



In cooperation with



Franklin Global SpellEvent 2010

Overview

Franklin Electronic Publishers in cooperation with TESOL announces the second annual Franklin Global SpellEvent Championship for EFL (English as Foreign Language) students, ages 15 years old and younger.

12 Countries will participate in the local events. Participating countries for 2010 are: Argentina, Chile, China, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Russia, Senegal, South Korea, Turkey and United Arab Emirates. The first and second place finishers of these *winners will be invited to New York City for the Championship SpellEvent to be held in August 2010. (*Franklin will provide travel for both students and (1) one parent or legal guardian per student).

For over 100 years. Spelling competitions have been a tradition at schools for students of all ages to improve their English skills in the United States.

Local participating Schools will receive:

- 4 Franklin MWD-460A electronic Dictionaries
- 4 Merriam Webster's Advanced Learner's Dictionary
- Franklin Global SpellEvent brochures

Local winning students will receive:

- All expenses paid trip to U.S. to compete in the final rounds
 - All expenses paid trip for (1) one parent or guardian per student
 - Franklin/Merriam Webster's Electronic Collegiate Dictionary
 - Eligible to win \$10,000 scholarship
- Local TESOL Affiliates, with the assistance of Franklin, will be responsible for coordination local preliminary events.
- Local rounds will consist of a single elimination spelling competition until 2 Students remain.
 - It is recommended that local events be held by May 31, 2010. To allow time for travel arrangements.

In the event either of the 2 winners cannot attend the finals in New York City: the 3rd and 4th place finisher will be selected as an alternate representative.

The four finalists at the local event will all receive Franklin products as prizes.

Local preliminary rounds will be conducted entirely in English. Local TESOL affiliates will provide:

- One person designated as the pronouncer
- One person fluent in English who will serve as the MC (Master of Ceremonies) for the event.
- Adequate facilities to conduct the local competition
- Stage, microphones, speakers, chairs, tables to accommodate the local event

Local preliminary rounds must be limited to a maximum of 48 participants.

- 175 **Practice** words will be provided on the spellevent.org site on or about November 15, 2009
- First round will be the practice round at the local event. Each student will have the opportunity to spell a word provided by the pronouncer. This will assist in helping each participant to better understand the format of the event.
- The local events will be single elimination format.
- 1st and 2nd place finishers will win the right to compete in New York City in August 2010.

Spelling Rules

- The Pronouncer will say the word.
- At this point the student must repeat the word correctly back to the Pronouncer to ensure that they understand the word. The Pronouncer will have the discretion to continue to prompt the student to pronounce the word correctly until they are satisfied that the student understands the word completely.

At no point will the student be given the option to use pen/pencil and paper as an aid to deciphering the spelling of a word.

Once the Pronouncer is satisfied that the student understands the word, the student may ask for the following:

- Any alternate pronunciations of the word
- The definition-including part of speech, as found in the Merriam-Webster's Advanced Learner's Dictionary
- To have the word used in a sentence

After a student has exhausted all of their options they will be asked to spell the word within the allowed time frame as provided in the SpellEvent rules.

Once a student begins to spell a word they may not:

- Stop and start over-this will constitute a misspelling if they change the spelling in the process
- Ask for more time or further information

After the student has spelled the word:

The judges will determine whether the word was spelled correctly. All of the Judges decisions are final.

- If the word was spelled correctly they will be advised that it is correct by the pronouncer.
- If the word was spelled incorrectly they will be informed by the ringing of the bell, the correct spelling will then be provided by the pronouncer.

Suggestions:

- Hold rehearsal Spelling Competitions to acclimate the Students and Teachers with how the competition will transpire.
- Begin building awareness early and often.
- Remind the students often that travel to the U.S. will be required to participate in the final round.