The Official MIST Rulebook

THE CHALLENGE OF BEAUTY

~ STRIVING FOR ~

PERFECTION

~ IN AN ~

IMPERFECT World

mist NATIONALS

ASSALAMU ALAIKUM,

peace be upon you

Each year, we do our best to improve the way we do competitions at MIST. Part of that process is taking in feedback from everyone, including competitors, coaches, judges, volunteers, and even guests. We've been gathering this feedback on our website (http://www.getmistified.com/competitions/feedback/).

If you've participated in MIST previously, you will notice the following important changes:

- Group competitions minimum team requirement has been reduced to 1 competitor
- MIST Competitor Guidelines has been included
- Minor changes to other rules and ballots

We hope you enjoy this year's tournament and continue to send us your valuable feedback!

Sincerely,
The MIST Competition Revamp Committee

Rana Fatima
National Competitions Director

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Knowledge Test/ MIST Bowl

Omar Shareef
Improv Topics

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Math Olympics

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MIST Bowl

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Math Olympics

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Writing & Oratory Topics

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Debate Topics

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MIST Bowl

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THE CHALLENGE OF BEAUTY

Striving for Perfection in an Imperfect World

"God is beautiful and loves beauty." -Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him

One of the great mysteries of life is its inextricable beauty. Mankind is surrounded by a wondrous universe. From the depths of the night sky upon the vastness of the seas to hearing a bird's song while tasting a pear plucked from the tree, beauty surrounds us at every turn of our lives. And yet, beauty is not so superficial that it's limited to our sensory perceptions. We find beauty in the smile of a grandmother, wrinkled as she may be. We find beauty in the pages of a book, nerve-racking as the plot may be. We find beauty in the footwork of the athlete, grueling as the sport may be. We find beauty in the pitter patter of raindrops, scary as the storm may be. What is it about these disparate things that cause us such admiration?

Some may argue that the world is not so beautiful after all. Pain. Arrogance. Anger. Jealousy. Hatred. Greed. However, isn't it true that each comes with its own antidote? Joy. Humility. Compassion. Generosity. Love. Sacrifice. For those who are adamant, beauty can be found or created in every situation, amidst every challenge, through every difficulty, and even within every ugliness, where the only place we find beauty may be in the hope that things get better.

Arabic has a word for beauty generally: jamal, as in the quote, "God is beautiful and loves beauty." Arabic also has a word for beauty that people can attain through action: ihsan, beauty that emanates from the perfection of good deeds. Written in the Quran is a command: "...and do ihsan. God loves the doers of ihsan" (Quran 2:195). Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, defined the term thus: "Ihsan is to be aware of God as if you see Him, knowing that if you do not see Him, He sees you" (Bukhari, Muslim). Taken together, when someone strives to constantly be aware of their purpose and live up to their highest ideals as much as possible, even if they falter at times, that's beautiful. As Rumi famously said, "Let the beauty of what you love be what you do."

Beauty has many other dimensions to explore. There is beauty in social harmony. As Dr. Cornel West recently said, "Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public." There is the portrayal of beauty in popular culture, which leads to issues dealing with body image and self-esteem against impossible expectations. There is beauty in diversity amidst the disease of racism. There is beauty in "a word of truth spoken to an unjust ruler." The list goes on...

How do you define beauty? How do you think we can we make our world more beautiful? How can we make our nation "a more perfect union?" How can we make our homes and communities more loving spaces? How can we sculpt ourselves and our characters to emanate more beauty? Finally, how do we reconcile our struggle for perfection with our human limitations and frailties?

We challenge you to take a deeper look and analyze the various concepts surrounding this theme. You have a chance to explore these concepts and more in the competitions and workshops of MIST this year, at both the Regional and National levels. Remember, competitive submissions with the most creativity and insight earn the greatest points.

EARLY COMPETITION DETAILS

Four Weeks Prior to Tournament:

- Business Venture Proposal
- Community Service Abstract
- Science Fair Abstract

Two Weeks Prior to Tournament:

- Poetry
- Prepared Essay
- Short Fiction
- Short Film
- Social Media
- Graphic Design

Please check with your regional headquarters for exact dates and more information.

General Guideline for Written Submission Documents

- Typed and Double spaced
- Size 12 font, Times New Roman
- All submissions must be in PDF format.
- A written statement is required for all early submission competitions, which should be included on a separate page at the end of your document, or submission.
- Have a cover page with the title, MIST ID and name of competition. Competitor name or other identifying markers should not be anywhere on the piece.
- Label your document in the following format: “MISTID_COMPETITIONNAME” for example “123-7869_ PreparedEssay”.

*Note some regions still require 3 hardcopies of your early submission competition. Please check with your regional headquarters for more information.

**Note your region has the right to dock points from your piece if the above format of titling your pieces is not followed for early submission.

***Make sure to check the rules pertaining to your competition for Written Statement. All the competitions do NOT have the same requirements.

COMPETITOR GUIDELINES

1. Each student competing is responsible for being prompt to the Orientation Session for his/her event and for the time period for which they are scheduled to compete. Students must be on time or risk losing their chance to compete.

2. If students choose to enroll in a sports category competition (pilot or national), they must also be enrolled in at least one non-sports competition.

3. Be prompt in attending all workshops. Students and their teams receive points for attending the workshops they've chosen. Failure to appear at these workshops will cause your team to lose points.

4. Students must stay until the end of each workshop in order to be counted present.

5. Always show utmost respect to the person(s) leading and taking part in workshops, competitions, and all other parts of MIST. Any discrimination or acts that may infringe the rights of others in any part of MIST, including but not limited to competition submissions, will not be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to discrimination against individuals based on religion, race, color, gender, sex, ethnicity, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, ancestry, national origin, mental health, and socio-economic background.

6. Any unwanted physical contact is not permitted.

7. Any unwanted private one-on-one interactions are not permitted. Anyone reserves the right to request a third person in any interaction.

8. Be a mature representative of your high school or city. Remember that you are representing the next generation of community leaders. Your behavior should reflect that image.

9. MIST participants may not leave the building without a registered coach from their own team, or without the MIST Board's permission.

10. MIST name badges and/or identification bands must be worn at all times. If a replacement is needed, see a MIST Representative immediately.

11. No student is allowed to leave the tournament early on any day. All teams/students must arrive on time and leave only when the tournament is over. If there is an important reason for a student to leave early, he/she needs to let MIST know no less than 7 days in advance. To obtain permission to leave early, contact your Regional Registration Headquarters. We reserve the right to allow/refuse a student from leaving early. Also, once MIST gives the student permission to leave early, he/she MUST let the team coach know that they are leaving and when they will return.

12. Each team MUST be accompanied by at least one coach. A coach can be a parent, a teacher, an administrator, or a sibling older than 21 years of age. At least one coach MUST be at the tournament with their team at all times and never leave the campus. If a coach has to leave, he/she must have a replacement. Please plan ahead and send a coach registration form for each of the coaches who will be accompanying your team.

13. Read the program and your competition rules carefully. Participants are required to follow the rules published in the Annual Competitions Rulebook published at www.getmistified.com. If you don't know, ASK!

14. All participants are required to follow the MIST dress code.

15. Share ideas with others, help each other solve problems, and HAVE FUN!

MIST HONOR CODE

Students are expected to submit original work for MIST competitions each year. Actions that violate the standards of academic integrity include:

- Reading, obtaining, or sharing a copy of any test materials before or after the competition without authorization.
- Consulting or obtaining assistance from unauthorized sources during a competition, including copying another person's answers or referring to any aids not specifically approved for use during the time of the competition.
- Submitting work prepared entirely or partially by another individual, or otherwise misappropriating works or intellectual property belonging to another individual and presenting it as one's own, without the owner's consent or without providing proper citation and acknowledgment.
- Presenting audio or visual recordings of others without their consent, or otherwise abusing confidentiality such that the ideas or works of individuals discussed in confidence are released without proper authorization.
- Submitting material used for MIST in previous years, or otherwise used for the purposes of a class or project at any other institution.
- Falsifying or misrepresenting your results or procedures.
- Sabotaging the work of other competitors or otherwise infringing upon the ability of others to compete fairly.
- Interfering with the judging or scoring of any competition by anyone other than the official judges and competition organizers.
- Impersonating any other MIST competitor, judge, volunteer, or organizer for the purposes of gaining an unfair advantage.
- Being in the willful companionship of someone who violates any portion of the Honor Code, or failing to report any direct knowledge (other than hearsay) of violations.
- Misrepresenting your age or otherwise registering for a MIST team for which you are ineligible.
- Participating in, or attempting to participate in, a competition for which you have not registered.

Actions that do not violate the Code include, but are not limited to the following:

- Serving as a proxy to present the work of another student on account of an excused absence (such as medical emergency, death in the family, etc.), which has been pre-approved by MIST.
- Submitting the same or modified work between Regionals and Nationals of the same year.
- Getting help from and collaborating with others, while crediting ideas or work that are not your own with proper citation.

Depending on the severity of the infraction, competitors and their teams, found guilty of academic misconduct may lose points or be disqualified from a competition. Disciplinary misconduct warrants full disqualification from this year's tournament.

Students registering for any MIST competition automatically agree to abide by the principles of academic integrity as outlined in the MIST Honor Code.

CATEGORY I: KNOWLEDGE & QURAN

Knowledge Tests:
Read one of four books and take a test on it. The test comprises of a set of questions and an essay portion to judge reading and comprehension.

Quran Memorization:
Test your memorization and recitation of the Quran in Arabic, according to *tajweed* (rules of recitation). Level 1 is for beginners and Level 2, 3 and 4 are for more advanced competitors.

KNOWLEDGE TESTS

Knowledge Test books will be made available on the MIST National's website: www.getmistified.com

Procedures:

1. No more than four (4) students from each team may register for each test, and each student may pick only one test to compete in. For example, 4 students may register for the first test, 4 other students may register for the second test, etc.
2. Each student will be given a written test containing multiple choice, short answer, and essay question(s) at the time of the competition.
3. Tests are closed-book and must be taken individually.
4. All questions for each topic will be based on the material covered in the assigned book.
5. There is no ballot for this competition. Scores are based solely on test performance.

Note: The books can be found at many online bookstores.

QURAN MEMORIZATION

Level 1	Surahs 1, 87-114
Level 2	Surahs 78-86 (in addition to all the above)
Level 3	Surahs 67-78 (in addition to all the above)
Level 4	Surah 36 **OR** 55 **OR** 56 (in addition to all the above)

Procedures:

1. Each level is treated as a separate competition, and each level is gender segregated. For example, male competitors will register for Brothers Quran Memorization Level 1, and female competitors will register for Sisters Quran Memorization Level 1.
2. If less than five students are registered for a given level in the tournament, the level will be combined, and one set of (preferably female) judges will judge both the males and females in one ranking.
3. Each team may have a maximum of four (4) male and four (4) female competitors for Level 1, and a maximum of two (2) male and two (2) female competitors for Level 2, 3, and 4.
4. Students are expected to memorize the portion of the Quran relevant to their level in Arabic and be able to recite from memory fluently. Hafs (on the authority of Asim) is the default recitation style.
5. Students may begin with Level 1 material in their first year of competition, but may not repeat the same Level in subsequent years.
6. Judges will prompt students by reading a portion of a verse, and students will be expected to continue the recitation until motioned to stop. Judging will be based on three separate passages.
7. If the student is unable to continue reciting a passage after 5 seconds of silence, the judge may read a word (or few words) to help the student continue reciting. If the student repeats the verse before being prompted from a judge and is able to continue reciting without help, no points will be deducted. If the judge reminds the student of the beginning of the current verse, which helps the student to start the verse over and continue reciting, only one point should be deducted. If the student is still unable to continue, the judge may remind the student of the next word(s). Two points should be deducted each time the judge has to remind the student of the next word(s).
8. If the student is unable to continue reciting a passage from memory after three failed attempts, the judge may ask the student to proceed to the next passage, forfeiting the remaining portion of memorization points for that passage.
9. Judges are expected to wait until the end of a verse or 5 seconds after a mistake (whichever is greater) before signaling the competitor that a mistake was made.
10. If the mistake is corrected by the student immediately (within 5 seconds or before continuing with the next verse) without being prompted in any way by the judge, one point is deducted.
11. After allowing time for a student to self-correct, a judge should audibly tap their pen to indicate a mistake and allow the student a chance to recite the verse once more.
12. If a mistake is not corrected on the second reading of a verse, a judge may recite the correction. The student may ask the judge for clarification. If the student correctly fixes the mistake by reciting the correction from the judge, three points are deducted.
13. If the competitor is unable to fix the mistake after prompting by the judges, the mistake should be noted on the ballot with 5 points deducted for minor mistakes and 10 points for major mistakes. If the mistake is in pronunciation and not memorization, the mistake should be ignored if it recurs later so that each type of pronunciation mistake is only penalized once.
14. In addition to being scored on the pronunciation (Tajweed) during the recitation of the passages competitors will also be tested on basic Tajweed rules for the final 10 points. Competitors will be indicated to a verse in a copy of the Qur'an and they will be expected to identify as many rules as possible, such as the place of articulation of letters, the respective qualities of letters, nasal sounds, type of elongation (madd), etc. Competitors will not be expected to have an extensive knowledge on the laws of Tajweed.

Minor Mistakes

- Heavy vs. Light - To overlook the rules of *tafkheem* and *tarqeeq* only when reciting the name of Allah and the letter Raa
- *Ghunnah* - Not to adhere to the the rules of *izhaar*, *idghaam*, *iqlaab*, *ikhfaa*, etc. in their respective places
- Prolongation - Not to prolong / stretch a letter when *madd* is present

Major Mistakes

- Incorrect *Makhraj* or *Sifat* - Not to pronounce letters from the correct place of articulation and their respective qualities, including *qalqala*, etc.
- Addition - To add on letters to words, or add entire words
- Omission - To leave off letters from words, or leave out entire words
- Replacement - To replace a letter for another, or replace entire words
- Change *Harakah* - To change the *fat'ha*, *dhamma*, or *kasra*
- To replace *Harakah* with *Sukoon* and vice versa - To replace a *fat'ha*, *dhamma*, or *kasra* with a *saakin* and vice versa

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

QURAN MEMORIZATION BALLOT

Self-correction without prompt -1 point
Self-correction with audible tap -2 points
Self-correction with recitation -3 points
Minor mistake not corrected -5 points
Major mistake not corrected -10 points

	Mistakes & Tallies	Subtotal
Passage 1 Memorization		_____ / 20 points
Passage 1 Pronunciation		_____ / 10 points
Passage 2 Memorization		_____ / 20 points
Passage 2 Pronunciation		_____ / 10 points
Passage 3 Memorization		_____ / 20 points
Passage 3 Pronunciation		_____ / 10 points

Tajweed _____ / 10 Points
Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

CATEGORY II: ART

2D Art:
Are you an aspiring painter? Do you doodle more than writing notes in class? Put your inspiration on canvas with the 2D art competition!

3D Art:
Think you have what it takes to be the next great sculptor? Is clay your ultimate inspiration? Show us your skills in the 3D art competition.

Fashion Design:
You don't just love fashion, you design it! Get inspired by the MIST theme to become the next fashion phenomenon.

Graphic Design:
If you're the Photoshop or Illustrator whiz that everyone goes to for event flyers, the graphic design competition is for you. Pixelate away!

Photography:
Not only do you carry around your camera with you all the time, but you see everything as an opportunity for the perfect photo. Those other artists, yeah, they're cool - but you prefer a lens and the dark room for your creative pursuits.

2D ART

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. No more than two (2) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
4. Competitors shall report at the appropriate time to the designated place. Competitors shall be introduced to the judges by their MIST IDs.
5. All artwork must be labeled with the MIST ID ONLY. The competitor name must not appear anywhere on the submission.
6. No more than $100 can be spent on supplies.
7. Artwork must relate to the overall MIST Theme.
8. Artwork should avoid realistic, representational rendering of lifelike human or animal form. If in doubt, contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters. Therefore, fully defined facial, skeletal, or muscular features are not permitted. If in doubt, contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters.
    a. Suggestions: Draw a general picture of a squirrel; do not draw a detailed image of the adorable facial expressions when it comes across a good acorn.
9. Submission must be two-dimensional (examples: painting, drawing, etc.). You can create the illusion of depth, but the artwork must still be two-dimensional.
10. Acceptable mediums for artwork include, but are not limited to: watercolor, oil, crayon, mixed mediums, chalk, pastels, charcoal…etc.
11. Make sure your artwork is dry before submitting it to the judges.
12. All 2D artwork must be mounted with a 1” to 2” border. Suggestions for mounting include: poster board, mat board and illustration board. Please affix artwork to the mounting material with spray glue or tape. Do not use staples, paper clips, or any glue that could seep through and damage the artwork. Please do not use cardboard for mounting artwork. Artwork should NOT be rolled or folded.
13. Each participant will be interviewed for five (5) minutes in order to describe purpose and inspiration of the artwork. Interview questions can be found in the last section of the 2D Art Ballot. Please note that if there are more than fifteen (15) entries for this competition, only the top fifsteen (15) entries (based on artwork and written statement) will be interviewed. In this case, an open gallery preliminary judging round will take place, and all entries will be judged according to the 2D/3D Art Ballot. The top fifteen (15) that advance will have a five (5) minute interview with the Judges’ Panel.
14. A typewritten statement of the artwork, no more than one (1) page (500 words max.) must be included with the artwork. The explanation will include what the artwork is about and what inspired the competitor to make it, as well as specific answers to the interview questions. Please note that the written statement is an integral component of qualifying for an interview in the top fifteen.
15. Both the interview and artwork (with written statement) will be judged according to the Arts Competition Ballot.

Checklist:

- 2D Art submission.
- Written statement based on interview questions (Section D of Art Ballot).
- Both the submission and the written statement should be clearly labeled with:
    - MIST IDs
    - Name of Competition

[Please note: we recommend that all written statements are securely attached to submission. You may choose to use paper clips or a large manila envelope for these purposes.]

DETAILED BALLOT: 2D ART

Section A: Technical **Points: 5**

- Presenter(s) on time for interview.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview.
- Length of written statement does not exceed one page (500 words).
- Submission meets required formatting guidelines (see rules).

Section B: Production Quality **Points: 30**

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality **Points: 40**

Aesthetics and Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork.
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme.
- The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.

Section D: Application of Theme **Points: 25**

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work? In what ways does your artwork represent your individual point of view, imagination, creativity, and individuality?
2. Explain your purpose in developing this artwork and describe how you achieved that goal. Describe any influences from art history, artists, or art periods or styles that contributed to the development of this artwork.
3. What elements or principles of art did you use, and how did you select and organize the visual aspects of this work?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the artwork is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

2D ART BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 5 Points**

Section B: Production Quality

Purpose _____ / 15 Points

Skill and technique _____ / 15 Points

Section C: Presentation Quality

Aesthetics and Design _____ / 20 Points

Creativity _____ / 20 Points

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 25 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

3D ART

The 3D Art competition follows the same rules as the 2D Art Competition. However, the following additional rules are specific to the 3D competition:

1. All submissions must be three-dimensional.
2. Artwork should also be placed on a board for easy carrying. The board can be made of any material sturdy enough to carry the artwork.
3. 3D art should be sturdy. Judges are looking for artwork that is well put together. Please note that your work may be moved around on several occasions, and it should be robust to handle these multiple moves.

Checklist:

- 3D Art submission.
- Written statement based on interview questions (Section D of Art Ballot).
- Both the submission and the written statement should be clearly labeled with:
    - MIST IDs
    - Name of Competition

[Please note: we recommend that you make two copies of your written statement; one to attach to the back of your 3D submission, as well as the required separate statement that will be collected at on-site registration.]

DETAILED BALLOT: 3D ART

Section A: Technical **Points: 5**

- Presenter(s) on time for interview.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview.
- Length of written statement does not exceed one page (500 words).
- Submission meets required formatting guidelines (see rules).

Section B: Production Quality **Points: 30**

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality **Points: 40**

Aesthetics and Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork.
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme.
- The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.

Section D: Application of Theme **Points: 25**

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work? In what ways does your artwork represent your individual point of view, imagination, creativity, and individuality?
2. Explain your purpose in developing this artwork and describe how you achieved that goal. Describe any influences from art history, artists, or art periods or styles that contributed to the development of this artwork.
3. What elements or principles of art did you use, and how did you select and organize the visual aspects of this work?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the artwork is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

3D ART BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 5 Points**

Section B: Production Quality

Purpose _____ / 15 Points

Skill and technique _____ / 15 Points

Section C: Presentation Quality

Aesthetics and Design _____ / 20 Points

Creativity _____ / 20 Points

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 25 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

FASHION DESIGN

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. No more than two (2) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
4. Competitors shall report at the appropriate time and place designated.
5. Judges shall know the competitors by their MIST IDs.
6. All designs must be labeled with the MIST ID ONLY. The competitor's name must not appear anywhere on the submission.
7. Your portfolio should have a cover or presentation case. Be creative. (see example).
8. Your portfolio should include your philosophy: how you are going to use your inspiration to make a collection (your inspiration is this year's theme and it can be combined with other inspirations as well). For example, Loyalty + Environment (trees, landscape, etc.). (see example).
9. Your portfolio should include a "Mood" or "Inspiration" page of the image(s) that inspire your collection. So if your philosophy is Loyalty and environment then there should be images of those things so you can refer to them to draw inspiration for your designs. (see example).
10. Your portfolio should include a fabric swatch/color palette page. (see example)
11. Each competitor's portfolio must have a total of six (6) outfits in the following combinations:
    a. OPTION 1: 3 complete adult female outfits AND 3 complete adult male outfits.
    b. OPTION 2: 6 complete male outfits OR 6 complete female outfits.
12. These six (6) outfits can either be on a figure (see example) or as a colored flat (it would just be your black and white flats colored.) You are welcome to make xerox copies of your flats and color on top. For each outfit, you must submit the following as part of your portfolio:
    a. One 5"x7" -- 8.5"x11" illustration of each design as worn, in color, matted and mounted on heavy paper or poster board enclosed in an 8.5"x11" page protector to protect the design. No smaller than 5" x 7". (A total of 6 mounted illustrations).
    b. Two (2) flat design sketches (working/detail sketches) for each outfit, for example: front and back (for a total of 12 flat sketches). These flats should be in black and white so the details can be seen easily.
    c. Description and sewing notes. Include in this section details that are hard to see or identify in your design illustration and/or sketches (see sample flat).
    d. The illustration (photographs are not acceptable) is to be clean, neatly mounted or matted. Colored pencils, charcoal, pastels, watercolor, colored pen/ink, or crayons may be used (see sample flat).
    e. Competitors can gain extra points by providing extra design items such as shoes, accessories: pins, jewelry, etc. (outfits can be designed with shoes; however, outfits without shoes will NOT be disqualified).
    f. Competitors must provide a common feature within a set such as similar buttons, similar colors, etc. Competitors are encouraged to be original in all their designs.
13. The sketch must fulfill all the basic requirements below:
    a. That designs are modest in nature while exuding creativity.
    b. That designs inspire comfort, confidence, and dignity.
14. Each participant will be interviewed for five (5) minutes in order to describe purpose and inspiration of the artwork. Judges will interview competitors on their inspiration behind the design, what they like the most and dislike the most. Competitors should be ready to explain any details, parts, and characteristics in the design that are outstanding or unusual. Judges will also ask competitors what they think makes their designs different from others in the market. Interview questions can be found in the last section of the Fashion Design Ballot. Please note that if there are more than 15 entries for this competition, only the top 15 entries (based on the portfolio) will be interviewed. In this case, a preliminary judging round will take place, and all entries will be judged according to the Fashion Design Ballot. The top 15 that advance will have a five (5) minute interview with the Judges' Panel.
15. Both the interview and the portfolio will be judged according to the Fashion Design Ballot.

Checklist:

- Fashion Design Portfolio.
- The submission must be clearly labeled with:
    - MIST IDs
    - Name of Competition

[Please note: we recommend that participants use a sturdy portfolio that has all required items securely intact.]

DETAILED BALLOT: FASHION DESIGN

Section A: Technical — Points: 5

- Participant is on time for interview.
- The participant looks credible and is dressed for an interview.
- Submission meets required formatting guidelines (see rules).
- Portfolio includes six (6) full outfits.

Section B: Production Quality — Points: 30

Overall

- There is a common theme/feature across the collection.
- Portfolio is well organized, neat and professional.
- Description and sewing notes are thorough when needed.

Skill and Technique

- The student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the design.
- Portfolio shows superior level of skills in the production and execution of each design.
- Portfolio required time and patience, and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality — Points: 40

Aesthetics and Design

- Interesting seams and shapes in clothing.
- The selected fabrication (colors, prints, trims, etc.) enhances or complements the fashion designs while remaining cohesive.
- Designs inspire comfort, confidence and sense of dignity.
- Designs appear to be possible to construct/are functional.
- All elements work together to create a unified design and the total effect is please to the eye while still enhancing the design.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative ways.
- Designs are creative while maintaining a modest nature.

Section D: Application of Theme — Points: 25

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work? In what ways does your artwork represent your individual point of view, imagination, creativity, and individuality?
2. Explain your purpose and inspiration in developing these designs and describe how you achieved that goal. Describe any influences.
3. What design details and characteristics did you use, and how did you select and organize these in your work?
4. What makes your designs unique from others in the market?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose and inspiration of designs are clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Design elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

EXAMPLE FASHION DESIGN PORTFOLIO

© Sarah Musa. All rights reserved

Example of portfolio case: front and back image of a large envelope.

Philosophy/Theory, Inspiration Image, Fabric Swatches/or Color Palette

EXAMPLE FASHION DESIGN PORTFOLIO

© Sarah Musa. All rights reserved

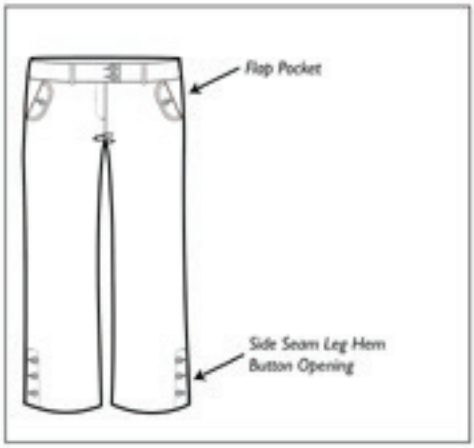
6 Complete Looks:

Hand Drawn Flats:

EXAMPLE FASHION DESIGN PORTFOLIO

© Sarah Musa. All rights reserved

Example of flats done on illustrator:



Example of flat with "call outs" on garment details/construction

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

FASHION DESIGN BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 5 Points**

Section B: Production Quality

Overall _____ / 10 Points

Skills and Technique _____ / 20 Points

Section C: Presentation Quality

Aesthetics and Design _____ / 20 Points

Creativity _____ / 20 Points

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 25 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

GRAPHIC DESIGN

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. No more than two (2) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
4. Competitors shall report at the appropriate time and place designated for the interview.
5. Competitors shall be introduced to the judges by their MIST IDs.
6. All artwork must be labeled (labelled) with the MIST ID ONLY. If the competitor name appears anywhere on the artwork, points will be deducted.
7. Artwork must reflect on this year's theme.
8. Artwork should avoid realistic, representational rendering of lifelike human or animal form. If in doubt, contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters.
9. Competitors should ONLY use their computers to generate any artwork for this competition.
10. Artwork should not be animated.
11. All submissions should be in JPG, TIFF, or GIF format. All submissions will be submitted online.
12. Please check with your Regional Competitions Headquarters for the exact date of the early submission deadline.
13. A typed short explanation of the artwork, no more than one (1) page (500 words max.) must be included with the artwork. The explanation will include what the artwork is about and what inspired the participant to make it.
14. Judging will be based on the explanation provided in the interview and the artwork itself. The interview will be no longer than five (5) minutes. Interview questions can be found in the last section of the 2D/3D Art Ballot. Please note that if there are more than 15 entries for this competition, only the top 15 entries (based on artwork and written statement) will be interviewed. In this case, an open gallery preliminary judging round will take place, and all entries will be judged according to the 2D/3D Art Ballot. The top 15 that advance will have a five (5) minute interview with the Judges' Panel.
15. Competitors will be judged according to the Art Competition Ballot.

Checklist:

- Graphic Design submission.
- Written statement based on interview questions (Section D of Art Ballot).
- Both the submission and the written statement should be clearly labeled with:
    - MIST IDs
    - Name of Competition

DETAILED BALLOT: GRAPHIC DESIGN

Section A: Technical — Points: 5

- Presenter(s) on time for interview.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview.
- Length of written statement does not exceed one page (500 words).
- Submission meets required formatting guidelines (see rules).

Section B: Production Quality — Points: 30

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality — Points: 40

Aesthetics and Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork.
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme.
- The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.

Section D: Application of Theme — Points: 25

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work? In what ways does your artwork represent your individual point of view, imagination, creativity, and individuality?
2. Explain your purpose in developing this artwork and describe how you achieved that goal. Describe any influences from art history, artists, or art periods or styles that contributed to the development of this artwork.
3. What elements or principles of art did you use, and how did you select and organize the visual aspects of this work?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the artwork is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

GRAPHIC DESIGN BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 5 Points**

Section B: Production Quality

Purpose _____ / 15 Points

Skill and technique _____ / 15 Points

Section C: Presentation Quality

Aesthetics and Design _____ / 20 Points

Creativity _____ / 20 Points

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 25 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Procedures:

1. No more than two (2) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
4. Competitors shall report at the appropriate time and place designated for the interview.
5. Competitors shall be introduced to the judges by their MIST IDs.
6. All Artwork must be labeled with the MIST ID ONLY. The competitor name must not appear anywhere on the submission.
7. A minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) photographs must be submitted as part of the photography portfolio. The photographs must carry a coherent theme or style to showcase the photographer's skill.
8. The pictures must reflect on this year's theme and can be of any inanimate OR animate object. It must be the competitor's own work from beginning to end, including taking the pictures. Pictures must be taken exclusively for this competition (pictures from previous years may not be used).
9. Competitors will be asked how and why they came up with their ideas.
10. Photographs may NOT be digitally modified beyond standard optimization (removal of dust, cropping, minor adjustments to exposure, color and contrast, etc.).
11. The pictures must be bound in some way to reflect a portfolio. Binding options may include, but are not limited to, vinyl folders, sleeves in binders, etc. Do not use staples, paper clips or rubber bands that may damage the artwork. Please do not use cardboard for mounting artwork and do not use any frames.
12. Photographs should be printed on high quality, photographic paper.
13. Artwork should not be rolled or folded.
14. The pictures must each be a minimum of 8×10 or larger.
15. Each participant will be interviewed for five (5) minutes in order to describe purpose and inspiration of the artwork. Interview questions can be found in the last section of the Art Ballot. Please note that if there are more than fifteen (15) entries for this competition, only the top fifteen (15) entries (based on artwork and written statement) will be interviewed. In this case, an open gallery preliminary judging round will take place, and all entries will be judged according to the Photography Ballot. The top 15 that advance will have a five (5) minute interview with the Judges' Panel.
16. A typed statement about the artwork, no more than one (1) page (500 words max.) must be included. The explanation will include what the artwork is about and what inspired the competitor to make it, as well as specific answers to the interview questions. Please note that the written statement is an integral component of qualifying for an interview in the top fifteen.
17. Competitors will be judged according to the Art Competition Ballot

Checklist:

- Photography submission
- Written statement based on interview questions (Section D of Art Ballot).
- Both the submission and the written statement should be clearly labeled with:
    - MIST IDs
    - Name of Competition

[Please note: we recommend that all written statements are securely attached to submission. You may choose to use paper clips or a large manila envelope for these purposes.]

TIPS FROM THE JUDGES:

1. Stick to the theme when you are planning your picture. Do not go through your pictures, find one that you like, and think of how it can relate to the theme; don't fall into this trap! More than likely your photograph will lack creativity and originality and you will lose points on that basis. A better way to approach this is to have the theme in front of you and jot down a few ideas that you think would be relative to the theme. After you have several ideas down pick two or three that you really like and are excited about, and go on from there. Using the latter approach will give your photograph a more original and personal touch.
2. Make sure that you take the picture yourself. All work (taking the photograph, etc) from the beginning to the end must be your original work.
3. Don't forget to include a written explanation of the photograph. It does not have to be long or eloquent; just make it concise, simple, and to the point.
4. Make sure that you matte your photograph. The simplicity of the matting will allow your photograph to speak for itself.
5. Remember that enlarging a picture may cause it to become grainy and to lose detail. Keep the quality of your picture in mind when you consider enlarging it.
6. When taking your photograph, consider different angles, heights, and other variations. Take several shots, so that you can choose which one will work best.

DETAILED BALLOT: PHOTOGRAPHY

Section A: Technical — Points: 5

- Presenter(s) on time for interview.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview.
- Length of written statement does not exceed one page (500 words).
- Submission meets required formatting guidelines (see rules).

Section B: Production Quality — Points: 30

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality — Points: 40

Aesthetics and Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork.
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme.
- The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.
- Photographs have a coherent theme or style.

Section D: Application of Theme — Points: 25

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work? In what ways does your artwork represent your individual point of view, imagination, creativity, and individuality?
2. Explain your purpose in developing this artwork and describe how you achieved that goal. Describe any influences from art history, artists, or art periods or styles that contributed to the development of this artwork.
3. What elements or principles of art did you use, and how did you select and organize the visual aspects of this work?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the artwork is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

PHOTOGRAPHY BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 5 Points**

Section B: Production Quality

Purpose _____ / 15 Points

Skill and Technique _____ / 15 Points

Section C: Presentation Quality

Aesthetics and Design _____ / 20 Points

Creativity _____ / 20 Points

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 25 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

ART ROUND 1

2D Art / 3D Art / Photography / Fashion Design / Graphic Design

[PLEASE CIRCLE SPECIFIC EVENT]

Section A
The top fifteen (15) submissions will move on to Round 2. Check the "Yes" box if advancing to Round 2.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Section B (Comments and Constructive Criticism)

CATEGORY III: WRITING AND ORATORY

Extemporaneous Essay:
Competitors are allotted 60 minutes to compose a handwritten essay on a randomly selected topic related to the theme.

Extemporaneous Speaking:
The art of extemporaneous speaking is not for the faint-hearted. Delivering a coherent, engaging, and moving speech, is easy enough, right? Now try doing that on the spot with only 15 minutes of preparation!

Original Oratory:
Competitors present a memorized original oration within a seven (7) minute period. The oration must relate back to the theme, but also be applicable to a general audience.

Poetry:
Competitors must submit an original piece of poetry never before published within a 40 line limit. The piece must clearly relate back to the theme, but also be applicable to a general audience.

Prepared Essay:
Have you been inspired by this year's MIST theme? The prepared essay competition is perfect if you're looking for an outlet. This is your chance to be creative and persuade us on the significance of your chosen topic. Share the passion!

Short Fiction:
Competitors are to submit an original work of fiction no longer than 10 pages that relates to the theme and can also be applied to a competitor-defined target audience. Illustrations are permitted for younger intended audiences.

Spoken Word:
If you're more of the performer type of a poet, then spoken word is for you! Here's your chance to convey your passion and originality, all while inspiring those around you.

EXTEMPORANEOUS ESSAY

Procedures:

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. After registering, students are given a MIST ID Number, which must be used to identify the student on the test. Names and other identifying information should not be written anywhere on the final submission.
3. All competitors are to report to the competition room at the same time, which will be designated in the competition schedule.
4. Paper and pen/pencil will be provided, but students may feel free to bring their own.
5. Out of three randomly selected topics presented at the time of competition, students must choose one topic for their essay. The topics will be relevant to the annual theme.
6. Students will be allotted 60 minutes to complete their essay, to be written in the English language. The submission is to be turned in to the proctor at the end of the hour but can be turned in earlier.
7. Students are allowed to bring printed reference materials or quotations relevant to the theme with them to use for citation during the competition, but prepared notes or personal essays are not allowed. Materials must be reviewed and approved at the sole discretion of the test proctor before the competition begins.
8. Electronic device usage is not permitted during the competition.

DETAILED BALLOT: EXTEMP ESSAY

Section A: Technical — Points: 5

- Participant is on time for the competition.
- The participant stopped writing when time was called.
- There are no identifiers on the submission aside from their MIST ID.

Section B: Content

Conventions — Points: 10

- Is the essay mostly free of spelling mistakes? - 1 for each error
- Is the essay mostly free of punctuation mistakes? - 1 for each error
- Is the essay mostly free of grammatical mistakes? - 2 for each error
- If references are used in the paper (optional), are they cited? - 2 for each error

Ideas and Development — Points: 20

- Did the writer answer one of the topics with sufficient detail?
- Did the writer take a unique approach when addressing the topic?
- Did the writer stay on topic throughout the entire essay?
- Was the main idea or message clear to the reader?

Organization — Points: 15

- Did the introduction grab the reader's attention with a unique start, a clear thesis statement, and concise supporting points?
- Were adequate details, examples, and support provided for each supporting point?
- Were the paragraphs well-developed, each with their own main idea?
- Did the conclusion link back to the introduction?

Sentence Fluency — Points: 15

- Did the writer vary sentence types by using a mixture of simple and complex sentences?
- Do most sentences begin with different words?
- When read aloud, do the sentences flow well together?
- Was there a logical progression of ideas?

Section C: Style

Word Choice — Points: 20

- Did the writer use thoughtful adjectives to create more vivid imagery?
- Did the writer use strong action verbs to support the essay's message (i.e. "cruise" instead of "drive," or "stroll" instead of "walk")?
- Did the writer use precise nouns to help present a clear and distinct message (i.e. "7th Grade students" instead of just "students," or "Science project" instead of "project")?
- Did the overall usage of words create color and texture in the writing? Was it clear that this writer took risks with their word choice?

Voice — Points: 15

- Does the reader show passion about his/her topic?
- Is the tone natural and consistent, reflecting original thinking and expression?
- Does the writer capture a tone or mood with his/her words?

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

EXTEMPORANEOUS ESSAY BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 5 Points**

Section B: Content

Conventions _____ / 10 Points

Ideas and Development _____ / 20 Points

Organization _____ / 15 Points

Sentence Fluency _____ / 15 Points

Section C: Style

Word Choice _____ / 20 Points

Voice _____ / 15 Points

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

No prepared notes or outlines will be allowed in the preparation room. Reference to books, magazines and a bibliographical file is permitted. Students can bring their own reference material BEFORE they select a topic.

Procedures

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
3. All competitors are to report to the competition room at the same time, which will be designated in the competition schedule.
4. Paper and pen/pencil will be provided, but students may feel free to bring their own.
5. Out of three randomly selected topics presented at the time of competition, students must choose one topic for their speech. The topics will be relevant to the annual theme.
6. Topics are to be phrased in the form of a question. Topics will not necessarily require reference materials, but will require an understanding of contemporary issues affecting Muslims domestically and internationally. Example topic: Does a significant rift exist between African-American Muslims and immigrant Muslim communities?
7. Depending on the number of students who sign up for this event, the competition might be conducted in a series of rounds, with only the top competitors advancing to subsequent rounds.
8. Participants may, if they choose, use references (books, the Quran, etc.) If any reference is used the participant MUST cite the reference during his or her speech. NO references will be provided by MIST. The use of reference material is optional.
9. Fifteen minutes before the contest is to begin, the first speaker shall draw three topics, choose one, and return the others. The other competitors shall draw in like manner, in their speaking order, at seven-minute intervals. A competitor drawing a topic on which he has spoken previously in the tournament shall return that topic and draw again.
10. After the competitor has chosen a topic, he shall withdraw to the preparation area and have fifteen (15) minutes to plan his/her speech without conferring or exchanging information with anyone. No prepared notes or outlines will be allowed in the preparation room. Reference to books, magazines and a bibliographical file is permitted. Once a competitor has chosen a topic, she/he may neither change from nor alter that topic. No visual aids may be used in the delivery of the speech.
11. A note card may be used in preliminary rounds of invitational qualifying tournaments but is not permitted in any elimination rounds of these tournaments.
12. Time limit is seven minutes maximum with thirty-second grace period. Violation of this rule will result in the competitor being ranked last in the round when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper.
13. Electronic device usage is not permitted during the competition.

DETAILED BALLOT: EXTEMP SPEAKING

NOTE: Students do NOT have to use references. If they do use references, they may be rewarded 2 points. However, if a student uses references and does NOT cite them, DEDUCT 3 points.

Section A: Technical — Points: 10

- Participant is on time for the competition.
- Did the speech last less than seven minutes? If yes, did it end before the 30 second grace period finished?
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.
- Participant looks credible and dressed for an interview.

Section B: Content

Introduction — Points: 10

- Did the speaker get the audience's attention?
- Was the topic clearly stated/addressed?
- Did the speaker preview and give focus to the key ideas?

Body — Points: 15

- Was adequate time devoted to each division within the seven minute time limit?
- Was there a logical progression of ideas?

Conclusion — Points: 10

- Did the speaker tie the speech together?
- Was the answer to the question clear?
- Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Presentation

Analysis and Content — Points: 15

- Did the speaker answer the question?
- Was the content informative?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion?
- Was the information pertinent to the selected topic?

Delivery — Points: 15

- Was the delivery natural, lively, and spontaneous?
- Was enunciation clear? Was volume appropriate?
- Was there sufficient variety in rate, pause, and pitch?
- Did the speaker exhibit poise and confidence?
- Were gestures varied, movement motivated, and eye contact direct?

Language — Points: 15

- Did the speaker exhibit command of conversational style?
- Was the language precise, grammatically correct, and vivid?

Overall Ranking — Points: 10

After the perusing of the extemporaneous speaking content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, intonation, or relation to the theme)
- 4 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional extemporaneous speech content).

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING BALLOT

Extemp. Speech Duration: _____ : _____

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 10 Points**

Section B: Content

Introduction _____ / 10 Points

Body _____ / 15 Points

Conclusion _____ / 10 Points

Section C: Presentation

Analysis and Content _____ / 15 Points

Delivery _____ / 15 Points

Language _____ / 15 Points

Section D: Speech Ranking _____ **/ 10 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

ORIGINAL ORATORY

Procedures

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
3. All competitors are to report to the competition room at the same time, which will be designated in the competition schedule.
4. The Orator must provide 3 COPIES of his/her script to be turned in during the competition orientation. MIST will not photocopy any scripts. Competitors must come prepared with their copies. The competitor must compete with the script that is submitted at that time.
5. Orations must be labeled with the MIST ID ONLY. The competitor name must not appear anywhere on the work.
6. The orator must be truthful. Any non-factual reference, especially a personal one, must be so identified.
7. The oration may not contain more than 150 words of quoted material. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited. Orators caught plagiarizing or extensively paraphrasing will be disqualified.
8. No visual aids may be used in the delivery of the speech.
9. An orator holding a manuscript or notes will be ranked last.
10. Time limit is seven minutes maximum with thirty-second grace period. Violation of this rule will result in the competitor being ranked last in the round when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper.
11. Electronic device usage is not permitted during the competition.

DETAILED BALLOT: ORIGINAL ORATORY

Section A: Technical — Points: 10

- Participant is on time for the competition.
- Did the speech last less than seven minutes? If yes, did it end before the 30 second grace period finished?
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.
- Participant looks credible and dressed for an interview.
- There are three (3) copies of the oration.

Section B: Content

Introduction — Points: 10

- Did the speaker get the audience's attention?
- Was the topic clearly stated/addressed?
- Did the speaker preview and give focus to the key ideas?

Body — Points: 15

- Was adequate time devoted to each division within the seven minute time limit?
- Was there a logical progression of ideas?

Conclusion — Points: 10

- Did the speaker tie the speech together?
- Was the answer to the question clear?
- Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Presentation

Analysis and Content — Points: 15

- Did the speaker answer the question?
- Was the content informative?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion?
- Was the information pertinent to the selected topic?
- Were the quotes cited properly?

Delivery — Points: 15

- Was the delivery natural, lively, and spontaneous?
- Was enunciation clear? Was volume appropriate?
- Was there sufficient variety in rate, pause, and pitch?
- Did the speaker exhibit poise and confidence?
- Were gestures varied, movement motivated, and eye contact direct?

Language — Points: 15

- Did the speaker exhibit command of conversational style?
- Was the language precise, grammatically correct, and vivid?

Overall Ranking — Points: 10

After the perusing of the oratory content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, intonation, or relation to the theme)
- 4 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional extemporaneous speech content).

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

ORIGINAL ORATORY BALLOT

Oratory Duration: _____ : _____

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 10 Points**

Section B: Content

Introduction _____ / 10 Points

Body _____ / 15 Points

Conclusion _____ / 10 Points

Section C: Presentation

Analysis and Content _____ / 15 Points

Delivery _____ / 15 Points

Language _____ / 15 Points

Section D: Overall Ranking _____ **/ 10 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

POETRY

Procedures

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. Poetry must clearly reflect upon any aspect of this year's theme.
3. Submissions must be labeled with the MIST ID and the title only. The competitor's name must not appear anywhere on the work.
4. Competitors may incorporate any style or genres of poetry including rhymed, lyric, dramatic, narrative, or free verse.
5. All poems must have a title and must not exceed 40 lines in length (excluding title).
6. Poems must be the original work of the entrant. Entries must not have been published, self-published, published on a website or broadcast before January 2017.
7. Handwritten entries cannot be accepted. Entries should be typed in black ink only. Entries can be double or single-spaced.
8. A PDF copy of the poem must be emailed to your Regional Competitions Headquarters TWO WEEKS before the Regional Tournament. Late submissions will result in a point deduction on your final score. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.
9. Poetry submissions must include a filled-out "Poetry Analyzing Written Statement".

DETAILED BALLOT: POETRY

Section A: Technical **Points: 10**

- The poem does not exceed 40 lines.
- The "Poetry Worksheet" is completed.
- The poem is typed in black ink only.
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.

Section B: Poem Elements **Points: 30**

Is the poetry piece free from any inappropriate content? If not, do not score rest of section; competitor receives 0/25. If so, continue scoring.

- Is the structure of the piece easy to follow?
- Is the form of the poem appropriate to the subject? Does the poem enable the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject in a new way or in a more potent way than ever before?
- Does the poem use sensory details and figurative language to create vivid images that contribute significantly to the meaning of the poem?
- Are sound devices, such as rhyme, alliteration, or onomatopoeia, used effectively and contribute to the meaning of the poem?
- Is word choice vivid and exact throughout?

Section C: Overall Impression of Written Piece? **Points: 25**

- Is the title clearly stated?
- Does the piece create an appropriate mood?
- Does the competitor's writing convey creativity and originality?
- Does the competitor's writing grab your attention and convey sincerity?

Section D: Written Statement Criteria **Points: 25**

- Section 1 Poem Identity
- Section 2 Coherent Explanation
- Section 3 Elements of Poetry
- Section 4 Example of Inference
- Section 5 Mechanics, Grammar, Spelling
- Interview Questions

Overall Ranking **Points: 10**

After the perusing of the content and worksheet, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization or relation to the theme)
- 4 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional content).

POETRY ANALYZING WRITTEN STATEMENT

The following worksheet should be included with your poetry submission. The responses to each section must be typed, not hand written.

Section 1: Poem Identity

Form of Poetry (ie Ballad, Sonnet, etc):

Section 2: Explanation of Poem

Provide an explanation for your poem in 250 words or less.

Section 3: Elements of Poetry

Identify at least 5 elements of poetry from your writing. State the line number in which the example can be found, the type of element it is, and then explain your example (ie alliteration, metaphor, assonance, personification etc).

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Section 4: Example of Inferences

Provide an example of inference from your writing. State the line number and explain what it is that you wished to infer (i.e. historical inference, literary inference, etc).

Section 5: Mechanics, Grammar, Spelling

Interview Questions (500 words or less)

1. In what ways does your piece represent your individuality? What inspired or influenced you when writing your piece?
2. Are there any subtleties in the piece you were wishing would come across to the audience without having to be explained?
3. Do you feel you conveyed the theme well in your piece?

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

POETRY BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ / 10 Points

Section B: Poem Elements _____ / 30 Points

Section C: Overall Impression _____ / 25 Points

Section D: Written Statement Criteria _____ / 25 Points

Section E: Overall Ranking _____ / 10 Points

Total _____ / 100 Points

Judge's Feedback:

PREPARED ESSAY

Competitors shall write about any topic that reflects this year's theme. Whatever your selection, be sure to refer to authentic sources of Islamic knowledge, as well as to historical facts.

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss or disqualification.

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. The written essay must be typed or word-processed and double-spaced. It must be on white, 8.5 X 11 paper and must be stapled in the left corner.
3. The essay MUST have a cover page. The cover page must include the title and MIST ID only. The competitor's name must not appear anywhere on the submission.
4. If outside sources are used, proper MLA citations as well as a "Works Cited" page must be included in the essay.
5. A PDF copy of the written essay must be emailed to your Regional Competitions Headquarters TWO WEEKS before the Regional Tournament. Late submissions will result in a point deduction on your final score. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.
6. Some regions require three (3) copies of the written essay to be taken to MIST and turned in by the competitor to the event section leader at the competitor's orientation. s are solely responsible for bringing their own copies. Contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.
7. The written essay shall be a minimum of 1,500 words and a maximum of 2,000 words. All abbreviations, acronyms (excluding a, an, the) will be counted. Only the first 2,000 countable words will be read.
8. Competitors will be judged according to the Prepared Essay Ballot.

Checklist:

- PDF copy of written essay and written statement emailed to your Regional Competitions Headquarters 2 weeks prior to the tournament if your region conducts advanced judging. Not sure? Contact them and find out!
- 3 copies of the Prepared Essay if your region requires it.
- Written statement based on interview questions (Section D of Prepared Essay Ballot).
- Both the submission and the written statement should be clearly labeled with:
    - MIST IDs
    - Name of Competition

DETAILED BALLOT: PREPARED ESSAY

Each essay must ONLY have the student's MIST ID and Title on the cover page.
Essay Topic: Topics should be included in the Judge's orientation packet

Section A: Technical

Conventions **Points: 5**

- Is the essay mostly free of spelling mistakes?
- Is the essay mostly free of grammatical mistakes?
- Is the essay mostly free of punctuation mistakes?

Presentation **Points: 5**

- Is the essay typed?
- Is the essay double spaced with type 12 font?
- Does the essay have a cover page with the title and the MIST ID only?
- Is the essay between 1,500 - 2,000 words?
- Are the quotes that have been used given due credit?

Section B: Content

Ideas and Development **Points: 25**

- Did the writer address their topic with sufficient detail?
- Did the writer take a unique approach in addressing the topic?
- Did the writer stay on topic throughout the essay?
- Did the writer use a balance of showing and telling to paint a picture in the reader's mind?
- Was the theme or message clear to the reader?
- Was there outside information used and cited within the essay?

Organization **Points: 25**

- Did the introduction include a unique start, a clear thesis statement, and concise controls that grabbed the attention of the reader?
- Was there an adequate amount of details, examples, and support for each control? Did the supporting details reflect the controls?
- Does the title stand for the entire essay and not just a part of it?
- Did the conclusion link back to the introduction and leave a lasting impression on the reader?

Sentence Fluency **Points: 10**

- Did the writer vary sentence types by using a mixture of simple and complex sentences?
- Do most sentences begin with different words?
- When read aloud, does the reader hear a rhythm behind the sentence?
- Was there a logical progression of ideas?

Section C: Style

Word Choice **Points: 10**

- Did the writer use thoughtful adjectives that helped create an image in the reader's mind?
- Did the writer use strong action verbs that help support the essay's message? (ex: "cruise" instead of "drive," "stroll" instead of "walk")
- Did the writer use precise nouns that helped present a clear and distinct message? (ex: "7th grade students" instead of "students," or "science project" instead of "project")
- Did the overall usage of words create color and texture in the description? Was it clear that the writer took risks with their word choice?

Voice **Points: 5**

- Does the reader show passion about his/her topic?
- Is the tone natural and consistent, reflecting original thinking and expression?
- Does the writer capture a tone or mood with his/her words?

Section D: Application of Theme **Points: 15**

Please read the written statement to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. In what ways does your piece represent your individuality? What inspired or influenced you when writing your piece?
2. Are there any subtleties in the piece you were wishing would come across to the audience without having to be explained?
3. Do you feel you conveyed the theme well in your piece?

Written Statement

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose and inspiration of writings are clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Essay is easily understandable for Muslim and non-Muslim alike.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

PREPARED ESSAY BALLOT

Section A: Technical

Conventions _____ / 5 Points

Presentation _____ / 5 Points

Section B: Content

Ideas and Development _____ / 25 Points

Organization _____ / 25 Points

Sentence Fluency _____ / 10 Points

Section C: Style

Word Choice _____ / 10 Points

Voice _____ / 5 Points

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 15 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

SHORT FICTION

Procedures:

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. After registering, students are given a MIST ID Number, which must be used to identify the student on the submission. Names and other identifying information should not be written anywhere on the final submission.
3. Competitors must identify a target audience on the title page.
4. All competitors are to submit a PDF version of their submissions TWO WEEKS PRIOR to the regional tournament. Late submissions will result in a point deduction on your final score. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.
5. All submissions must be
    a. Typed and double spaced
    b. Have a cover page with the title, MIST ID, and intended audience age group only. The competitor name or other identifying markers must not appear anywhere on the submission.
    c. Typed on 8.5 X 11 inch paper, stapled in the left corner.
    d. No more than 10 pages (exclusive of title page), Times New Roman, 12 pt font.
6. If your region requires it, three copies of your story must also be taken to the MIST tournament and turned in by the competitor to the event section leader at the competitor's orientation.
7. Competitors will be judged according to the Short Fiction Ballot.

DETAILED BALLOT: SHORT FICTION

Section A: Technical — Points: 5

- Participant is on time for the competition.
- Submission does not exceed 10 (ten) pages.
- There are no identifiers on the submission aside from their MIST ID.

Section B: Content

Conventions — Points: 5

- Is the essay mostly free of spelling mistakes?
- Is the essay mostly free of punctuation mistakes?
- Is the essay mostly free of grammatical mistakes?

Ideas and Development — Points: 15

- Did the writer address the theme in a clear manner?
- Did the writer take a unique approach when addressing the theme?
- Did the writer stay on topic throughout the entire submission?
- Was the main idea or message clear to the reader?

Organization — Points: 10

- Is the title relevant and applicable to the story?
- Does the story have a logical series of events?
- Were there adequate details that led to a natural flow between introduction, plot, climax, and resolution?
- Were the paragraphs well-developed with natural transitions?
- Was the story original, not falling into cliché story lines?

Sentence Fluency — Points: 15

- Did the writer vary sentence types by using a mixture of simple and complex sentences?
- Do most sentences begin with different words?
- When read aloud, do the sentences flow well together?
- Was dialogue used where appropriate?

Section C: Style

Word Choice — Points: 20

- Did the writer use thoughtful adjectives to create more vivid imagery?
- Did the writer use strong action verbs to support the essay's message (i.e. "cruise" instead of "drive," or "stroll" instead of "walk")?
- Did the writer use precise nouns to help present a clear and distinct message (i.e. "7th Grade students" instead of just "students," or "Science project" instead of "project")?
- Was dialogue formatted in appropriate way?
- Did the overall usage of words create color and texture in the writing? Was it clear that this writer took risks with their word choice?

Voice — Points: 15

- Was the writer able to distinguish a clear voice in the story?
- Is the tone natural and consistent, reflecting original thinking and expression?
- Does the writer capture a tone or mood with his/her words?
- Does the writer appropriately reach the target audience?

Section D: Application of Theme **Points: 15**

Please read the written statement to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. In what ways does your piece represent your individuality? What inspired or influenced you when writing your piece?
2. Are there any subtleties in the piece you were wishing would come across to the audience without having to be explained?
3. Do you feel you conveyed the theme well in your piece?

Written Statement

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose and inspiration of writings are clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Essay is easily understandable for Muslim and non-Muslim alike.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

SHORT FICTION BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 5 Points**

Section B: Content

Conventions _____ / 5 Points

Ideas and Development _____ / 15 Points

Organization _____ / 10 Points

Sentence Fluency _____ / 15 Points

Section C: Style

Word Choice _____ / 20 Points

Voice _____ / 15 Points

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 15 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

SPOKEN WORD

Competitors must perform an original spoken word piece within a six (6) minute period. The piece must relate back to the theme, but also be applicable to a general audience.

Procedures

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. The competitor must provide 3 COPIES of his/her piece to be turned in during the competition orientation. MIST will not photocopy any pieces. Competitors must come prepared with their copies. The competitor must compete with the piece that is submitted at that time.
3. Orations must be labeled with the MIST ID ONLY. The competitor name must not appear anywhere on the work.
4. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
5. All competitors are to report to the competition room at the same time, which will be designated in the competition schedule.
6. Spoken word pieces will be judged based on the following criteria: writing, performance, originality, sincerity, and inspiration.
7. The performance should not exceed more than six (6) minutes. Points will be deducted from the total score if the performance exceeds the allotted time when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper.
8. No instruments can be used for the performance.

DETAILED BALLOT: SPOKEN WORD

Section A: Technical **Points: 10**

- Participant is on time for the competition.
- Did the piece last less than six minutes?
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.
- Participant looks credible and dressed for an interview.
- There are three (3) copies of the spoken word piece.

Section B: Spoken Word (Writing) **Points: 35**

- Is the Spoken Word piece free from any inappropriate content? If it contains profanity, sexual innuendo, etc., do not score rest of section; competitor receives 0/35. If so, continue scoring.

Content

- Is the structure of the piece easy to follow?
- Is the Spoken Word well written (i.e. Are rhyme, metaphors, and figurative language present in the piece)?
- Does the Spoken Word show originality and creativity?

Section C: Performance **Points: 40**

Stage Presence **Points: 20**

- Is there a connection with the audience, energy, and excitement?
- Do the competitors make use of the stage space? (i.e. Movement, body language.) Are bodily movements used in an effective manner?
- Does the competitor's performance grab your attention and convey sincerity and inspiration?

Familiarity **Points: 20**

- Are the words clear and easy to understand? (In their presentation, not interpretation) Is pronunciation acceptable?
- Are rate, pitch, and volume appropriate? Is vocal variety adequate?
- Does the competitor set an adequate mood relating to their spoken word piece?

Overall Ranking **Points: 15**

After the perusing of the oratory content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 15.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, intonation, or relation to the theme)
- 8 being average
- 15 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional extemporaneous speech content).

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

SPOKEN WORD BALLOT

Performance Duration: _____ : _____

Section A: Technical **_____ / 10 Points**

Section B: Content **_____ / 35 Points**

Section C: Performance

Stage Presence _____ / 20 Points

Familiarity _____ / 20 Points

Section D: Overall Ranking **_____ / 15 Points**

Total **_____ / 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

CATEGORY IV: BRACKETS

Debate:
Are you great at winning arguments? Do you have the poise of a public speaker and the convincing tone of a scholar? Join debate to compete with others who are just like you.

Math Olympics:
Think you have what it takes for the olympics? Earn the title of true Math Olympian in this intense battle of numbers.

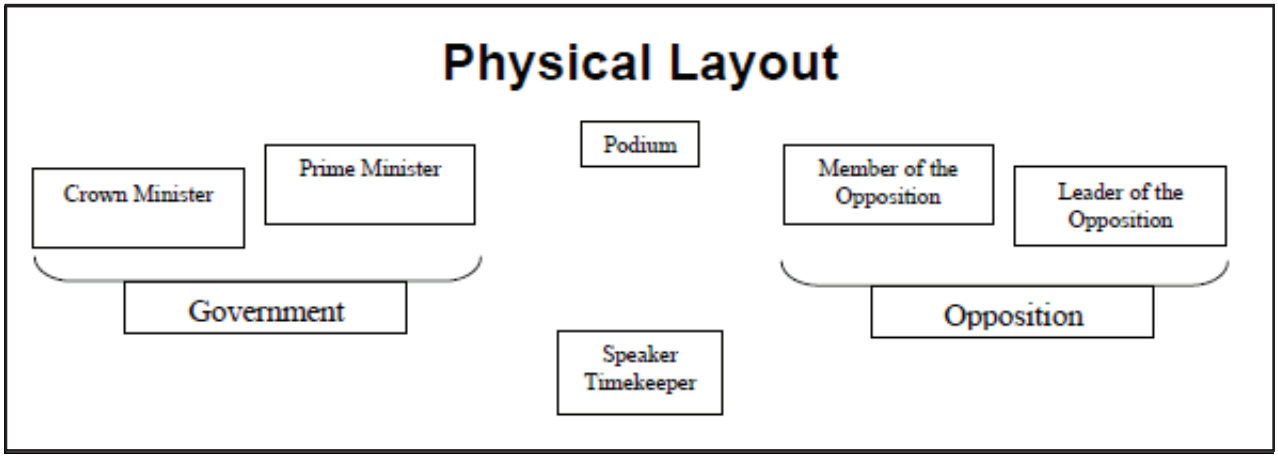
MIST Quiz Bowl:
Does the sound of a quiz bowl buzzer and recalling knowledge in seconds give you an adrenaline rush? Are you the kid that knows a little bit of everything, from the geography of China, to the poetry of Rumi? Then MIST Quiz Bowl is the competition for you!

Improv:
This competition is a fun way to display your creativity under spontaneous and timed circumstances. Each team must impress the judges in various hypothetical scenarios while under pressure to think on their feet and make the audience laugh!

DEBATE

Competition Guidelines:

MIST Parliamentary Debates attempt to transform detailed discussions that occur in the House of Commons to a format that teaches principles of reasoning, argument, and quick-wit. In addition, the Resolutions (i.e. debate topics) of Parliamentary Debates must be a question of policy (ex. Capital punishment is an effective deterrent to murder).



Procedures

Parliamentary Debate is a Bracket Competition, which stipulates that it is an elimination competition. There are two rounds of Preliminaries, one Quarterfinal Round (top 8 teams), one Semifinal Round (top 4 teams) and one Final Round. [In the event that an odd number of teams are present at the very first preliminary round of the Parliamentary Debate Tournament, even-numbered pairs will be made, with a randomized odd team given an automatic advancement to the 2nd preliminary round.] All teams regardless of round results advance to Round 2.

1. This competition is a team effort. Only two (2) people may register for this competition, and they must compete as a team. No substitutions are allowed.
2. The moderator of a Parliamentary debate is called the “Speaker” and all debaters must address themselves to “Mr. [or Madam] Speaker” at the outset of their speeches. The affirmative side is called the “Government” while the “Opposition” represents the negative. Participants in the debate and members of the audience are referred to collectively as the “House” while the resolution is simply termed the “Bill”. Debaters must always refer to one another in the third person (for example, “the Prime Minister”, “Leader of the Opposition”). They must not call other debaters by their real names.
3. Members will speak only when called upon by the Speaker or when allowed a ‘Point of Information’
4. Only one debater may hold the floor of the House at a time.
5. Debaters shall not use profane or offensive language.
6. During the final rebuttal speeches presented by the Leader of the Opposition and the Prime Minister, debaters may not bring up any new arguments or new evidence except in direct refutation of material which has already been presented.
7. Competitors are allowed to bring in notes and outlines on the Resolution and may refer to them at any point during the debate. If needed, they will also be provided with scrap paper for tracking their opponent’s arguments.
8. Competitors may not have access to blank debate ballots, nor are they allowed to view ballots at any point during the tournament. They are only allowed to access the Debater Feedback page of the ballot upon conclusion of the tournament.
9. Parliamentary Debate topics are available at www.getmistified.com

DEBATE STRUCTURE

Speaker	Roles and Debate Order	Time (minutes)
Prime Minister (PM)	Constructive Speech	7
Leader of Opposition (LO)	Constructive Speech + Rebuttal	**7**
Crown Minister (CM)	Constructive Speech + Rebuttal	7
Member of Opposition (MO)	Constructive Speech	7
Prime Minister (PM)	Rebuttal	3
Leader of Opposition (LO)	Rebuttal	3

PM Constructive Speech (7 minutes): Has the Burden of Proof and must show why the government side must be adopted. Introduces resolution, defines major terms, presents the basic government case (position) along with three or more constructive points (reasons) in favour of the House adopting the resolution.

LO (7 minutes)
Constructive Speech: The LO presents a new independent argument relating to the case. Outlines why the government case is flawed/wrong. Refutes the government case, explaining why the solution won't work or why the problem does not actually exist.
Rebuttal: Introduces new Opposition rebuttal points (specific additional reasons raised by the Opposition for why the Government case is wrong). The LO may also pose questions to the Government. Questions may be asked for clarification, or meant to corner opponents (not rhetorical). Government may not ask questions during this section, and may freely choose to answer or refuse to answer specific questions.

CM (7 minutes)
Constructive Speech: Brings forth additional one or two arguments supporting the government. The CM rebuilds the Government position and the original points introduced by the PM
CM Rebuttal: Goes through the points presented by the LO and rebuts them. The rebuttal should challenge the assumptions, and challenge the premises made by the Opposition.

MO (7 minutes)
Constructive Speech: Brings forth the bulk of the opposition arguments, introducing 3 or 4 points. The MO rebuilds the Opposition position and reconstructs the points introduced by the LO.

PM Rebuttal (3 minutes): Rebuild critical aspects of Government case and sum up entire debate by showing why the Government has won the debate. No new evidence or arguments may be presented here.

LO Rebuttal (final 3 minutes): Offers a rebuttal to the Government, summarizes the Opposition side and restates the Opposition points. No new evidence or arguments may be presented here.

Special Feature – Points of Information

Points of Information: Points of Information (POIs) are a unique feature of Parliamentary Debates. POIs are opportunities for debaters to rise during the opposition's speeches and offer a question or comment. To receive permission to present a POI, a debater must say "Point of Information" and place one hand on his/her head with one hand held out palm up. The speaker then knows the debater is interested in stealing the floor and may decline this request by waiving the individual down or saying "No thank you".

The POI can be used to clarify something or point out a flaw or contradiction in the speaker's argument or make a comment that will link to something the opposition will discuss later. POIs must be kept **very brief and to the point** (5-10 seconds). Only 2 POIs can be offered during any speech.

POIs cannot be offered during the first and last minute of constructive speeches. No POIs may be offered during the last two speeches. The entire final LO and PM rebuttals are protected and POIs cannot be offered during this time.

The Speaker

The Speaker acts as the timekeeper and introduces each debater before speaking. Before beginning, the Speaker should write the exact resolution and the names of debaters in their speaking order on a blackboard clearly visible to all judges. The Speaker must also flip a coin to determine which team will represent the Government and which will represent the Opposition.

The Speaker's Script is presented below:

The House will come to order. I am pleased to welcome you all to this _____ round of _____ _____.

The topic under debate today is "Be it resolved, that _____
On my right, representing the Government, are:

The Prime Minister: _____ and
The Crown Minister: _____

Speaking for Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition will be:
Member of the Opposition _____ and
The Leader of the Opposition: _____

On behalf of the House, I extend a special welcome to our Judges:
_____, _____, and
_____

I, _____, am your Speaker. The Government and Opposition will now be allowed five (5) minutes to prepare their cases.

Five (5) minutes of preparation time

After the Prime Minister's Speech, say: I thank the Prime Minister for his/her remarks. We shall now hear the Leader of Opposition.

After the Leader of Opposition Speech, say: Thank you for your remarks. I now call upon the Crown Minister to deliver his/her speech.

After the Crown Minister Speech, say: Thank you. A speaker for the Opposition will now deliver a speech opposing the Bill.

After the Member of the Opposition's speech, say: I thank the member of the Opposition, and now call upon the Prime Minister to present the Government's final rebuttal. During this final rebuttal, no new arguments may be made.

After the Prime Minister Speech, say: Thank you. The Leader of the Opposition will now deliver the last speech opposing the Bill.

Finally, say: On behalf of the House, I thank the Judges for their assistance; I congratulate all the debaters on their performances; and I thank the members of the House for their attentiveness. Since this debate is now concluded and there is no other business on the Order Paper, the House stands adjourned.

Judging Criteria

Organization: The speech should be well structured, logical & coherent, containing an effective introduction and conclusion.

Evidence/Logic: Facts, statistics & authorities offered in support of contentions must be sound. Credit should be given for thorough and relevant research.

Delivery: Poise quality & use of voice, combined with emphasis, variety and enunciation. Effectiveness and ease of gestures, and eye contact should be assessed.

Refutation/Clash: The ability to apply logic and evidence in refuting the opponents' contentions while defending your own.

Format: Does each debater demonstrate an understanding of parliamentary procedure & adhere to the rules of the house? Are points of order & privilege appropriately used?

Note to Judges and Competitors:

Due to the structured and formal nature of Parliamentary Debates, judges and competitors are required to be careful listeners, tracking each statement and argument, and weighing each piece of evidence in lieu of the topic. Judges will be required to follow each team's arguments very carefully, making special note of what they present, how they respond to their opponents, and how effectively their statements and evidence drive home the arguments that they are attempting to make. The end goal of debate is ultimately to decide which of the teams presented the ***most compelling arguments, and put up the best defence against their opponents' arguments, not only the quality of the delivery***. Judges will take all factors into account, and offer theirgrading on a holistic level, making sure never to allow personal biases or predispositions concerning the debaters or the topics to impact their ruling.

Judge's Name: _____

Parliamentary Debate Ballot

ROUND (CIRCLE ONE) Preliminary First | Preliminary Second | Semifinals | Finals

COMPETITORS' MIST IDS:

PRIME MINISTER: _____ LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: _____

CROWN MINISTER: _____ MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITION: _____

GOVERNMENT		OPPOSITION	
PRIME MINISTER	CROWN MINISTER	LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION	MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITION
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

CRITERIA FOR INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION
A scale of 1 to 5, wherein 1 is poor and 5 is excellent.

1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	**Organization**: the speech should be well structured, logical & coherent, containing an effective introduction and conclusion	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	**Evidence/Logic:** Facts, statistics & authorities offered in support of contentions must be sound. Credit should be given for thorough and relevant research.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	**Delivery:** Poise quality & use of voice, combined with emphasis, variety and enunciation. Effectiveness and ease of gestures and eye contact should be assessed.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	**Refutation/Clash:** The ability to apply logic and evidence in refuting the opponents' contentions while defending your own.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	**Format:** Does each debater demonstrate an understanding of parliamentary procedure & adhere to the rules of the House? Are points of order and privilege appropriately used?	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
		TOTALS (please double check)		
	/25 /25		/25 /25	
TEAM	/50 x 2 = /100		TEAM	/50 x 2 = /100

OFFICIAL MIST BALLOT

Parliamentary Debate

Debater Feedback Section:

Please provide brief feedback for competitors in the following space, including constructive criticism and points to improve upon. Separate both sections and return to the competitors upon the conclusion of the Tournament.

MIST ID: _____

TOTAL GOVERNMENT SCORE: /100
TOTAL OPPOSITION SCORE: /100

ROUND: Prelim 1 Prelim 2 Prelim 3 Semis Finals
(CIRCLE ONE)

POSITION: Prime Minister Leader of the Opposition
(CIRCLE ONE TEAM MEMBER) Crown Minister Member of the Opposition

JUDGE'S FEEDBACK:

MATH OLYMPICS

Procedures:

1. A limit of two (2) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. This competition will test students' ability to think critically and apply arithmetic to solve word problems.
3. No knowledge of Trigonometry or Calculus is required. An understanding of only Geometry, Algebra I & II and Statistics & Probability are sufficient for a student.
4. A number 2 pencil is required.
5. Basic scientific calculators are allowed. Calculators with graphing ability, such as the TI-83 or higher, are NOT allowed.
6. Students will a get a set of problems in different rounds. The student with the highest number of points moves on to the next round.
7. A ballot is not provided for this competition, as scoring will be based solely on test performance.

Layout:

The competition will be split up into three portions. The first portion will be the MIST Math Olympics Pretest, the second will be the Ciphering Round I, and the last portion will be the Ciphering Round II. If two or more competitors tie by the end of Ciphering Round II, then the competitors will go into the Ciphering Bonus Round.

The Pretest will consist of 30 different questions ranging from Geometry and Algebra and will be one hour long. The two Ciphering Rounds will both contain 10 questions. The ciphering round questions are not only designed to be difficult but also put the competitor under time pressure by giving him/her only a couple minutes to answer each question.

MIST Math Olympics Study Guide:

The pretest and the ciphering rounds may also include topics not covered in the study guide.

1. Geometric Formulas (The competitor will be asked to recognize or apply these formulas)
   a. Area of two dimensional shapes
   b. Perimeter of two dimensional shapes
   c. Volume of three dimensional shapes
   d. Surface Area of three dimensional shapes
   e. Pythagorean Theorem
   f. Arc length formula
   g. Slope of Line
   h. Midpoint Formula
   i. Equation of a circle
   j. Distance Formula
2. Geometry (The competitor needs to have a strong understanding of these topics)
   a. Find the point of intersection between two lines
   b. Find a line parallel/perpendicular to a given line
   c. 30-60-90 triangles
   d. 45-45-90 triangles
   3. Graphing
   a. Graphing a function
   b. From a given graph determine if the equation is a function
   c. Identify an even or odd function
4. Algebraic Formulas and Methods (The competitor will be asked to apply these methods)
   a. Quadratic Formula
   b. Pascal's Triangle
   c. Finding a quadratic equation from given points
   d. Factoring
   e. Simplifying polynomial expressions
   f. Simplifying expression with radicals
   g. Finding max and min
   h. Describing the nature of the roots
   i. Given g(x) and f(x), then find f(g(x)).
5. Algebra (The competitor needs to have a strong understanding of these topics)
   a. Mean, Median, and Mode
   b. Logarithmic functions
   c. Inverse functions
   d. Range and Domain
   e. Basic rate functions
   f. Factorials
   g. Inequalities
6. Probability
   a. Combination
   b. Binomial Probability Formula
7. Logic

The following problems are examples that may show up on either the Pretest or Ciphering Rounds. The problems will be rated from [0,1,2,3] with 0 being easy, 1 being fair, 2 being difficult, and 3 being challenging. Type [0] questions will only be found on the pretest. Type [1] may be found on the pretest or Ciphering I. Type [2] may be found on the last couple questions of the pretest, or Ciphering Rounds I and II. Type [3] questions may be found in Ciphering Round II or the Ciphering Bonus Round. You will notice the ciphering round questions often involve a combination of two or more topics listed in the study guide. Below are a total of 35 quesitons. Their answers are also posted.

Geometric Formula Questions:

1. The circumference of a circle is 8π, find the area of the circle. [0[
2. Calculate the volume and surface area of a box with the dimensions l = 30cm, w = 5cm, h = 10cm. [1]
3. A right triangle has a hypotenuse which measures 10cm. If one of the sides measures 8cm, then find the length of the other side. [0]
4. There exists an arc with the length 6πcm which is formed by the angle of 270°. Find the radius. [1]
5. A line passes through the point (4,5) and (-2,8). Find the equation of the line. [0]
6. There exists a line segment with its endpoints at (-1,-2) and (4,8). Find the midpoint of the line segment. [0]
7. A circle has the radius of 8 with its center at (2,4). Find the equation of the circle. [0]
8. Find the distance between the points (1,2) and (6,7). Leave answer in simplest radical form. [1]
9. Given the points A(1,-3) and B(-5,11), find the equation of the line perpendicular to the line segment AB which crosses at the midpoint of AB. [2]

Geometry Questions:

1. Find the distance between the lines $y = 3x+ 4$ and $y = 3x – 5$ and give the equation of the line perpendicular to $y = 3x + 4$ which crosses the point (2,1). [2]
2. Given a 45-45-90 triangle with the height of 5cm, find the hypotenuse of the triangle. [0]
3. If $f(x) = 2x + 8$ and $g(x) = (x/3) – 4$, then find the point of intersection of the two lines algebraically. [1]
4. Given a 30-60-90 triangle, if the length of its smallest side is 4cm, then find the length of the height and the hypotenuse of the triangle. [1]

Graphing Questions:

1. Solve and graph the function $3 \geq |x + y|$ using complete solution curves. [2]
2. The equation, where y is a function of x, has the following coordinates. Is the equation a function? Explain. [1]

Y	X
1	3
2	3
3	4
4	5

3. Does there exist a cubic* function which is even? [1]
   a. *Cubic in this case means that does there exists any constants a, b, c, and d, where the function $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ will be an even function given $a \neq 0$.

Algebraic Formulas and Method Questions:

1. Simplify* the following expression: $(1/(2+\sqrt{3}))$[1]
   a. *Remember simplifying an expression means to annihilate any radicals in the denominator and leave any radicals in the numerator in simplest radical form.
2. Simplify* the following expression: $(1/(2+\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{7}))$ [3]
   a. *The question simply wants to know if you are able remove all radicals in the denominator. Therefore for the sake of time conservation you may leave the numerator not simplified.
3. Simplify the following expression: $(x^3+5x^2+6x)/(x^2+2x)$ [1]
4. Find the roots of the function: $y = x^2+10x+5$[1]
5. An arrow is shot which reaches the height of 10cm and lands 5cm away from the shooter. If all else equals* find the formula of the quadratic equation which best represents the path of the arrow. [2]
   a. *The term "if all else equals" simply means that all other variables are held constant. For example wind speed and other variables will not affect the question.
6. Adam scores a grade of 79 and 92 on his first two tests. What is the minimum score Adam needs on his next exam to achieve a final grade of 90? Assume all exam grades are weighted equally. [1]
7. Find the middle term of the expansion $(2x+3)^6$. [2]
8. Given $x^2+4x-20 = 0$, describe the nature of the roots. [1]

Algebra Questions:

1. If $f(x) = 3x + 8$ and $g(x) = x^2-2x$, then find $f^{-1}(g(3))$. [2]
2. If $\log_2 64 = n$ then find n. [0]
   a. *This problem may deserve a level of [1] in difficulty, but in this case the answer should be observably trivial after completing one step, thus given a rating of [0].
3. Simplify* the expression: $\log_3 3\sqrt[3]{81} - \log_9 27^{-6} + 3\log_{81} 9$. [3]
   a. *Simplification of log expressions could in this case mean combining the logs. However doing that would be extremely messy and deserving a rating higher than a [3]. Rather I want you to solve this expression such that you have an answer with no logs, thus a quantitative result.
4. Find the range and domain of $y= \sqrt{(x + 2)}$. [0]
5. An automated tennis ball dispenser dispenses 45 ball per minute. If an automated baseball dispenser dispenses baseballs 20% faster than the tennis ball dispenser, then how fast does the baseball dispenser dispense every hour? [1]
6. A car was purchased at $45,000. After three years the car is now worth $32,000. Find the rate of depression per year. Leave the answer to the nearest percent. [2]
7. Simplify the following expression: $((x+2)!)/(x!)$. [1]

Probability Questions:

1. A committee of 6 people is to be selected from a group of 10 women and 4 men. What is the probability that the committee consists of 3 women and 3 men? [2]
2. Ali is a professional basketball player who has determined that he makes nine 3pt shots per every ten attempts. What is the probability that out of 25 shots he misses 4? [1]

Logic Questions:

1. How many ways can the letters of the word TEAM be arranged? [1]
2. If the operation $a \cdot b$ is defined by $a^b + b$, such that $a \cdot b = a^b + b$, then find n, where $n \cdot 2 = 38$. [1]

Answers start on next page

ANSWERS:

If you have any questions regarding how to solve these problems, please contact competitions@getmistified.com, or the Muslim Interscholastic Tournament Facebook page.

Geometry Formula Questions:

1. 1. 16π
2. Volume = 1,500cm^3, Surface Area = 1,000cm^2.
3. 6cm
4. r=4
5. y= -½x+7
6. (5,3)
7. (x-2^2+(y-4)^2) = 64
8. 5√2
9. y = 3/7x + 34/7

Geometry Questions:

1. distance = 9 units*, y = -(x/3+5/3) *Since the units were not provided, distance = 9 will also be accepted. However, be sure to provide units in your answer if it is provided in your question.
2. 5√2 cm
3. (- 36/5, - 32/5)
4. height = 4√3 cm, hypotenuse = 8 cm

Graphing Questions:

1. 3 - x ≥ y ≥ -3 - x. The graph of the inequality will look like the shaded region between the lines y = 3 - x and y = -3- x.
2. The curve is not a function. Fails to pass the vertical line test.
3. No, by the definition of an even function.

Algebraic Formulas and Method Questions:

1. 2-√3
2. -(2-√5+√7) (-8-2√35)/76
3. x+3
4. x = -5±2√5
5. y = -8/5(x^2)+8x
6. 99%
7. 4320x^3
8. Real, irrational and unequal.

Algebra Questions:

1. -5/3
2. n=6
3. 147/40
4. D:[-2,∞), R: [0,∞)
5. 3240 baseballs/hour
6. rate of depression = 11%
7. x^2+3x+2

Probability Questions:

1. 16%
2. 14%

Logic Questions

1. 24 possible combinations
2. n=6

MIST QUIZ BOWL

Topics and links to study materials will be made available at getmistified.com

Rules:

1. Teams will consist of a minimum of two (2) members and a maximum of six (6). At any given time, only a maximum of four (4) students can play. A student can substitute for another student ONLY between rounds.
2. If your team has six (6) students, there will be four (4) starters and two (2) people on the bench. The more students you have on your bowl team, the better it is for your team. This way, each student can study one of the six scholastic bowl categories.
3. Scores will not released to the competitors after the end of the rounds.

Preliminary/Quarterfinals/Semifinal Round Procedures

1. A preliminary/quarterfinals/semifinal competition consists of three rounds, with a total of 42 questions. A round consists of 7 questions each from 2 categories, with a total of 6 categories covered by the end of competition. Questions for the entire competition are printed in one packet, with each round clearly marked. Appropriate point values are pre-assigned.
2. Each team is allowed 6 members, with no more than 4 members participating per round. Teams are allowed to shuffle their players ONLY between rounds. Judges should announce which two categories are being played in each round so that each team may arrange itself accordingly.
3. The competition begins with the judges explaining the rules of Round 1 to the competitors. Judges will tell the teams which two categories are represented in Round 1. This round begins with the judge reading the point value of the question first, and then proceeding to read the question aloud. Only after the judge has finished reading the ENTIRE question may the competitors buzz in, which will be signaled by the judge saying “Done”. The “Done” rule will only be applicable for Round 1, and will be dropped for the rest of the rounds. If a team buzzes in before the entire question is read, then they will not have the opportunity to answer that question. It is up to the judges’ discretion to select whether or not teams have adhered to the done rule.The first team to buzz in after the judge has said “Done” must begin to answer within 10 seconds and must finish answering within 30 seconds. This means that you have a total of 30 seconds to provide a complete answer. If judges suspect that you are stalling on a question or are “buying time,” they have the right to penalize you accordingly. A correct answer wins points and an incorrect answer does not penalize the team. If an incorrect answer is given, then the floor is reopened once the judge has said “incorrect.” The question may now be answered by the next team to buzz in for half of its original point value, with a 10 second limit given on the response. Only two teams can attempt to answer any single question, after which, if both teams are unsuccessful, the judge will give the answer and proceed to the next question. The entire round consists of 14 questions from two categories. Scores will not be released to the competitors after the end of any round.
4. Round 2 follows with the next two categories of questions which follow in the packet, which will be mentioned at the beginning of the round. The rules for Round 2 are identical to the rules in Round 1, except the “Done” rule will be dropped for Rounds 2 and 3. Judges will read the point-value of the question firstly, and then proceed to read the question to completion. If a competitor believes that they can anticipate the answer from the current question, they may buzz in early and answer the question. If the student interrupts the moderator to give an answer, the student should immediately give the answer. The competitor must respond within the 10 second limit of buzzing in, and if incorrect, the question will be opened to the floor for all other teams. For example, if a team were to respond incorrectly to a 200 point question, then 200 points are deducted from their running total. The question point value would be halved to 100 and be open for any other team to answer. If another team were to then respond to this same question incorrectly, then that team is penalized 100 points.
5. Round 3 then follows in the same fashion as Round 2: incorrect answers are to be penalized. Judges will mention which two categories are being represented in Round 3.

Preliminary Competition Point Summary

Round #	Initial Point Value	Second Attempt	Penalty	Time to Answer
1	Given Before Each Question	Yes, ½ initial point value	No	10 seconds per attempt
2	Given Before Each Question	Yes, ½ initial point value	Yes	10 seconds per attempt
3	Given Before Each Question	Yes, ½ initial point value	Yes	10 seconds per attempt

Final Round Procedures

1. The finals competition consists of three rounds, with a total of 42 questions. Questions for the entire competition are printed in one packet, with each round clearly marked. Round 1 and round 2 consist of one question related to each category printed in one packet, with each round clearly marked. Round 1 and round 2 consist of one question related to each category, thus there are six questions per round. In round 3, questions will proceed jeopardy-style with each team captain choosing the category and point value.
2. Each team is allowed 6 members, with no more than 4 members participating per round. Teams are allowed to shuffle their players ONLY between rounds.
3. To begin the competition, judges will explain the rules of Round 1 to the competitors. This round is free-form, with the judge reading each question aloud. Only after the judge has finished reading the ENTIRE question may the competitors buzz in, which will be signaled by the judge saying "Done." If a team buzzes in before the entire question is read, then they will not have the opportunity to answer that question. It is up to the judges' discretion to select whether or not teams have adhered to the done rule.The first team to buzz in must answer within 10 seconds. A correct answer wins points and an incorrect answer does not penalize the team. If an incorrect answer is given, then the floor is reopened once the judge has said "incorrect." The question may now be answered by the next to buzz in for half of its original point value, with a 10 second limit given on the response. Only two teams can attempt to answer any single question, after which, if both teams are unsuccessful, the judge will give the answer and proceed to the next question. Each question in this round is worth 100 points.
4. The rules for Round 2 are exactly the same as Round 1, except that teams are penalized for incorrect answers and the "done" rule will no longer be in effect. For example, if a team were to respond incorrectly to a question, then 200 points are deducted from their running total. If a team were to then respond to this same question incorrectly when its value has been halved to 100 points (when the floor is reopened), then that team is penalized 100 points. Each question in this round is worth 200 points.
5. In Round 3, a jeopardy-style game will be played with each team captain choosing the category and point value. For example, a team captain could say "History for 300 please." Judges will then ask the appropriate question from the packet. The team with the lowest score will start off the round. After a question has been read, any team will be allowed to buzz in to attempt an answer. If a team answers a question correctly, then they will be able to select another question. An incorrect answer will result in a penalty as in Round 2. Following an incorrect response, the floor will be open for answers immediately after the judge says "incorrect." If no team is able to answer the question after 10 seconds, the same team will be able to choose another question. Note: in Round 3, a board or display showing the category-value matrix will be necessary. An assistant who is keeping score will cross off each box on the matrix when that question has been asked. Scores will not be released to the competitors after the end of any round.
6. Judges will not announce the winner of the final competition. This will occur during the award ceremony.

Finals Competition Point Summary

Round #	Initial Point Value	Second Attempt	Penalty	Time to Answer
1	100 points	Yes, ½ initial point value	No	10 seconds per attempt
2	200 points	Yes, ½ initial point value	Yes	10 seconds per attempt
3	Jeopardy Style	Yes, ½ initial point value. Last team to answer a question correctly gets to choose next question.	Yes	10 seconds per attempt

Audience Guidelines

1. Arrive on time or a little early. If you arrive late, you will not be allowed entry into the room. Additionally, once inside the room, you will not be allowed to exit.
2. Sit quietly and attentively.
    - No audience members (whether coaches, parents, or others) are allowed to speak to the competitors during rounds. Please hold your comments and questions until a judge announces the conclusion of a round.
    - No talking or loud whispering during the competition. If organizers suspect an audience member is communicating answers or clues to competitors, they will be asked to leave the room.
    - Remain seated during the competition (i.e. No walking about)
    - No whistling, yelling, or other loud methods of congratulations should be done. If a competitor is focused and ready, but becomes distracted it can really throw off his/her performance.
3. No photography and/or filming.
4. Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices.
5. Parents, coaches and other supporters are more than welcome to attend MIST Quiz Bowl. Please check with your Regional Headquarters to confirm.
6. Please note that the above guidelines apply to them as well.

IMPROV

Improv Overview

Improv, short for improvisation, is a performance that features spontaneous, unscripted elements. Playing improv games improves teamwork and teaches actors intuition, self-confidence and listening skills. This competition is done live in front of the judging panel. Depending on your region, there may also be a live audience. There will be a separate competition for brothers and for sisters. So, each school will have the opportunity to bring a sisters improv team as well as a brothers improv team.

Improv Competition Structure

The Improv competition is now categorized as a brackets competition, which introduces a more competitive element, and also requires elimination of teams such that only the highest scoring teams are allowed to qualify within advancing brackets.

The Improv competition will consist of 3 separate rounds, with 2 competitions (games) played per round. ***PLEASE NOTE:*** unlike Debate and Bowl, which have 4 rounds each, Improv follows a competition-style similar to Math Olympics, with only 3 rounds.

1. **Preliminary:** All registered improv teams are permitted to perform in this round, and each team will be given an opportunity to play 2 games. The combined scores for both games should be calculated out of 100 points, and the top 4 teams with the highest ranked scores will be allowed to advance to the semifinal round. In the event of a score tie, judges should exercise unbiased discretion as to which team should advance.
2. **Semifinals:** Only the top 4 advancing teams from prelims are permitted to compete in this round. A total of 2 games between each team will be played, with a 3rd game allowed only if time permits. The scores from each game should be calculated out of a total of 100 points and the higher scoring team will be allowed to advance to the final round.
3. **Finals:** For the last remaining 2 teams, a total of 2 games between each team will be played, with a 3rd game allowed only if time permits. The scores from each game should be combined and the higher scoring team will be awarded 1st place.

*****In the event that 4 teams or fewer register for Improv, the brackets style system can be modified to allow for a greater number of games to be played, and for one or more rounds to be skipped depending on the number of teams registered. Rankings should be determined by an average of all of the game scores achieved by each team.**

Improv Rules and Regulations

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss or disqualification from the tournament.

1. Each school may bring a brothers' team (consisting of a maximum of six brothers) as well as a sisters' team (consisting of a maximum of six sisters).
2. This competition is a team effort. Teams may consist of a minimum of four (4) members and a maximum of six (6) members.
3. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
4. Competitors shall report at the appropriate time to the designated place. Competitors shall be introduced to the judges by their MIST IDs.
5. This competition consists of three (3) rounds with two (2) games each. Each team will perform the first game, and once all teams have performed, we will move on to the second game. At the end of each game, judges will take a moment to write their scores, and they will also be allowed 2 minutes per team to ask questions if necessary. Then, the subsequent game will begin.
6. All teams will have equal playing time, and they will all play the same games.
7. This competition will be moderated by a host. The host will make introductions, announce the rules and explain the game. The rules for each game will differ. For examples of improv games, see: http://improvencyclopedia.org. For example, the host may say, "The game is called Questions, and the rule is that players must only speak in questions. No sentences ending with a period and no fragments – just questions. If the actor says something that is not a question, or if they continually repeat questions ("What did you say?" "What did you say again?"), then a judge sounds the buzzer and the game is over for the presenting team. The limits for this game are: Three (3) players, 30 second prep time, two (2) minute presentation."
8. The host will then randomly pick a team to come up to the stage. This team will be asked to pick one situation out of a hat. For example, using the game described above, the situation might be: "At the theme park," and so the players might act out a situation like this: a tourist asks, "How do I get to the water ride?" and the ride operator replies, "First time at Gatorland?" In response, the tourist says, "How can you tell?"...and so on.
9. Teams must adhere to the time limit.

1. If a team violates any of the game rules, a judge will sound the buzzer. Alternatively, the buzzer will sound once time is up. Once the buzzer has sounded, all players must stop their performances, and exit the stage.
2. Once a team has presented, the next team will be called up to the stage to play the same game, but with a different situation.
3. Judging is based on improvisation, projection, articulation, wit, intelligence, believability, body language and ability to create your environment. Competitors will be judged according to the Improv Ballot.
4. All competitors must adhere to Islamic principles and appropriate language. Points will be deducted, or the team disqualified (upon judges' consideration) for inappropriate actions or comments that do not follow the Competition Guidelines.

DETAILED BALLOT: IMPROV

Team MIST ID: _____ Total Score: /100

Judge's Printed Name: _____ Rank _____

Round (circle one): Preliminary Semifinals Finals

CRITERIA	GAME 1	GAME 2	GAME 3 (if applicable)
Technical Performance [20 points] How well did the performers adhere to the rules of the games? Did their act reflect the given prompts? Did they perform within the time limits? Did the performance adhere to Islamic guidelines and MIST guidelines of proper conduct and speech? If not, was the performance offensive or inappropriate?	/20	/20	/20
Skit Structure and Organization[20 points] How effective was the setup, layout, placement of characters, and creation of the setting for the act? Did the performance have a logical plot development and sequence of events? How cohesive and understandable was the act?	/20	/20	/20
Character Acting [20 points] Are character portrayals believable and memorable? Do actors avoid the use of cliché or uninspired roles? Do actors communicate expressively, illuminating the life, mannerisms, and reactions of their roles?	/20	/20	/20
Acting Style and Comedic Skill [20 points] Do actors use their voices appropriately, enunciating and using a variety of rate, pitch, emotion, and volume? Do actors move expressively, using appropriate body language, facial expressions, and movement? Is creative and comedic improvisation used, including flexibility, spontaneity and risk-taking?	/20	/20	/20
Teamwork and Team Interaction [20 points] Are actors able to effectively cooperate with one another as a team, without overpowering one another? Do all team members participate equally?	/20	/20	/20
TOTAL GAME SCORE:	/100	/100	/100
TOTAL AVERAGED SCORE: **(Calculate the average of 2 (or 3) games, and use this number for team rankings and advancement)**	/100		

CATEGORY V: GROUP PROJECTS

Business Venture:
This competition encourages you to think about the business world, become a philanthropist, and market your own products. Familiarize yourself with modern trends and market values, while developing your own fantastic product or service!

Nasheed/Rap:
Calling all aspiring singers! The nasheed/ rap category is ideal for anyone who desires to write unique lyrics and use their singing skills to capture people's attention about topics they are passionate about.

Community Service:
A new competition that is a combination of Research Methods and Community Service;
Show us your next great research idea by focusing on your community. How can you improve your community? Conduct a research project that demonstrates your intellectual and critical thinking capabilities. Come up with a creative and effective plan of action to serve a need.

Science Fair:
Are you an aspiring scientist? Do you love research? Then this competition is for you! Design, conduct and share the results of your own study to a panel of esteemed judges. Don't forget to use the scientific method!

Short Film:
Showcase your editing, directing, and acting skills! Make a documentary, drama, comedy, thriller or animation to convey a particular message to the audience while relating your film to the MIST theme.

Social Media:
Have media platforms such as Facebook or Twitter taken over your life? Have you started either reading or seeing more blogs? Take your online social habits to the next level by creating a social media presence for your MIST team!

BUSINESS VENTURE

The Business Venture competition allows two or more individuals to work together on a specific business project. It allows competitors to develop and enhance their business ideas, and ultimately put their business to the test. This competition is also commonly known as a Business Plan competition or a Business Case competition.

Procedures:

1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. One submission per MIST team.
2. Each participating team must prepare a business venture project that reflects this year's theme.
3. This competition consists of a) a written Business Venture outline and b) a 7-10 minute presentation.
4. Each team must have a student leader, but all team members should be involved in developing the written outline as well as the presentation of the project.
5. Competitors must submit a proposal of their desired project four (4) weeks prior to the date of the MIST tournament for approval by your Regional Competitions Headquarters. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact them for more information.
6. Competitors must submit three (3) copies of a typed Business Venture outline on the first day of the tournament.
7. Each team must present to a panel of judges for 7-10 minutes. The presentation will be followed by a two (2) minute question and answer session. The focus of the presentation will be to pitch your idea with the goal of convincing judges to invest in your venture.
8. The presentation should include supplemental materials, such as product samples, pictures or other visual or video aids (ex. PowerPoint, display board, television advertisement, etc.).
9. Project ideas must be original and innovative. Submissions must be the entrepreneur's original idea - proof of origination should be available if requested by the judges. The business idea may be new or already implemented.
10. Judging criteria will be based on the official MIST ballot for the Business Venture competition.
11. The primary criterion the judges will use in evaluating the business venture will be: "Would I invest in this company?"

Outline Details:

The following is a list of requirements for the Business Venture Outline:

- Typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font.
- Cover page with the title of the project and MIST IDs only, stapled on the left side.
- The project outline should include visual aids, such as pictures, charts and graphs. Do not include any physical samples.
- Executive Summary: A summary of your business venture project, description of your project, market analysis, marketing plan and financial plan. No more than a few paragraphs long.
- Introduction: Describe your product/service in detail. What is the business? How does it work and how does it make money? What is the value of your product/service in the industry? What is the industry like?
- Market Analysis: Who are your customers (i.e. the targeted market) and what are they like? Who are your competitors and what are they doing? What are the market characteristics and size? Is it a growing market? Is there a demand for your product/service?
- Marketing Plan: How can you reach this market? What is your overall strategy? What competitive advantage(s) do you have over your competitors? How will you test your product/service against your targeted market? Ensure that you detail the specifics of your marketing plan, including timelines, and specific marketing strategies.
- Financial Plan: What does your budget look like and how will you monitor costs? How much startup funding would you need and what would you do with the money? What is your profit potential? What key financial considerations do you need to take into account?
- Project Viability: What are the biggest threats to your business venture and how will you address them? Is the venture stable and growth oriented or speculative and risky? What are your risk factors and how will you address them?
- Discussion: How will the project contribute to the Muslim community and the community at large? How does it relate to this year's MIST theme? What are some ways you can expand this project in the future?
- Please note that the questions above are simply a guide. Teams do not need to answer all of the questions, however all topics (market analysis, marketing plan, financial plan...etc.) must be addressed.

Checklist:

- Business Venture Outline
- Supplemental materials for group presentation.
- The submission should be clearly labeled with:
    - MIST IDs
    - Name of Competition

DETAILED BALLOT: BUSINESS VENTURE

Section A: Technical — Points: 10

- Presenter(s) are on time for the competition.
- Interview duration is within 7-10 minutes
- There are no identifiers on the submission aside from their MIST ID.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview

Section B: Presentation Components — Points: 15

Visual Aid:

- Did the presenters use a visual aid?
- Was the visual presentation neat and clearly comprehensible?
- Did the presenters clearly tie their project with the visual aid used?

Introduction, Body, & Conclusion

- Did the presenters grab your attention with their introduction?
- Was the business venture clearly stated in the introduction? Was the introduction brief and concise? Did the presenter preview and give focus to the key ideas?
- Did the presenter make effective use of signposting, internal summaries, and transitions? Was there a logical progression of ideas?
- Was adequate time devoted to each section of the presentation within the 7-10 minute time limit?
- Did the presenters conclusively tie the presentation together? Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Presentation Delivery — Points: 20

Delivery:

- Was the delivery natural, lively, and spontaneous? Was the presenters' enunciation clear and the volume appropriate?
- Did their delivery reinforce the ideas of the project?
- Were their gestures varied, movement motivated, and eye contact direct?
- Was there sufficient variety in rate, pause, and pitch?

Language Style:

- Did the presenters exhibit command of conversational style?
- Was the language suitable to informing the audience?
- Was the language precise, grammatically correct, and vivid?

Section D: Presentation Analysis & Content — Points: 20

- Did the presenters answer the questions clearly?
- Was the content informative? Was the information pertinent to their project idea? Was the information adequately documented?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, visual aids, and/or expert opinion?
- Is the business venture within the scope of the competitors' ability?
- Did the competitors approach the business venture in an original manner? Was the venture well thought out and did it show initiative in thought and design?

Section E: Business Venture Outline **Points: 35**

- Does the Executive Summary identify the problem and the business proposition for solving the problem? Does it identify customers and competitors and illustrate the viability of the business idea?
- Does the venture have sound value proposition? Have the competitors developed the product concept clearly?
- Are key features and benefits of the product/service clearly described?
- Does the venture demonstrate a need/want for the product/service by customers?
- Does the Market Analysis show evidence of research and is well thought out?
- Are descriptions of target market segments and competitors clearly established and are their attributes clearly illustrated?
- Is the product/service feasibly marketable? Is there a demand? Is there sustainable competitive advantage?
- Is the Marketing Plan clear and is it appropriate for the chosen product/service? Are marketing strategies likely to be effective?
- What is the likelihood of the business plan becoming a viable business? Could the venture be profitable?
- Have key financial considerations been taken into account adequately? Does the return clearly justify the investment and the risk involved in the project?
- Is the Financial Plan reasonable and does it make sense based on the rest of the business plan?
- Is the venture stable and growth oriented or speculative and risky?
- Does the venture have high sensitivity to the actions of competitors, technology, the industry...etc.?
- Does the venture exemplify creativity and innovation?

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

BUSINESS VENTURE BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 10 Points**

Section B: Presentation Components

Visual Aid _____ / 5 Points

Introduction, Body, Conclusion _____ / 10 Points

Section C: Presentation Delivery

Delivery _____ / 10 Points

Language Style _____ / 10 Points

Section D: Presentation Analysis & Content _____ **/ 20 Points**

Section E: Business Venture Outline _____ **/ 35 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

NASHEED/RAP

Procedures:

1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. One submission per MIST team.
2. There will be a separate competition for brothers and for sisters. Hence, each team must either be all male or all female.
3. The performance should not exceed more than 5 minutes. Points will be deducted from the total score if the performance exceeds the allotted time.
4. The Nasheed/Rap competition is different from the Spoken Word competition. Therefore, if a competitor registers for both competitions, they may not use the same piece.
5. The only instrument that can be used for the performance is a drum with an open end (daf). Full drum kits, floor drums, etc. will not be allowed. Drums will not be supplied by MIST. Each group is responsible for bringing their own drums. Other methods used for rhythm may be explored such as vocal percussion (beatboxing), etc. Groups cannot use digitally enhanced sounds for their performance.
6. Groups must perform in front of an audience. No repeat performances from previous years are allowed.
7. The competitors must submit three hard copies of their Nasheed lyrics to the MIST Nasheed judges before they perform.
8. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Nasheed/Rap Ballot.

DETAILED BALLOT: NASHEED/RAP

Section A: Administrative **Points: 5**

- Presenters(s) are on time for the competition
- Nasheed/Rap is under five (5) minutes
- There are no identifiers on the submission aside from the MIST ID
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview

Section B: Content/Structure **Points: 15**

- Is the Nasheed free from any inappropriate content? If it contains profanity, sexual innuendo, etc. do not score the rest of the section; competitor receives 0/15. If so, continue scoring.
- Is the Nasheed well written, (ie Are rhyme, metaphors, and figurative language present in the lyrics?)
- Does the Nasheed show originality and creativity?
- Intro: does it establish a melodic, harmonic, and/ or rhythmic pattern related to the piece? Does it establish a basic connection with the listener?
- Verse: how well does it tie into the main purpose? Are the verses well defined? Is there a story/message to easily follow throughout each verse?
- Chorus: is the chorus easy to follow? Is it catchy? How does the chorus embody the message of the song?
- Bridge: 1 bonus point

Section C: Technical **Points: 25**

- Intonation: Tone quality, pitch, accuracy, blend and balance
- Vocal Technique: Articulation, rhythmic accuracy, fluency, flexibility, breath control, etc.
- Tone: sound or timbre pleasing to the ear, blend, evenness
- Is there a unique texture to the performer's voice/s? Is it a soft or gentle sound? A hoarse or gravely sound?
- Does/do the performer/s display a unique wide range of vocal tones? Is it just monotone? Can performer/s move from a low to medium to high note effectively? Can high notes be articulated without cracking or straining their voice? Do the low notes contain power/strength
- Rhythmic Integrity and interpretation: Style, tempo, phrasing, dynamic contract, etc.
- Musical effect and diction. Phrasing and melodic sensitivity, artistry, expressive and musical feeling, etc.
- Musicianship: Sensitivity to all aspects of execution in order to make an effective musical result: phrasing, dynamics (good sense of loud and soft singing), vocal attack.

Section D: Delivery **Points: 20**

- Stage Presence: Is there a connection with the audience, energy, and excitement? Is there connection between the piece and the performer's emotions? Does the performer embody the piece? Body language?
- Are the members of the group in time with one another (rhythm)? If it is one member are they maintaining tempo?
- Are the members of the group in tune with one another? If the group consists of one member, do they have good tone?
- Are the lyrics clear and easy to understand? (In their presentation, not interpretation)
- Stage presence - group appearance, music memorized, facial expressions, staging, accompaniment, entertainment value. Do the competitors establish eye contact? Do the performers own the stage?

Section E: Complexity **Points: 10**

- Wide range, complex or varied rhythms, incorporation of several creative elements, complex harmonies

Section F: Judge's Discretion **Points: 10**

After the perusing of the Nasheed content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, unity, intonation, relation to the theme)
- 5 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional Nasheed content).

Section G: Application of Theme **Points: 10**

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work?
2. What do you hope to teach people about the theme with this work?
3. What element of the work is the most important towards conveying your understanding of the theme?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the project is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of the project are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

NASHEED/RAP BALLOT

Section A: Administrative	**_____ / 10 Points**
Section B: Content/Structure	**_____ / 15 Points**
Section C: Technical	**_____ / 25 Points**
Section D: Delivery	**_____ / 20 Points**
Section E: Complexity	**_____ / 10 Points**
Section F: Judges Discretion	**_____ / 10 Points**
Section G: Application of Theme	**_____ / 10 Points**
	Total _____ / 100 Points

Judge's Feedback:

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Procedures

1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. One submission per MIST team.
2. After registering, each student is given a MIST ID Number, which must be used to identify each registered student on their submissions. Names and other identifying information should not be included anywhere on the final submissions.
3. Students are expected to email their regional headquarters with their topic abstract ***at least four (4) weeks*** in advance of the regional tournament.
4. Students are required to submit three copies of a research paper (1,500 - 2,000 words), and at least one visual aid, such as a three-paneled display board (min. of 36" x 48"), videos or slideshow presentations.
5. The paper should be typed with 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1" margins, including a Title Page with an abstract (max. 250 words), Table of Contents, and Bibliography.
6. The content of both the presentation and the paper should identify the problem (with proper supporting evidence), relevant research of possible solutions, an explanation of the chosen activity, and the results of the activity. If the results are hard to measure by the time of submission, potential impact may be presented, as long as all calculations are properly justified.
7. At least three primary sources (non-fiction books, academic papers, studies, scientific surveys/polls, etc.) must be cited accurately, according to MLA format. News articles are not considered primary sources, but may be helpful in finding more appropriate primary sources. Students are free to conduct their own primary research (in the form of surveys, interviews, etc.) as long as the research is done based on standards of scientific integrity, in which case the methods and raw data should be adequately documented in an Appendix.
8. All competitors are to report to the competition room on time, which will be designated in the competition schedule.
9. Students will be allotted 5-7 minutes to present their project and approximately 3 minutes to field questions from the judges.
10. Not all students are required to participate in speaking during the presentation, but all registered students must be present in order to answer questions about their participation in the project.

DETAILED BALLOT: COMMUNITY SERVICE

Section A: Technical

General Rules **Points: 5**

- The competitors submitted three copies of their research paper, a three-paneled display board, and any other optional visual aids on time.
- Participants are all present and on time for the competition.
- The submissions include no identifiers aside from MIST ID Numbers.
- Bonus: One (1) bonus point can be given if the topic is relevant to the theme.
- The three-paneled display board has minimum dimensions of 36" x 48".
- The presenters appear professionally credible and appropriately dressed for an interview.
- The presentation is 5-7 minutes.

Research Paper Rules **Points: 5**

- The research paper is 1,500 - 2,000 words in length.
- The font is 12-point Times New Roman.
- The paper is double spaced.
- The margins are 1" on each side.
- An abstract of less than 250 words is included on the Title Page.
- The Table of Contents properly includes the various sections of the paper.
- The Bibliography includes all works cited, and at least three sources are cited.
- All citations are made with proper MLA format.

Section B: Content

Main Idea **Points: 15**

- The abstract properly summarizes the entire project.
- The problem is well defined and supported by facts.
- The research had a demonstrable influence on the chosen activity in some way.

Proposed Solutions **Points: 35**

- More than one possible solution to the problem is presented, along with examples from others who have implemented the solutions and their results.
- An explanation of why one solution was chosen to be implemented for this project over the other(s) is provided.
- Resources and methods used to implement the solution are properly explained.
- Results are quantified. For results that may be yet to come, expected results are adequately justified based on the extent of implementation, which should also be quantified.
- Appendices and additional materials are provided as required.
- Bonus: Up to two (2) bonus points can be given if the implemented solution is an original idea that has never been tried before, even if the results are not as effective as they could have been according to the other solutions considered.

Section C: Implementation & Results **Points: 10**

- The implementation of the solution was conducted over an extended period of time (in terms of weeks, not days).
- Implementing the solution helps to solve the problem.
- The project was accomplished by team work of all registered members fairly.
- Bonus: Up to three (3) bonus points can be given for results that indicate the students were able to accomplish above and beyond what would reasonably be expected from high school students.

Section D: Research Paper **Points: 15**

- The paper is well written, organized, and thorough without being verbose.
- All facts are well documented and supported with citations where necessary.
- Tables, charts, and/or graphs are used appropriately.
- The results are logically demonstrated through proper reason and evidence.

Section E: Presentation **Points: 15**

- If a three-paneled display board, it clearly shows the main ideas of the project.
- The display is aesthetically pleasing.
- The presenters speak clearly, with a confidence that demonstrates adequate practice and mastery of the subject.
- The presentation flows smoothly and logically.
- The topic is presented in a relevant and engaging manner for other high school students without compromising professionalism in front of the judges.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

COMMUNITY SERVICE BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 10 Points**

Section B: Content

Main Idea _____ / 15 Points

Proposed Solutions _____ / 35 Points

Section C: Implementation and Results _____ **/ 10 Points**

Section D: Research Paper _____ **/ 15 Points**

Section E: Presentation _____ **/ 15 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

SCIENCE FAIR

Competition Guidelines:

The Science Fair competition is a team effort. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. One submission per MIST team. The following is a list of rules and procedures for this competition. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. Competitors must submit an abstract (250 words or less) of their desired science fair project FOUR (4) weeks prior to the date of the MIST Tournament to your Regional Competitions Headquarters.
2. The presentation must be a minimum of 7 minutes and not exceed the maximum of 10 minutes.
3. Science Fair projects may not be used if they were presented at previous MIST tournaments/other competitions.
4. Visual aids are required along with the speech. Visual aids can vary anywhere from a PowerPoint presentation to posters, pictures, props, and video clips.
5. Each team must turn in a typed research paper with all of their findings:

    • In order for the science fair project to be complete each team must do their own active research. The active research should be comprised of experiments, surveys, questionnaires, etc. and the results must be compiled and analyzed within the research paper. If surveys and questionnaires have been conducted, they must be attached to the research paper and all surveys/questionnaires must be anonymous. The research paper will serve as a typed report of all findings and conclusions.

    • A scientific research question should be presented at the beginning of the paper. The question should then be answered throughout the writing.

    • At least three sources must be cited accurately within the paper and a works cited page must be provided separate from the bibliography page that is required with the speech and visual aids. (Research paper and all citations must adhere to MLA format).

    • The paper must be five pages minimum and seven pages maximum including works cited page (5-7 pages).
6. This science fair project should consist of four components, so each team must prepare the following things:
    • Speech
    • Visual Aids
    • Bibliography
    • Research Paper (with active research included).
7. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Science Fair ballot.

Special note to students presenting Mentored Projects:

Although mentored projects are allowed to be submitted as a MIST Science Fair project, students should be explicitly aware of the following rules which apply to all science fair submissions:

1. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Science Fair ballot.
2. The competitor's testable question and the hypothesis must be unique, original and the intellectual property of the competitor not the Mentor.
3. The project must be within the scope and ability of the student presenters.
4. All data and information presented as part of the science fair project must be the original work, ideas, words, and thoughts of the presenters and not the supervising authority at the Mentor Lab or Mentors. If other data must be entered, it has to be clearly cited to avoid plagiarism.
5. All students must clearly differentiate between their own original intellectual property and that of their Mentors.

Participants should note that if any special equipment (i.e. projector, computer, TV) is required for their presentation then they should contact their Regional Competitions Headquarters.

Checklist:

• Written abstract (250 words or less) of the desired science fair topic 4 weeks prior to the date of the MIST tournament for approval by the Regional Competitions Headquarters.
• Three (3) copies of a typed research paper on the day of the tournament.
• Visual Aids that will be used for the presentation
• The submission should be clearly labeled with: 1) MIST IDs 2) Name of Competition

DETAILED BALLOT: SCIENCE FAIR

Section A: Technical

General Rules **Points: 5**

- The competitors submitted three copies of their research paper, a three-paneled display board, and any other optional visual aids on time.
- Participants are all present and on time for the competition.
- The submissions include no identifiers aside from MIST ID Numbers.
- **Bonus:** One (1) bonus point can be given if the topic is relevant to the theme.
- The three-paneled display board has minimum dimensions of 36” x 48”.
- The presenters appear professionally credible and appropriately dressed for an interview.
- The presentation is 7-10 minutes.

Research Paper Rules **Points: 5**

- The research paper is 1,500 - 2,000 words in length.
- The font is 12-point Times New Roman.
- The paper is double spaced.
- The margins are 1” on each side.
- An abstract of less than 250 words is included on the Title Page.
- The Table of Contents properly includes the various sections of the paper.
- The Bibliography includes all works cited, and at least three sources are cited.
- All citations are made with proper MLA format.

Section B: Presentation Components

Visual Aid **Points: 5**

- Did the presenter use Visual Aids? Was it typed and not written?
- Was the visual presentation neat, uncluttered and clearly comprehensible? Was the display well organized so that the parts of the presentation are logical?
- Did the presenter clearly tie their project with the visual aide used?
- Does the display stand alone? Is it possible to understand the study without the competitor present?

Introduction, Body & Conclusion **Points: 15**

- Did the presenter grab your attention with their introduction?
- Was the topic clearly stated in the introduction? Was the introduction brief and concise? Did the presenter preview and give focus to the key ideas?
- Did the presenter make effective use of signposting, internal summaries, and transitions? Was there a logical progression of ideas?
- Was adequate time devoted to each section of the presentation within the 7– 10 minute time limit?
- Did the presenter conclusively tie the speech together? Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Scientific Aspects

Scientific Thought **Points: 25**

- Did the competitor ask his/her own original testable question that can be measured quantitatively?
- Does the competitor have his/her own original hypothesis that can be quantitatively measured and answers the question?
- Is that data quantitative and does it answer the question?
- Are all variables original? Are they all considered and identified?
- Were multiple trials performed if needed?
- Was the data clearly interpreted? Were the conclusions accurately based on this data?

Thoroughness **Points: 15**

- Was the testable question original and the intellectual property of the competitor?
- Did the competitor individually collect all data available?
- Was the competitor able to explain any problems that arose?
- Did the competitor relate the work to what was reported in the literature?
- Was the study completed or brought to a logical stopping place?

Section D: Analysis and Content **Points: 20**

- Did the presenter answer the question clearly?
- Was the content informative? Was the information pertinent to their specific topic? Was the information adequately documented?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion? Was scientific literature examined?
- Was the study/research within the scope of the competitors' ability?
- Did the competitor approach the problem in an original manner with an original hypothesis?
- Was the study well thought out and did it show the competitor's initiative in thought and design?

Section E: Research Paper **Points: 10**

- Is the paper 5 to 7 pages long?
- Does the research paper have at least 3 cited sources?
- Is there a works cited/reference page at the end of the paper? Is the formatting according to the MLA style?
- Has active research been conducted by the team and have the results been compiled and analyzed within the paper?
- Is the research question present answered through the paper?

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

SCIENCE FAIR BALLOT

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 10 Points**

Section B: Presentation Components

Visual Aid _____ / 5 Points

Intro, Body & Conclusion _____ / 15 Points

Section C: Scientific Aspects

Scientific Thought _____ / 25 Points

Thoroughness _____ / 15 Points

Section D: Analysis and Content _____ **/ 20 Points**

Section E: Research Paper _____ **/ 10 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

SHORT FILM

Films entered may be of any genre, fiction, documentary, animation, art or experimental.

A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. One submission per MIST team.

More than 6 people may work on the project, but only up to 6 can be registered for it. Each group will submit no more than one typed page explanation of the film. The Film group will be allowed 3 minutes to explain: how they made the film, what the purpose behind the film is, and what inspired them. The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. All videos must be in a 4:3 or 16:9 Aspect Ratio. Movies that were shot in widescreen must be letterboxed to fit in the 4:3 Aspect Ratio.
2. An unlisted YouTube link must be submitted to your Regional Competitions Headquarters two (2) weeks prior to the MIST competition. Competitors will be notified of submission receipt via email only. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.
3. The title and the competitors' MIST ID must be clearly identified on your submission.
4. A complete list of Crew Members, Cast, and Equipment must be submitted with the short film.
5. Competitors MUST include the Short Film Entry Form. Contestants who do not turn in this form with their submission will lose points towards their final competition score.
6. A typewritten statement of the short film, no more than one (1) page (500 words max.) must be included with the film. The explanation will include what the short is about and what inspired the contestant to make it, as well as specific answers to the interview questions (Section D: Application of Theme). Please note that the written statement is an integral component of qualifying for an interview in the top ten.
7. All films MUST relate to this year's theme.
8. Films may NOT exceed 7 minutes in length (excluding opening and closing credits).
9. Films must NOT contain inappropriate audio or video content.
10. Please note that if there are more than 15 entries for this competition, only the top 10 entries (based on short film and written statement) will be interviewed. In this case, a preliminary judging round will take place ahead of the tournament weekend, and all entries will be judged according to the Short Film Ballot. The top 10 that advance will have a five (5) to ten (10) minute interview with the Judges' Panel.
11. Entries MUST be original works that has not been previously distributed/ awarded/recognized or publicly exhibited as of the submission date. Entrant must be the creator of the submitted work, holding the full copyright ownership therein.
12. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST National Short Film ballot.

Checklist:

- An unlisted YouTube link of your short film sent 2 weeks prior to the date of the regional tournament to your Regional Competition Headquarters.
- Short Film Entry Form
- A 500 word maximum written statement about the short film and that answers questions under Section D: Application of Theme
- A complete list of cast, crew members and equipment used
- The submission should be clearly labeled with:
  - MIST IDs
  - Name of Competition

DETAILED BALLOT: SHORT FILM

All films must be watched in their entirety. If time is constrained, only the first 7 minutes will be viewed.

Section A: Technical — Points: 10

- Presenters on time for interview.
- Film duration within 5-7 minutes.
- There are no identifying characteristics on the submission aside from their MIST ID.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview.

Section B: Production Quality

Production Quality – Sound — Points: 10

- Audio is high-quality and crisp.
- Audio matches on-screen activity; No delays b/t track and on-screen.
- Sounds of effects (doors, dropped objects, etc.) are clear and audible.
- Sound of dialogue is clear and audible.
- Strong balance between background music, effects, and dialogue.

Production Quality – Film — Points: 20

- Video is crisp and clearly visible.
- Each scene is well-lit. All on-screen items and action easy to see.
- Smooth transitions between cuts and from scene to scene.
- Camera is steady and follows on-screen action well.

Section C: Quality of Performance

Script/Story — Points: 20

-20 for error

- Is the script (and background music lyrics, if applicable) free of any inappropriate content such as profanity and sexual innuendo, etc.? If it isn't do not score rest of section; competitor receives 0/20. If so, continue scoring.
- Story is told well and easy to follow; not confusing.
- Story is original and interesting; makes little use of clichés or common storytelling conventions.
- Events of story are believable given the context of the film (i.e. if a film about superheroes, it is understandable that they may fly, leap buildings in a single bound, etc.). Script is believable and fits well within the setting of the film.
- Lighting is used well to set the mood for each scene/cut.
- Various camera angles used throughout film; demonstrates extensive editing.

Acting/Casting — Points: 15

- Individuals being interviewed made some contribution to the film.
- Casting is believable; actors look like the characters whose roles they are playing (i.e. role of high school-aged youth played by someone who looks to be in high school).
- Major roles are played by actual members of the team.
- Make-up and costumes fit each character well; performers "look the part."

Section D: Application of Theme **Points: 25**

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work?
2. What do you hope to teach people about the theme with this work?
3. What element of the work is the most important towards conveying your understanding of the theme?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the project is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of the project are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

SHORT FILM BALLOT

Film Duration (excluding credits): ___:____

Section A: Technical _____ **/ 10 Points**

Section B: Production Quality _____ **/ 30 Points**

Section C: Quality of Performance _____ **/ 35 Points**

Section D: Application of Theme _____ **/ 25 Points**

Total _____ **/ 100 Points**

Judge's Feedback:

Short Film Entry Form
(Please Print)

Name of Entrant (or name of group): _____

Name of person representing group: _____

Number of people in the group: _____

Entrant's Information: (For group please provide only the representative's information)

Age: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____ **Sex (Optional):** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Name of School:_____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Film Information:

Title: _____

Brief Synopsis: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Film Genre: Narrative Fiction __ Documentary __ Animation __ Art __ Experimental __ Other __

Length: Minutes ____ Seconds ____ **Original Format:** Film __ Video __ Computer Graphic __

Sound: Mono __ Stereo __ No sound or music __

Production Tools Used (Camera, Hardware, Software, etc): _____

_____

_____

Owner of Copyright: _____

I have read, understand and agree to the rules and regulations of this competition.

Signature of Entrant: _____ **Date:** _____

SOCIAL MEDIA

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

The Social Media competition is a team effort. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. One submission per MIST team.

1. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
2. Competitors shall report at the appropriate time and place designated. Competitors shall be introduced to the judges by their MIST IDs.
3. Only one submission is allowed per school. Hence, if two students register from the same school, they must work as a team.
4. The team name may appear on your blog and social profiles.
5. The competitor must create a blog for their MSA or MIST team. This blog should include blog posts that relate to the MIST theme, with five posts minimum. These posts can come in a variety of forms – text, images, video, etc. However, two posts must be written pieces, with one being a pure news story. The blog content should then be shared through a social media platform of choice, such as Facebook or Twitter.
6. The social media platform selected should be updated based on the competitor's assessment of what publishing frequency is appropriate for that chosen platform. The content shared on the chosen social platform can be about more than just posts from the blog (although the updates should include blog posts). These updates can come in a variety of forms – text, images, video, etc.
7. Competitors are encouraged to use content management systems such as WordPress or Blogger rather than making the site from scratch. You are welcome to use pre-made templates as this competition is about the overall execution of the project and not coding work behind it.
8. Contestants must email their submission two weeks prior to the tournament. All submissions will be viewed on a computer.
9. Students are responsible for asking questions about rules that they don't understand before the competition and not during it. No excuses will be accepted during the competition or tournament weekend.
10. A typed explanation of the website and its content, no more than three (3) pages (1000 words maximum double spaced and 12-point font) must be included with the submission. The explanation should detail the blog and social platform's content, what inspired the participant to choose their particular blog or social media platforms, what content strategy was employed, how each team member contributed to the project, and any other pertinent information related to the creation of the social media accounts. Judging will be based on the explanation provided in the interview and the site itself. The interview will be no longer than 5 minutes.
11. Blogs must have the following items somewhere on the site:
    - Information about the MIST team
    - Prayer times
    - Names and contact information
    - Information about MIST meetings or events
    - A link to MIST's National website (http://www.getmistified.com)
    - A link to your MIST Regional's website
    - Meeting time/place for the next MIST meeting
    - Information on how to join the MIST team
    - Team's Mission statement
    - At least one Islamic article that adolescents can relate to.
    - Any other information or additional features such as video clips, search facility, animation…etc.
12. Competitors will be judged according to the Social Media Ballot.

DETAILED BALLOT: SOCIAL MEDIA

Section A: Technical **5 points**

- Participant is on time for interview.
- The participant looks credible and is dressed for an interview.
- Blog submitted on USB and emailed prior to event.
- Length of written statement does not exceed three pages (1000 words).

Section B: Blog Quality **25 points**

- The blog is readable using Internet Explorer 8.0 or higher.
- The blog includes a minimum of five blog posts, with two being purely written (one of these written is a pure news article.)
- The overall site is appealing and inviting. Users can quickly get the "big picture" of what is offered by the blog.
- Blog functions properly. All links function properly and the site is easily accessible without special software/plug-ins.
- The blog is a model for other bloggers.
- Blog addresses the needs of users.
- The blog has the following required items: Info about MSA/MIST team, prayer times, contact information, information about events, link to your MIST regional page and your MIST Nationals page, next meeting time and place, info on how to join the MSA/MIST team and MIST/MSA mission statement.
- Islamic blog posts, typically those that adolescents can relate to, are included.

Section C: Social Media Platform Quality **15 points**

- The social media account's name is reflective of the MSA/MIST team.
- The social media platform uses a proper amount of updates so that the platform does not appear stale.
- The social media platform includes updates that are posts from the blog.
- The social media updates include a variety of content – text, images, video, etc.

Section D: Presentation Quality **30 points**

- The content goes beyond your basic MSA facts and data. It contains information that is useful to MSA/MIST members.
- The blog contains a mix of content formats (i.e. text, graphics, photographs, video, audio) to address specific needs. There is a good balance between text and graphics.
- All graphics load successfully and quickly. Text is easy to read.

Section E: Application of Theme **Points: 25**

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work?
2. What do you hope to teach people about the theme with this work?
3. What element of the work is the most important towards conveying your understanding of the theme?

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the project is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of the project are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

MIST ID: ..... JUDGE: .....

SOCIAL MEDIA

Section A: Technical _____ / 5 Points

Section B: Blog Quality _____ / 25 Points

Section C: Social Media Platform Quality _____ / 15 Points

Section D: Presentation Quality _____ / 30 Points

Section E: Application of Theme _____ / 25 Points

Total _____ / 100 Points

Judge's Feedback:

CATEGORY VI: SPORTS

Basketball

MIST follows standard high school basketball rules which are readily available online and are commonly known among those who play basketball. Standard rules for offense (e.g. traveling, double dribbling, charging, etc.) and defense (e.g. goaltending, blocking, pushing, etc.) will apply. If one is unaware of these basics, some due diligence in education through tutorials and familiarity with the game is required before taking on the responsibility of running a tournament.

A maximum of ten (10) people can register for the Brothers' Basketball team, and a maximum of ten (10) can register for the Sisters' Basketball team. Basketball requires a minimum of five (5) team members. If your school cannot register at least 5 boys or 5 girls for a team, your school may collaborate with another school and compete together for this competition. All points and awards for this competition would be shared equally between collaborating schools (termed "coalitions"). Please check with your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.

Only one Brothers' team and one Sisters' team are allowed for each school.

In addition to the regulations of high school basketball, the following rules of MIST also apply:

1. All high school rules will govern play with exception of the following:
2. Students must be enrolled in another competition in addition to a sports competition.
3. All MIST rules and regulations, including dress code, apply.
4. Failure to participate in MIST competitions and/or workshops will result in immediate disqualification.
5. The game will consist of two 15-minute halves. If the score is tied after regulation, except for playoffs schedule, no overtime will be given. It will be recorded as a tie game.
6. If the score is tied after regulation for a playoff game, a series of 5-minute overtime periods will be played until a winner is determined after the end of such a period.
7. The clock will run non-stop until the final two minutes of each half. During the last two minutes, the clock will stop on all whistles. An official or team time-out will stop the clock during the first 18 minutes.
8. Each team may be required to have one person sitting at the scorer's table to operate the clock and to keep score. A forfeit may result if a team does not comply with this rule.
9. Each team MUST have matching, numbered jerseys for every player. Legal numbers are expanded to include 0-99. A non-numbered jersey will not be allowed as a "00". Your team captain will specify your team's color at the time of registration. The colors of other teams in your league will also be listed. There will be no "Shirts vs. Skins" or taped-on numbers. Your team will forfeit if it fails to have the proper jersey at game time.
10. No basket may be scored on a player control (offensive) foul, regardless of when the ball is released.
11. Time-outs will last one minute and half-time will last two minutes. Teams have three (3) time-outs per game.
12. Two technical fouls on a player or coach will result in an automatic ejection from the game. The ejected player must also leave the playing area.
13. Only one coach and assistant coach per team are permitted on the team bench.
14. Teams will enter the bonus (one and one) on the 7th team foul. On a team's 10th foul, all fouls will result in two free throws. Any player fouled on a 3-point attempt who does not make the basket will be allowed to shoot three free throws.
15. There will be a 35-point mercy rule after 10 minutes in the second half. In the judgment of the officials and supervisor, if a team is dragging or allows the team behind to make up baskets so the game will not be stopped, the game will be stopped immediately.
16. Substitutes must report to the score table and beckoned in by the officials. Illegal substitutions will result in a technical foul.
17. Slapping the backboard is not a technical in itself, but intentionally hitting the backboard hard enough to alter the flight of the ball will result in a technical.
18. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. The following behaviors will result in a technical foul and the possibility of a game suspension:
    - a. Cursing at the officials, supervisors, or opposing players.
    - b. Insulting the officials, supervisors, or opposing players.
    - c. Participating in a fight (AUTOMATIC EJECTION).
    - d. Other unsportsmanlike acts will also earn a technical foul. All unsportsmanlike fouls result in two free throws and possession of the ball, regardless of whether the foul is on a player or the bench.
19. The top three regional teams are eligible to compete at the National tournament. All competitors must have registered and competed at regionals in order to be eligible to compete at Nationals.

WOWZA.

Looks like you've reached the end. If you have any questions about the competitions that are not answered within this packet, please contact us at info@getmistified.com.
Special thank you to Usama for the rulebook cover.
usamakhalid.com

All the best this year at MIST!

The 2017 MIST Team
(you can stop reading now)