



2026 BANA Academic Fest Rules

BANA Academic Fest 2026 – Rules

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General Rules

1. The coordinators' judgment will be final.
2. If any student's conduct is not at par, coordinators, or their delegates (at their discretion) will have the right to ask participants to leave the event.
3. No refund will be given in any circumstances.
4. Coordinators, at their discretion, have the right to change the schedule or delete some part or all of the events based on the situation before, during, or after the event.
5. 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's good luck!



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Rules for Practice SAT Test (High)

1. The highest score on the test is 1600. The Reading and Writing sections and Math sections are each scored on a scale of 200-800 points. The two scores are then added together to give the composite score.
2. There is no penalty for wrong answers, so students are encouraged to answer every question.
3. Students may bring a laptop to the testing center.

More About SAT Exam

- Only non-CAS (computer algebra system) calculators are allowed. Check to make sure your calculator does not have CAS functionality. A quick way to tell if a calculator has CAS functionality is to check if it has
 - a. CAS in the model's name.
 - b. Can symbolically manipulate algebraic expressions (like factoring and expanding).
 - c. Can solve equations and give exact symbolic answers, not just decimals.
 - d. Graphic, scientific, and four-function calculators are allowed, subject to the restrictions below.
 - e. Calculators are not required, but bringing a familiar, approved model is recommended.
 - f. You are responsible for bringing a working, approved calculator.

SAT Test Duration:

Reading and Writing: 64 minutes, divided into two modules.

10-minute break.

Math: 70 minutes, divided into two modules.

Total testing time: 2 hours and 14 minutes.

Total testing time with break: 2 hours and 24 minutes.



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Middle School

Rules for Math and Science Tests (Middle)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 6th through 8th in the school year 2026 - 2027.
2. Contestants will have forty (40) minutes to answer fifty (50) questions, which will be multiple-choice questions. Calculators, books, scrap paper, or any supporting documents will not be allowed in the test room. Contestants will be provided with scrap paper, pencils, and an eraser. However, they are allowed to bring their pencils and eraser.
3. Contestants are allowed to do their rough work on the question booklet, but they should write only the final answer on the answer sheet.
4. Contestants should arrive on time to get the 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.
5. Each contestant must write his/her contestant ID on the answer sheet for the answer sheet to be evaluated.
6. For each correct answer, the contestant will be awarded FIVE points and for each incorrect answer, TWO points will be deducted. No points will be deducted or given for any unattempt answers.
7. No Parents/Guardians/visitors will be allowed in the test room during the test.
8. **The coordinators' / judges' decisions will be final.**



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Rules for Vocabulary (Middle)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 6th through 8th in the school year 2026 - 2027.
2. Contestants will have forty (40) minutes to answer fifty (50) questions, which will be multiple-choice questions. Calculators, books, scrap paper, or any supporting documents will not be allowed in the test room. Contestants will be provided with scrap paper, pencils, and an eraser. However, they are allowed to bring their pencils and eraser.
3. Contestants are allowed to do their rough work on the question booklet, but they should write only the final answer on the answer sheet.
4. Contestants should arrive on time to get the 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.
5. Each contestant must write his/her contestant ID on the answer sheet for the answer sheet to be evaluated.
6. For each correct answer, the contestant will be awarded FIVE points and for each incorrect answer, TWO points will be deducted. No points will be deducted or given for any unattempt answers.
7. No Parents/Guardians/visitors will be allowed in the test room during the test.
8. **The coordinators' / judges' decisions will be final.**



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Rules for Speech Competition (Middle)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 6th through 8th in the school year 2026 - 2027.
2. The competition will consist of 3 speech topics that will be suitable for the age group and help prepare students for debate and speech in the future. The contestants are expected to prepare his/her speech on all these 3 topics.
3. The contestants are NOT allowed to bring paper, notes, or writing instruments to the event.
4. Speech Topics can be found on the BANA 2026 Academic Fest source page.
5. Each contestant will be allowed to draw one of the two topics from the instructions on which he will have to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. The third topic will be used for the final round of speech.
6. Each contestant will be reminded about the remaining time during the speech. Each contestant must try to complete his/her speech in the given 3 minutes to avoid a points deduction for exceeding the time limit.
7. Parents/ guardians/Visitors will be allowed in the competition area, but we strongly ask that silence be always maintained. This is to help the judges to listen clearly to the speakers.
8. The coordinators' / judges' decisions will be final.



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Elementary School

Rules for Math and Science Tests (Elementary)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 4th and 5th in the school year 2026 - 2027.
2. Contestants will have forty (40) minutes to answer fifty (50) questions, which will be multiple-choice questions. Calculators, books, scrap paper, or any supporting documents will not be allowed in the test room. Contestants will be provided with scrap paper, pencils, and an eraser. However, they are allowed to bring their pencils and eraser.
3. Contestants are allowed to do their rough work on the question booklet, but they should write only the final answer on the answer sheet.
4. Contestants should arrive on time to get the 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.
5. Each contestant must write his/her contestant ID on the answer sheet for the answer sheet to be evaluated.
6. For each correct answer, the contestant will be awarded FIVE points and for each incorrect answer, TWO points will be deducted. No points will be deducted or given for any unattempt answers.
7. No Parents/Guardians/visitors will be allowed in the test room during the test.
8. **The coordinators' / judges' decisions will be final.**



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Rules for Spelling Bee (Elementary)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 4th and 5th in the school year 2026 – 2027.
2. Please refer to the link below:

<https://www.banahouston.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/BANA-Spelling-Bee-Rules.pdf>

Rules for Art Competition (Elementary)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 4th and 5th in the school year 2026 – 2027.
2. Theme to be given at the time of exam.
3. The Art competition will be 30 minutes in duration.
4. Each of the contestants will be asked to draw colorful art related strictly to the theme.
5. The winners will be announced during the award ceremony.
6. The winning art may get published in the BANA magazine to be published in the upcoming years.
7. All the materials for the art competition will be provided for the students.



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Primary School

Rules for Math Test (Primary)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the school year 2026 – 2027.
2. Contestants will have forty (40) minutes to answer fifty (50) questions, which will be multiple-choice questions. Calculators, books, scrap paper, or any supporting documents will not be allowed in the test room. Contestants will be provided with scrap paper, pencils, and an eraser. However, they are allowed to bring their pencils and eraser.
3. Contestants are allowed to do their rough work on the question booklet, but they should write only the final answer on the answer sheet.
4. Contestants should arrive on time to get the 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.
5. Each contestant must write his/her contestant ID on the answer sheet for the answer sheet to be evaluated.
6. For each correct answer, the contestant will be awarded FIVE points and for each incorrect answer, TWO points will be deducted. No points will be deducted or given for any unattempt answers.
7. No Parents/Guardians/visitors will be allowed in the test room during the test.
8. **The coordinators' / judges' decisions will be final.**



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Rules for Spelling Bee (Primary)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the school year 2026 – 2027.
2. Please refer to the link

<https://www.banahouston.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/BANA-Spelling-Bee-Rules.pdf>

Rules for Art Competition (Primary)

1. Eligibility: Students entering Grades 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the school year 2026 – 2027.
2. Theme to be given at the time of exam.
3. The Art competition will be 30 minutes in duration.
4. Each of the contestants will be asked to draw colorful art related strictly to the theme.
5. The winners will be announced during the award ceremony.
6. The winning art may get published in the BANA magazine to be published in the upcoming years.
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