



RULES OF THE

LTQ AND GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

GOLD COAST LANGUAGES SPEECH CONTEST

May 2026 Updated 23rd June

Latest version of Speech Contest Rules available at
<https://www.LTQ.asn.au/gold-coast-languages-speech-contest-2026.html>

1. The Gold Coast Languages Speech Contest is an educational event organised by members of the Gold Coast Branch of the Languages Teachers' Queensland. The objective of the contest is to foster and nurture the appreciation of languages and culture.

2. **Date:** Sunday 16th August 2026

Time: Judging takes place until 1:30 pm.

Names of winners are posted in each marshalling room, on finalisation of scores. Teachers can collect primary medals at the marshalling rooms for presentation on school assemblies. From this year, the Awards Ceremony will be for Secondary and Tertiary students only due to lack of space and time.

Venue: Griffith University Gold Coast Campus, Parklands Drive, Southport.

Closing Date: Friday 31st July 2026

3. **Participants:** Students from schools in Gold Coast City and the Tweed studying Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish **may be entered in the contest by a teacher from their school who is a member of the LTQ.** Schools in Logan City can choose between the Gold Coast or Brisbane Speech Contests. Students from schools in Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast are not eligible to participate in the Gold Coast Competition unless the language they wish to enter in is not offered at their own local competition. Gold Coast, Logan and Brisbane students may also enter the LTQ Online Speech Contest run separately to this contest.

4. **Divisions:** Divisions of the contest are listed below.

LANGUAGE DIVISIONS

Language Convenors may change the divisions available in a particular year, subject to participant numbers and at their discretion.

Students who are currently participating in an immersion program may enter the contest but must do so in the division above their current year level (e.g. If a student is studying French immersion in Year 8, they must compete in the Year 9 division). IB Languages B students (SL or HL) also participate in the division above their current year level. This, however, does not apply to year 12 students.

CHINESE

CHINESE PRIMARY (Non- Background)
Year 4
Year 5
Year 6
CHINESE PRIMARY (Background Speaker)
Year 4
Year 5
Year 6
CHINESE SECONDARY (Non- Background)
Year 7

Year 8
Year 9
Year 10
Senior 11-12
CHINESE SECONDARY (Background Speaker)
Year 7
Year 8
Year 9
Year 10
Senior 11-12

JAPANESE

Year 4 Japanese
Year 4 Background Speaker Japanese
Year 5 Japanese
Year 5 Background Speaker Japanese
Year 6 Japanese
Year 6 Background Speaker Japanese
Year 7 Japanese
Year 8 Japanese
Year 9 Japanese
Year 10 Japanese
Year 11 Japanese
Year 12 Japanese
Junior background speaker Japanese (Yrs 7~8)
Junior background speaker Japanese (Yrs 9~10)
Senior (Years 11-12) Background Speakers

RUSSIAN

Russian Dominant Bilingual (Years 4-12)
Foreign Language Speaker (Years 4-12)
English Dominant Bilingual (Years 4-12)

SPANISH

Year 4 Spanish
Year 5 Spanish
Year 6 Spanish
Year 7 Spanish
Year 8 Spanish
Year 9 Spanish

Year 10 Spanish
Year 11 Spanish
Year 12 Spanish
Year 11/12 Ab Initio Spanish
Primary (Years 4 – 6) Background Speakers
Junior (Years 7-9) Background Speakers
Senior (Years 10-12) Background Speakers

FRENCH

Year 5 French
Year 6 French
Primary Background Years 4 - 6
Secondary Non-Background
Year 7 French
Year 8 French
Year 9 French
Year 10 French
Year 10 Spanish
Year 11 Spanish
Year 12 Spanish
Year 11/12 Ab Initio French
Primary (Years 4 – 6) Background Speakers
Junior (Years 7-9) Background Speakers
Senior (Years 10-12) Background Speakers
Year 11 French
Year 12 French
Year 10 Ab Initio French

GERMAN

Year 7
Year 8
Year 9
Year 10
Senior 11-12

5. Number of Entrants: A maximum of 5 students in Primary and up to 8 students in Secondary, per language per year level.

When entering Secondary immersion students into the division above their current year level, schools may enter up to 4 immersion students and 4 mainstream students in that division.

6. Speeches Rules:

Speeches are to be available at <https://www.LTQ.asn.au/gold-coast-languages-speech-contest-2026.html>

- i. For Background Speaker divisions, speeches must be the original work of the contestant, meaning that they must be written by the students themselves. Any help or assistance provided by teachers or background speakers should be restricted to the correction of grammatical errors or the marking of minor alterations for the sake of continuity.
- ii. Students who have competed in previous contests may not reuse speeches from past years.
- iii. While the use of palm cards is permitted, students are expected to memorise and deliver their speech

fluently and effectively. This includes memorisation, clear articulation, appropriate pacing, and engaging expression.

- iv. Props and costumes may not be used. However, culturally appropriate presentation and delivery are still important factors in the adjudication of each contestant.
- v. Length of speeches: Non background Speeches and their length can be found in the link provided above.
Background speeches length:
 - a. Year 4 – 6 Background Speakers up to 1 minute
 - b. Year 7 – 8 Background Speakers up to 1.5 minutes
 - c. Year 9 – 10 Background Speakers up to 2 minutes
 - d. Year 11 – 12 Background Speakers up to 3 minutes
- vi. Judges will ask **questions** at the end of the speech. These questions will be based on the speech's content, and convenors will provide them to judges on the contest day.
- vii. In most divisions, parents are welcome to accompany their child into the judging room. They are not, however, permitted in Secondary Japanese Background Speakers. In the case of a parent who is also a teacher, the relevant convenor must be consulted. Notice that recording is not permitted during the speech.

7. Registration Forms

These will be available at: <https://www.mltaq.asn.au/gold-coast-branch.html> after the May meeting each year. Please ensure participating students have standard media consent.

Schools should complete a separate registration form for each language area in which the school will be competing. (Primary and Secondary registrations on separate forms). Payment options will be updated soon as we are working on payments through the new LTQ website.

8. Eligibility:

Background speakers are ineligible to compete in non-background speaker divisions.

Background speakers are defined as

- Contestant's mother and/or father's first language is the language of the division, OR
- Contestant has completed between 1 to 2 years of language compulsory education in country.

9. Special Conditions of Entry:

The wearing of school uniforms is compulsory for all students in the primary and secondary sections. Full formal school uniform is expected for the Awards Presentation Ceremony.

10. Results and Awards presentation ceremony:

1. The convenor's decisions are final.
2. Students in breach of the rules will be disqualified.
3. There is no opportunity to discuss issues arising from the competition on the day. Opportunities for feedback are provided at the September Gold Coast LTQ meeting.
 - (i) Names of place getters will be posted in marshalling rooms on finalisation of results.
 - (ii) Division winners (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) will be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively during the

presentation ceremony. In divisions with more than 14 contestants in a division, a 4th place certificate may be awarded, and in divisions with more than 22 contestants, a 5th place certificate may also be awarded. However, these additional certificates will not be presented at the Awards Ceremony; instead, they will be available for teachers to distribute at their respective school. If a division has fewer than **five** contestants, only 1st and 2nd place will be awarded. Additionally, if a division has fewer than **four** contestants, awards will be given at the discretion of the judges, with the decision corroborated by the convenor.

In the case of an internal competition (i.e., where only one school is participating in a division), only first prizes are awarded.

- (iii) Winners will be decided by a panel of judges. Aggregates of the marks of all the judges will determine the place allocated to each contestant. In the case of a draw in points, the judges will determine the outcome by discussion. Under no circumstances are ties awarded.
- (iv) All contestants will receive a Participation Certificate. Convenors will make Certificates for Participation, Place and Highly Commended digitally available for printing to the teacher on registration forms. Any medals not collected during the Awards Ceremony may be collected at the LTQ meeting in September. Please note that medals or certificates will not and cannot be posted to schools.

11. Entry Fees:

- (i) For insurance purposes, to be eligible to enter students in the contest, at least one teacher/lecturer from each school or tertiary institution must be a current member of the LTQ, as well as being present on the day of the contest. (LTQ Member registration forms can be downloaded from www.mltaq.asn.au). Each primary school must pay an entry fee of \$50 per language. Secondary schools \$65 per language. If a school has both primary and secondary classes, the fee is \$50 per language in primary plus \$65 per language in secondary. For small schools with 3 or fewer competitors in total there is a special fee of \$10 per student.
- (ii) *Miscellaneous students*. In cases where students are learning a language other than those offered by their school, they may be entered as a miscellaneous student. Primary and secondary students will enter under their school's name and will still be expected to wear the uniform of their school and be supervised by their school's teachers. The charge for miscellaneous students will be \$10 per student. The number of competitors is limited to 4 entrants per division.