

SPELLING BEE

Spelling Procedure:

- The Pronouncer will pronounce the word and give the definition.
- The participant will then pronounce the word, spell the word, and pronounce the word again.
- The participant may ask for a sentence, etymology, and part of speech for the given word.
- The Head Judge will have the responsibility for stopping the student if he/she fails to pronounce the word or if the student pronounces the word incorrectly.
- Pronouncing the word before and after is not mandatory but encouraged.

Retracing

Having started to spell a word, a student may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning.

However, in the retracing, there can be no change of letters and their sequence from those first pronounced.

If any letters and/or their sequence are changed in the respelling, the speller will be disqualified.

The participant is encouraged to:

- Pronounce the word before spelling. This is to ensure that the student has heard the correct word.
- Look at the Pronouncer when spelling the word.
- Spell the word orally. Participants will not be allowed to write the word before spelling it.
- Pronounce the word again after the word is spelled.
- Speak clearly and loudly. The officials' decision is final in determining the correctness of the spelling, which may be misunderstood if not spoken clearly.
- The participant may ask for any pronunciation, meaning, or sentence to be repeated for clarification before spelling. If a participant takes undue advantage of this rule, the Pronouncer/Head Judge will advise him/her accordingly.

Timing

- The participant shall have 30 seconds from the time he/she pronounces the word until he/she must begin spelling the word.

- If the participant is unable to start spelling, at the end of the 30-second period, he/she shall be reminded by the Pronouncer, who will be informed by the Head Judge (Timekeeper).
- Once the participant begins spelling the word he/she will have 30 seconds to complete the spelling of the word.
- A participant will be disqualified if he/she does not follow the above listed timing rules.

General Procedures

- No talking will be allowed either among the participants or among the audience. This will distract participants and judges.
- No assistance from audience is given to any participant. If a participant receives assistance from anyone in the audience, he/she will be disqualified. We expect highest dignity and respect from all participants and audience to encourage all the kids to win the contest.
- We request the audience to remain seated all the time when Spelling Bee in progress.
- We will have breaks between the competition and it is expected that participants and audience use those breaks.
- This will help participants to have better focus and improve their winning chances.