

Academic Fest 2019 – Elementary School Rules

The rules below must be strictly followed or the contestant might endanger himself or herself to disqualification. Please read and understand the following rules. We thank you for your cooperation and wish all the contestant good luck!

Rules for General Math

1. **Eligibility:** Students entering grades 4th and 5th in school year 2019 – 2020.
2. About the Test:
 - a. Time : 40 minutes
 - b. Questions : 50
 - c. All the questions have multiple choice answers. All problems have ONE and ONLY ONE correct [BEST] answer. There is penalty for all incorrect answer.
 - d. All problems answered correctly are worth FIVE points. TWO points will be deducted for all problems answered incorrectly. No points will be added or subtracted for problems not answered.
 - e. Calculators MAY NOT be used on this test.
 - f. In case of ties, percent accuracy will be used as a tie breaker.
 - g. Calculators, books, scrap papers or any supporting documents will not be allowed in the test room. Contestants will be provided with the scrap papers, pencil and eraser. However, they are allowed to bring their own pencils and eraser.
3. Contestants should arrive on time to get benefit of the full duration of 40 minutes. If any contestant arrives after the beginning of the contest, he/she will get only the remaining time to finish the contest.
4. Each contestant must write his/her contestant ID only on the answer-sheet for the answer-sheet to be evaluated.
5. Each contestant must return the answer sheet to the coordinator at the end of the test duration.

Academic Fest 2019 – Elementary School Rules

6. No Parents/Guardians/visitors will be allowed in the test room during the test.
7. The judges' decisions will be final.

Bihar Association of North America,
Houston

Academic Fest 2019 – Elementary School Rules

Rules for Science

1. **Eligibility:** Students entering grades 4th and 5th in school year 2019 – 2020.
2. About the Test:
 - a. Time : 40 minutes
 - b. Questions : 50
 - c. All the questions have multiple choice answers. All problems have ONE and ONLY ONE correct [BEST] answer. There is penalty for all incorrect answer.
 - d. All problems answered correctly are worth FIVE points. TWO points will be deducted for all problems answered incorrectly. No points will be added or subtracted for problems not answered.
 - e. Simple scientific calculator is allowed, however graphing calculator is not permitted.
 - f. In case of ties, percent accuracy will be used as a tie breaker.
 - g. Books, scrap papers or any supporting documents will not be allowed in the test room. Contestants will be provided with the scrap papers, pencil and eraser. However, they are allowed to bring their own pencils and eraser.
3. Contestants should arrive on time to get benefit of the full duration of 40 minutes. If any contestant arrives after the beginning of the contest, he/she will get only the remaining time to finish the contest.
4. Each contestant must write his/her contestant ID only on the answer-sheet for the answer-sheet to be evaluated.
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6. No Parents/Guardians/visitors will be allowed in the test room during the test.
7. The judges' decisions will be final.

Academic Fest 2019 – Elementary School Rules

Rules for Spelling Bee

1. **Eligibility:** Students entering grades 4th and 5th in school year 2019 – 2020.
2. **Phase 1: This consists of a written test.** The total number of words is 25. 15 words will come from the published list and 10 words will come from unpublished list.
3. **Phase 2: This consists of 3 oral rounds (total 6 words) using words from the published list.** All the contestants will be lined up per their ID sequence. In each round, each contestant will be asked 2 words to spell one after another. Based on the total score from Phase 1 and 2, finalists for Phase 3 will be selected. The number of finalists will be about 10, actual number of the finalists will depend on the number of students participated and their scores in Phase 1 and 2.
4. **Phase 3:** In this phase, the contestants will be asked to spell words from **unpublished list**. This phase will be continued until we have winners from 1st position to 5th positions. The winners from 1st position to 5th position will be selected with the elimination process. For instance, if we have 6 contestants qualified for this phase then each of the contestants will be asked to spell a word, if he/she spells correctly, then he/she will go to the next round. If one of the contestants spells the word correctly and rest does not, the contestant who spelled correctly will be the winner at 1st position and then the rest will continue to fight for the next positions (2nd-5th). The contest will continue until we have identified the winners for all five positions.
5. During oral rounds, contestants are highly recommended to pronounce the word loud enough so that judges can ensure that the contestant has the same understanding of the word.
6. For all rounds in each of the phases, having started to spell a word, a contestant may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from

Academic Fest 2019 – Elementary School Rules

beginning. While retracing, contestant can't change the letters or their sequence of the letters that are already spelled.

7. Parents will be allowed during oral rounds (Phase II and III), but we strongly requested to maintain silence at all the times. This is to help the judges listen clearly to the answers of the contestants. Any member of the audience may be asked to leave the room if he/she attempts to help contestants or interfere in the spelling bee process.
8. Contestants are allowed to ask the word to be repeated. They can also ask for the meaning of the word, part of speech, alternate pronunciations (if available), and use the word in a sentence. The Merriam Webster Dictionary 3rd edition will be used to answer all such questions.
9. In case of a homonym, the pronouncer will automatically give the definition.
10. **Appeals:** Appeal may be made at the end of the round. Appeals can only be made for the following four cases: (i) mispronunciation, (ii) homonym not identified, (iii) judges misheard the spelling, or (iv) information given to the contestant is not correct. It is the responsibility of the contestant to make sure he/she heard the word, and ask for the required information.
11. The decision of the presiding judges is always final. Parents are welcome to give suggestions or ask questions at the end of the contest.

Academic Fest 2019 – Elementary School Rules

Rules for ART Competition

1. **Eligibility:** Students entering grades 4th and 5th in school year 2019 – 2020.
2. The Art competition will be of 30 minutes of duration.
3. Each of the contestants will be asked to draw some colorful arts related strictly to the theme.
4. The winner will be announced during the award ceremony.
5. All the materials for the art competition will be provided by the organizers.
6. The decision of the presiding judges is always final. Parents are welcome to give suggestions or ask questions at the end of the contest