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 எனது இல.
 My Ref.

ED/01/03/02/FL Competitions

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 உமது இல.
 Your Ref.

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 திகதி
 Date .08.2025

To: All Provincial Directors of Education,
 Provincial Coordinators of English (DDEs/ADEs)

National Level Festival of Foreign Languages – 2025

English and Foreign Languages Branch of the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education has organised a National Level Festival of Foreign Languages for the first time under the theme of 'One World Many Voices' with the primary aim of enhancing the knowledge of foreign languages and their use among the students in the government schools, government approved private schools and Pirivena institutions in Sri Lanka.

02. The National Level Festival will be held for Japanese, Korean, Chinese, French, German and Hindi languages taught in the schools based on the number of students studying in Grade 10,11,12 and 13.

03. The types of events:

1. Written events - Dictation, Creative Writing
2. Performing events - Oratory (Impromptu)

04. Participants are expected to use accepted Standard Foreign Language according to the syllabus in all the events.

05. The events will be conducted at two levels following the time schedule given. (The dates are subjected to change due to amendments of the school calendar.)

- **Provincial Level** From 1st August to 31st of August
- **National Level** From 15th September to 25th November

06. Categories of events are listed in the following chart.

Grade	Dictation	Creative Writing	Oratory/ Impromptu
10	√	√	√
11	√	√	√
12	√	√	√
13	√	√	√

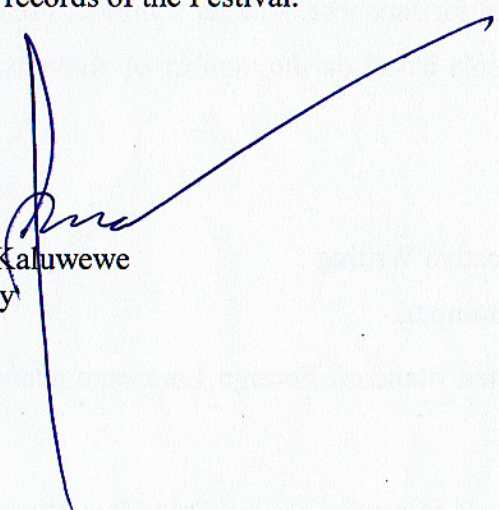
07. The Festival is open to all Grades 10-13 students who are following the above foreign languages. **Two students from each school can participate in each event. Each participant can take part only in two events.**

Provincial Level events - 1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be selected from each category under each foreign language and only the 1st and the 2nd places are eligible to participate in the National level events.

National Level events - 1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be selected from each category under each foreign language.

08. Inform all schools teaching the above foreign languages in your province about the Festival and encourage them to participate.

The instructions given must be adhered to in planning, organizing, conducting, judging and keeping records of the Festival.



Nalaka Kaluwewe
Secretary

General Instructions on conducting the festivals of Foreign Languages - 2025

01. Dictation – Grades 10-13

In this event, number of sentences/ a passage and a list of 10 words will be dictated. The list of 10 words will be only marked to avoid any tie in the event. These sentences and the list of words are based on relevant textbooks or prescribed resource materials given in the syllabus published by the National Institute of Education and the Department of Educational Publications.

Note –

- Candidates should write all the numerical values in letters.
- In Japanese Language, candidates should write all words in Kanji that appears in the textbook/syllabus.

1.1. The Dictation event is administered as follows:

First Reading: The selected sentences/passages are read at normal conversational speed during which competitors are not allowed to write. They must listen to the reading carefully.

Second Reading: The participants will be asked to write at the second reading. The sentences/passages are read in meaningful chunks. Instruct the students to write the extra words in the form of a vertical list.

Third Reading: This reading begins after a pause of 1 minute after the second reading. The sentences/passages and the list of words are read again in meaningful chunks at normal conversational speed.

At the end of the third reading, there will be a pause of two minutes. Participants must use this time to check spelling, capitalization and punctuation, if relevant.

- Announce the end of the event.
- Instruct the participants to lay their pens down and the entry upside down on their desks. Each participant will hand over his/her entry to the supervisor and walk out at the end of the event. They can walk out only after entry has been collected.

- List of 10 words to avoid any ties.
 - These words should be read twice. There should be 30 seconds break between the two readings.
 - Inform the participants that all the words should be started with simple letters in the relevant languages.

1.2. Number of sentences and other requirements by language

1.2.1 Dictation – Grade 10-11

Language	Number of words in a sentence and other requirements	
	Grade 10	Grade 11
Chinese	10-20 sentences (6-15 words in a sentence) Total -approximately 100 words	15-20 sentences 6-15 words in a sentence Total -approximately - 180 words
Japanese	8-10 sentences (3-10 words in a sentence)	10-15 sentences (3-10 words in a sentence)
Korean	8-10 sentences (2-5 words in a sentence)	10-15 sentences (3-8 words in a sentence)
French	10-15 sentences (5-10 words in a sentence)	10-15 sentences (5-10 words in a sentence)
German	10-15 sentences (5-8 words in a sentence FIT-A1Level)	Paragraph with 15 sentences (100-120 words Up to FIT-A2 Level)
Hindi	8-10 sentences (5-10 words in a sentence)	10-15sentences (5-10 words in a sentence)

1.2.2 Dictation – Grades 12 /13

A paragraph will be given for Grade 12 and 13 Dictation event. Text length of Dictation passage for each language and grade is given below.

Language	Number of words and other requirements	
	Grade 12	Grade 13
Chinese	150-200 words	250-400 words
Japanese	100-140 words	140 – 200 words
Korean	40-60 words	60-100 words
French	100-120 words	120-150 words
German	100-120 words (Up to A1 Level)	120-150 words 9 Up to A2+ Level
Hindi	80-100 words	100-120 words

1.3 Marking Criteria

Participants' work will be judged in accordance with the original sentences/passages on the following criteria on a countdown system of marking from 100. (If any clarification is needed, the second judge's notes can be referred):

- i. Accuracy of spelling - Mark every error. Reduce 1 mark for each error. If the same word is misspelt several times in the sentence/passage, it is counted as one error.
- ii. Reduce 1 mark for each punctuation error.
- iii. Omission or Addition of words - If a word is omitted, it is also counted as one error. Similarly, if a word is added, that is counted as an error. Reduce 2 marks for each omission and one mark for each addition.
- iv. In the case of no error-free entries, the marking panel has to decide the minimum number of errors for placement.

2.0 Creative Writing

2.1 General Guidelines

2.1.1 The participants are required to write a story / a dialogue based on a given picture/pictures. These pictures will be selected based on the themes in the syllabus / prescribed texts. The themes must be selected within the experiences and interests of the children of the particular grade.

Different languages have different test items, which are listed below separately.

	10	11	12	13
Chinese	Write a dialogue based on a given picture with a topic	Write a dialogue based on a given picture with a topic	An opening sentence will be provided to write a story	An opening sentence will be provided to write a story
Japanese	A topic based on the textbook is provided to write a paragraph	A topic based on the textbook is provided to write a paragraph	An opening sentence will be provided to write a story	An opening sentence will be provided to write a story
Korean	Write a dialogue based on a given picture	Write a dialogue based on a given set of pictures (4-6)	A picture will be provided to write a story	A picture with an opening sentence will be provided to write a story
French	Write a story based on the given set of pictures (6-10)	Write a story based on the given set of pictures (6-10)	Write a story based on the given set of words (10 words)	Write a story based on the given set of words (10 words)

German	Create a story based on interconnected pictures (6-8 pictures)	An opening sentence will be provided to write a story	An opening sentence will be provided to write a story	An opening sentence will be provided to write a story
Hindi	Create a story based on interconnected pictures (4-6 pictures)	Create a story based on interconnected pictures (4-6 pictures)	Create a story based on interconnected pictures (4-6 pictures)	Create a story based on interconnected pictures (4-6 pictures)

2.2 Time duration and word count

Grades	Time (minutes)	Number of words expected
10	30	60-100
11	35	80-120
12	40	100-200
13	45	150-300

2.3 Marking Criteria

Marking Criteria for each language are given separately.

	Criteria	Marks
1	Creativity / originality	40
2	Organization / Coherence	30
3	Grammar and Spelling	20
4	Adherence to topic / pictures / words	10
	Total Marks	100

3.0 Oratory - Impromptu (Grade 10 - Grade 13)

The topics should be determined based on the subject content of the relevant grades. The competency levels of the participants should be considered in each of the grades when preparing the topics. Separate classrooms should be arranged to hold the event. The participant must face the panel of judges when delivering the speech. There should be a distance of about 3 meters between the participant and the judges.

3.1 Guidelines to conduct Oratory – Impromptu:

- Each participant will be given the topic 10 minutes before they are due to present the speech.

- No participant should be allowed to exceed this timing in order to ensure that all the competitors are given an equal time for preparation.
- The participant who are awaiting their turn for preparation should be kept in a separate classroom to avoid them gaining any advantage by possessing prior knowledge of the kind of topics being given.
- After the topic is given to the first participant, the next participant should be called only after 5 minutes to the room where the event is held.
- Judges should ensure that only those two participants are kept in the room where the event is held.
- Prior to the event, give clear instructions to all the participants at the waiting room.
- The time allowed for this event is three minutes.
- A warning bell should be sounded at two minutes and a final bell at three minutes.

3.2 Criteria for Judging Oratory/ Impromptu:

Criteria	Marks
Content/ Relevance/ Organization	20
Delivery/Fluency/ Persuasion	20
Accuracy / Language	20
Pronunciation	20
Audibility/ Pitch/ Clarity	10
Posture/Eye contact	10
Total	100

- Participants are expected to use the standard language as per the prescribed texts.

4.0 Documents and Formats

- A participant must possess a valid Identity Card (Postal /National / Passport or a photograph certified by the principal).
- Provincial level results must be submitted to the Ministry of Education using only the MS Excel format (Annexe 01) via email to englishunitmoe@gmail.com.
- The entry forms issued by the Ministry of Education (Annexe - 02) must be duly completed, certified by the principal, and submitted at the registration desk on the day of the national event.

5.0 Special Instructions

- All participants must wear a basic school uniform. To ensure anonymity and reduce bias, identifying features like monograms must be covered during events.
- The decisions rendered by the judges shall be final and binding at all stages of the event.
- For the impromptu speech event, each participant shall be evaluated by a panel of three qualified judges.
- All matters related to the Festival shall be kept strictly confidential at all times.
- In addition to the general marking criteria, refer to the specific criteria provided for the French language creative writing and dictation events. (Annexe – 03)

Provincial Level Festival of Foreign Languages - 2025

Province.....Final Results Language -

S.N.	Individual Event	Grade	Name of the Student	School and the Address	Position
01		10			1
02		10			2
03		11			1
04		11			2
05		12			1
06		12			2
07		13			1
08		13			2

National Level Festival of Foreign Languages - 2025

Entry Form

1. Name of the student :
2. Grade:
3. Event :
4. Language:
5. Name of the School :
6. Address:
7. Contact Number:

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate, and that the individual mentioned above is a student of my school.

.....
Principal's signature & Rubber Stamp

.....
Date

French Language (Creative Writing / Dictation)

Type of errors

- Grammatical errors – (Ex. conjugations, formation of plural words, placement of accents, placement of apostrophe, etc.)
- Lexical errors – (Wrong spelling of words, wrong placement of accents – Ex. Pin instead of pain, ecole instead of école)
- Segmentation – (Ex. au'jourd'hui instead of aujourd'hui, loreille instead of l'oreille)
- Homophones – words that sound the same (Ex. sang, son, cent, s'en sound the same but written differently depending on the context).
- Wrong capitalization of proper nouns, countries, cities, subject nouns, pronouns etc. (Ex. paris instead of Paris, france instead of France).
- Wrong capitalization of days/months etc. (Ex. Janvier instead of janvier, Mars instead of mars)
- Omission or Addition of letters – If a letter/letters is/are omitted or extra letter(s) are added, it is also counted as an error. (Ex. le ne instead of le nez, la télévisionne instead of la télévision).
- Omission of hyphen (Ex. Rendez vous instead of rendez-vous)