

The 8th Annual Japanese Language Festival (JLfest 2014)

俳句 'Let's Write a Haiku' Competition

Date: Sunday, May 4, 2014

Venue: Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology, UTM

Objective

The competition aims at enhancing the creative writing skills and language appreciation among Japanese language learners .

Rules and Regulations

1. ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to any individual who is:-

- a) A Japanese language learner;
- b) Officially registered as the participant of the JLfest 2014; and
- c) Not a native Japanese speaker.

There is no limit to the number of contestants from each institution.

2. PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded:-

- 1st Prize: Certificate & prize
- 2nd Prize: Certificate & prize
- 3rd Prize: Certificate & Prize

All Participants will also receive a Certificate of Participation.

3. GENERAL RULES

3.1 Theme: かぜ 「風」

Create your own HAIKU (a poem of 5-7-5 syllable format) in Japanese with the theme 「風」 or wind. The word 「風」 may or may not appear in the poem but the poem must convey the feeling or presence of 「風」 .

Marks will also be given for creativity and beautiful handwriting. Hence, practise writing the HAIKU as often as possible as well as plan out its layouts, together with relevant small icon or illustration to enhance your HAIKU presentation. You are also required to include your name (in Kanji or Katakana) in the composition too. If your name is rather long, it would be advisable to shorten it or use a pen-name.

You will not be allowed to bring along your work as reference during the competition. Hence, you are advised to remember how your works like by practising well.

3.2 Execution: On the competition day, you will be given 3 pieces of 15cm x 21cm white paper (A5 sized). You will have 30 minutes to write your HAIKU and add in any drawings if required.

You will NOT be allowed to use any references during the competition.

You may make 3 different versions of your HAIKU but only can submit ONE for the competition. Make sure you have your full

name, school name and contact written on the back of the HAIKU before submitting it.

3.3 Writing materials: You are to bring in your writing/drawing tools. Only 3 pcs of the 15cm x 21cm white art paper will be provided by the organizer.

4. JUDGING CRITERIA

HAIKU will be judged based on its

- Composition
 - Conform to the 5-7-5 syllable format
 - Ability to describe a moment or feeling clearly
 - Ability to convey more (ideas) with less (words)
- Handwriting
 - Correctness
 - Balanced
 - Creative
- Presentation
 - Impact
 - Layout
 - Creativity

5. PENALTY

A penalty will be given if the HAIKU

- a) Is not the original works of the contestant or that the HAIKU was published prior to the contest.

- b) Contain any vulgar, offensive wordings or religious verses.
- c) Contain any obscene images or illustrations.

6. DISQUALIFICATION

The contestant will be disqualified if he or she

- a) uses other language other than Japanese in the Haiku; or
- b) disrupt or jeopardize his/her opponent.

7. JUDGING PANEL

The judging panel shall consist of representatives from the organizers and supporting partners. The decision of the judges and the panel is final.

8. AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Prizes will be awarded 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.

9. COPYRIGHTS

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

10. RIGHTS OF THE ORGANIZERS

The organizers reserve the right to :-

- a) cancel the competition should the number of contests 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.

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)

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