

Spelling Bee Project Teacher's Pack



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Project Overview

Aim

The aim of the Spelling Bee is for students in Year 7 to practise and improve their vocabulary, spelling and memory skills in another language (French, Spanish and German).

Process

- The competition consists of four stages over the three terms:

AUTUMN TERM
Individual Class

SPRING TERM
Whole School Competition
Regional Competition

SUMMER TERM
National Competition

- Students will be given 50 words to learn at the first stage of the competition and a further 50 words will be added at each subsequent stage. Vocabulary will be relevant to the curriculum.
- The competition should be launched at the beginning of the autumn term and time should be spent in the first few lessons of the year teaching and practising the alphabet in the foreign language (paying attention to describing letters with accents, etc.).
- Different to a monolingual Spelling Bee, students will be given the word in English. They will first have to translate it into the Target Language and then spell it out correctly using the alphabet in the Target Language.
- When participating, students will be given one minute to correctly spell as many words as possible. Students must translate the word with the correct article, but they only need to spell the noun.
- If they are spelling a colour that begins with 'de color...', they need to say that in the translation, but only need spell the colour.
- They should be allowed to finish a word that they started before the time was up.
- Students can pass at any time, but must say pass in the Target Language. Accents and other punctuation must be spelt in the following way:

French

â ê î ô û - accent circonflexe
ç - cédille
é - accent aigu
è - accent grave
ë ï ö ü - tréma
Space - blanc
Pass - je passe
Hyphen - trait d'union
Apostrophe - l'apostrophe

Spanish

á é í ó ú - accent
ñ - tilde
Space - espacio
Pass - paso
Hyphen - guión



German

ä ö ü - Umlaut

ß - S-Zett / scharfes S

Space - Leerzeichen / Abstand

Pass - ich passe

Hyphen - Bindestrich

- Words should be allocated in random order.
- The names of the winners at class, school and regional stage of the competition should be submitted to the Routes into Languages regional manager for your region, so that they can receive a certificate. Details of your regional manager can be found at www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/consortia

Stage 1: Class Competition

Teachers should:

- launch the competition to the students at the very beginning of the term.
- teach the alphabet in the Target Language as early as possible in the term, ensuring that students can name letters with accents, etc..
- allocate the stage's 50 words to their students so that they can begin memorising them and practising (the words for each stage accompany this teacher pack).
- test students on a weekly basis. It is suggested that this be done as a starter or a plenary at least once a week and that students test each other either in pairs or as a whole class.
- hold a class competition at the end of the first term.
 - Students should be tested individually and should not use any prompts.
 - Students should have one minute to correctly spell as many words as possible in the Target Language.
 - The teacher should choose words in random order and should say the words in English, the student should then say the word in the Target Language and then spell it using the Target Language alphabet.
 - Students receive one point per word correctly translated and spelt within the time. If students begin to spell a word when the timer goes, they should be able to finish.
- In the event of a tie-breaker, a sudden-death round should be played:
 - Students should take it in turns to correctly spell a word.
 - If a student spells a word incorrectly, they are out.
 - This should continue until there is one winner and a runner-up.

Deadline: Dates set per region

Stage 2: School competition

- Teachers should allocate the extra 50 words to the stage 1 class winners (word lists accompany this teacher pack).
- Class winners should meet weekly to test each other: this could be done at break or lunchtime. Additionally, the class could test their winners each week as a starter or plenary.
- A School Competition should be held by Spring Half-Term 2011. The same rules apply as for stage 1, the only difference being that students will be tested on 100 words rather than 50 words.
- The names of four winners should be submitted.

Deadline: Dates set per region

Stage 3: Regional Competition

- Teachers should allocate the extra 50 words to the stage 2 school winners (word lists accompany this teacher pack).
- School winners should meet weekly to test each other: this could be done at break or lunchtime. Additionally, the relevant classes could test the winners each week as a starter or plenary.
- A Regional Competition will be held at the end of the Spring Term 2011 (location TBC). The same rules apply as for stages 1 and 2, the only difference being that students will be tested on 150 words rather than 50 or 100 words.
- The Regional Winners will be announced on the day and there will be a prize-giving ceremony.

Deadline: Dates and venues tbc

Stage 4: National Competition

- Teachers should allocate the extra 50 words to the stage 3 regional winners (word lists accompany this teacher pack).
- Regional winners should practise weekly: this could be done at break or lunchtime with other students. Additionally, the relevant class(es) could test the winner(s) each week as a starter or plenary.
- A National Competition will be held at the end of the Summer Term 2011 (location TBC). The same rules apply as for stages 1, 2 and 3, the only difference being that students will be tested on 200 words rather than 50, 100 or 150 words.
- The National Winners will be announced on the day and there will be a prize-giving ceremony.

Deadline: Dates and venues tbc



Links & contacts

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