

## The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Japanese Language Festival (JLfest 2014)

### 影芝居 Japanese Story Reading Competition

Date: Sunday, May 4, 2014

Venue: Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology, UTM

## Objective

The competition aims at enhancing the oral skills among Japanese language learners' interest in reading as well as their appreciation of the language.

It also encourages learners to inculcate good values through the story read or listened.

## Rules and Regulations

### 1. ELIGIBILITY

This is an individual competition and opens to those who are: -

- 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. However, the same contestant cannot compete more than once.

### 2. PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded:-

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Certificate & prize
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Certificate & prize
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Certificate & Prize

All Participants will also receive a Certificate of Participation.

### 3. GENERAL RULES

#### 3.1 STORY: 「さるかに合戦」<sup>がっせん</sup>

**3.2 Presentation:** You are to read the story 「さるかに合戦」 as per the official script provided for this competition without leaving out any sentences or words. However, you may repeat certain words or add in vocal sound like laughter or cries.

**3.3 Execution:** You are to finish reading the story within 5 minutes. (No marks will be awarded after 5 minutes) No stage hands or helpers are allowed. Music is also not permitted.

**3.4 Props:** You may use props to liven up the story as well as to enable the audience to follow the story easily. However, you can only operate these props yourself. Images or icons of religion or political matters are NOT allowed.

The use of multimedia and LCD projector is prohibited.

**3.5 Costumes:** You may choose to wear costumes to portray a certain character. However, such costumes should be suitable for family viewing.

### 4. JUDGING CRITERIA

Story delivered should be clear, easy to understand, convincing and interesting so as to capture the attention of the audience.

Thus, the judging guidelines will be as follows: -

- Pronunciation & Fluency (10 marks)
- The Voice (20 marks)  
Appropriate, creative and convincing use of the voice to delivery the story (loudness, speed, vocal sound effect, etc)
- Body Gesture (15 marks)  
Effective and creative use of body language in creating the atmosphere of the story. Good eye contact.
- Stage Presence (5 marks)  
Confidence, props

**Preliminary rounds will be held to select the finalists, should the number of contestants exceed a certain number. Selection will be based on the presentation of the first 2 minutes of the story presentation.**

## **5. PENALTY**

A penalty will be given if contestant:-

- a) deviates from the official script
- b) uses electronic devices or equipment
- c) uses music
- d) contravenes the dress code

## **6. DISQUALIFICATION**

The contestant will be disqualified if he or she

- a) uses other language other than Japanese during the presentation; or

b) disrupts or jeopardizes his/her opponent; or

c) uses religious icons, verses or images.

## **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**

The ceremony will be held 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](http://www.jlsm.org)), complete and submit it together with 5 copies of the story manuscripts to the organizer by **April 15, 2014**.

## Organizer

### **The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia (JLSM)**

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