



Parlons français

A competition for students of AH French

The AMOPA Speaking competition is now in its third year. It is open to all students of AH French. Taking part in the competition should also benefit the students as they prepare for their Speaking test.

Every participant receives a graded certificate. Prizes are also awarded for first, second and third place. Prizes and certificates are usually presented by an amopalien/amopaliene at a school assembly or other suitable event.

Comments from schools indicates that the feedback on the entries is much appreciated. Here are just two comments that show that.

Our entry involved no extra work as we sent away our pupils' Nabs which they did as part of their Prelim in January. The pupils were then issued with prompt and detailed feedback. The feedback was both motivating and constructive. We felt that the feedback helped them to prepare more effectively for their final speaking examination. We will certainly be entering the competition next year.

The kids were delighted with your comments and it has really spurred them on to practise hard- their exam is on Tuesday!

The competition integrates with the typical study and examination programme for the AH French students and aims to support them in their preparation for the Speaking test.

The Speaking test is assessed by an external examiner but the Unit Assessment is internal and is good preparation in itself for the external exam. Candidates are required to make a presentation and engage in discussion in the target language. They should use appropriate language, use a range of vocabulary and be able to sustain a discussion. Candidates typically undertake their NAB Speaking test in February with their external exam slightly later.

Entries for the AMOPA Speaking competition should be based either on the candidate's Unit Assessment or on their preparation for that assessment. Entries can consist of an audio tape or digital audio/video recording of part of the assessment or a preparation session. Digital entries are much preferred and are probably easier all round. The entry can be from 2 to 5 minutes long and will consist of either

- A formal presentation on a suitable topic (likely to be shorter)
- or
- A discussion with their teacher in which the teacher input consists only of very short prompts, questions or responses (which could result in a longer response).

The entries will be assessed by members of AMOPA – Ecosse, a group that includes native speakers, and by SQA assessors. Entries will be awarded a graded certificate and an overall winner will be selected. The overall winner will receive a prize to be awarded at a suitable time in school.

All candidates will be given feedback.

The deadline for entries is February 15th 2014. Prizewinners will be announced before the end of February. Feedback to candidates will also be sent by then.

The rules

- Entries will be sent in by the class teacher who will certify that the recording was made in exam conditions.
- All entries must be clearly labelled with the entrant's name and school.
- Entries can be on audio tape or file; or on digital audio/video in a suitable format.
- Entries can be from 2 to 5 minutes long.
- Deadline for entries is 15 February 2014
- Entries will not be returned

Entries should be sent to

AMOPA Competition
FAO Ingrid Stephenson
Alliance française
3 Park Circus
GLASGOW
G3 6AX

Or by email to

gerry.toner@outlook.com

Enquiries can be made to Gerry Toner by email or on 077 53 835 118

Note

The Ordre des Palmes Académiques was established by Napoleon in 1808. The Order recognises achievement in the cultural and educational sectors. It is occasionally given to non-French nationals. Members of AMOPA, the Association des Membres de l' Ordre des Palmes Académiques, are known as amopalien/amopaliennne.

Under the auspices of Philip Bennett, Professor of Medieval French in Edinburgh University, a Scottish section has been established. Its aim is to continue the work for which members have been awarded their honour – support for the development of French language and culture.

AMOPA-Ecosse
septembre 2013