2014.

3.8 Sportsmanship: Display of good sportsmanship by ALL team members (including their supporters) is essentially throughout the competition. Penalty will be imposed for misconduct and in case of severe cases of unsportsmanlike conduct (as interpreted by the organizers), the involved team will be disqualified.

4. JUDGING CRITERIA

Good & creative writing, team-work and showmanship are very much valued in this competition.

Thus, the judging guidelines will be as follows: -

- Lyrics Composition
 - Choice & richness of words
 - Rhyme with the song
 - Ability to tell a story
- Musical sense
 - Ability and creativity in using a variety of voices or body percussions in harmony to convey the story of the lyrics and generate an appropriate atmosphere.
- Overall Presentation
 - Voice harmony and projection
 - Movements
 - Costumes and props
 - Stage appeal
- Team work
 - Synchronicity and precision of the team in executing the song;
 - Preparation of the stage before and after the performance, including entering/leaving the stage.
 - Ability of the conductor to lead and support the group in the performance

5. DISQUALIFICATION

The team may be barred from taking part or stopped during the performance should the rules and regulations set above is not adhere to.

6. JUDGING PANEL

The judging panel shall be appointed by the organizers. The decision of the judges and the panel is final.

7. AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY

The prizes will be awarded to the winning teams at the Closing Ceremony of the JLfest 2014 on May 4, 2014.

The Judging Panel may exercise sole discretion to make or withhold an award.

Note: Winners must make their own arrangement to collect their prizes should they be unable to collect them during the closing ceremony. Any expense incurred will be borne by the winners solely.

8. COPYRIGHTS

The copyright of all photos and video clips taken at the competition belongs to the organizers.

9. RIGHTS OF THE ORGANIZERS

The organizers reserve the right to :-

- a) Cancel the competition should the number of contestants fell below the desired number;
- b) Postpone the competition without prior notice and consultation;

c) Revise, add or delete any of the rules and regulations of the competition without prior notice; and

d) Make final decision on any disputes arising from the competition.

10. LIABILITIES

The organizers assume no liability for personal injury or personal loss of property during the competition.

Registration Procedure

Interested contestants are to download the application form from JLSM’s webpage (www.jlsm.org), complete and submit it to the organizer by **April 15, 2014**.

Organizer:

The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia (JLSM)
Lot 568-8-14, 8th Floor, Kompleks Mutiara (Office Suite)
3.5 Miles, Jalan Ipoh,
51200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 603-6259 7180 / 6259 8180
Fax: 603-6259 9180

ON BEHALF OF MY TEAM, I HEREBY ACCEPT THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE COMPETITION AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THESE RULES.

Name of Teacher-in-charge or Team Leader:

Name of Organization:

Signature: Date:

(Teams from secondary schools must be endorsed by the teacher-in-charge.)

****Please retain a copy of these rules for your reference.***