

### Creative Writing (grade 2)

Creative writing is designed to promote creativity in an academic format and to encourage writing skills at an early grade level. Through preparation for the contest, students will be able to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others. Students are given five captioned pictures and 30 minutes to write their story about one or more of those pictures.



#### Story Telling (grades 2-3)

To tell a story, the participant must develop skills in listening, interpretative thinking and speaking. Students are read a story, which they must then tell back to the judges. preparing for this contest also allows for the development of creative expression and self-confidence.



## Spelling (grades 3,4, and 5)

The spelling contest is designed to give students exposure to a wide variety of vocabulary words. it is not a contest of memorization. for the most educational value, preparation for this contest should include instruction in the rules of the English language, meanings and definitions, and root words. Depending on their grade level, students must spell between 65 and 140 words in 30-60 minutes.

There will not be practices for spelling. Each student that signs up will be given study material to study on their own time.

# Ready Writing (grades 3,4, and 5)



Students will be given a choice between two prompts which defines the audience and provides the purpose for writing. The format may be, for example, a letter, an article for the newspaper or an essay for the principal. There is no minimum or maximum number of words the contestants must write.

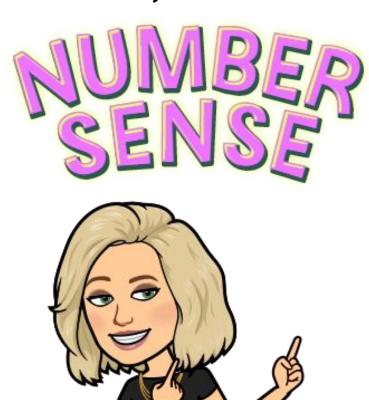


### Chess Puzzle (grades 3,4, and 5)

Chess teaches problem solving, hones concentration and encourages analytical and strategic thinking. Chess can be a lifelong pursuit. Contestants in chess puzzle receive a paper-and-pencil test that includes a series of chess boards with pieces in particular positions; questions are based on analysis of material or possible moves in each given diagram. The contest is a 30-minute, 20-problem, multiple choice test, plus a tiebreaker.

#### Number Sense (grades 4 and 5)

Being able to perform quick mathematical calculations is the premise behind this contest. the test covers functions appropriate for the grade level, including algebra and geometry. Students are given 10 minutes to complete the fill-in-the-blank test.



#### Oral Reading (grades 4 and 5)

As students prepare a piece of prose or poetry to read out loud, they learn to analyze the text as a literary critic, to grow and to develop as a performer, to communicate a message to an audience and to perform an artistic creation. all of these apply to the oral reading competition, which should be an extension of the classroom literary and language arts activities in poetry, short stories and children's fiction



### Dictionary Skills (grade 5)

Thorough knowledge of the dictionary is a way to increase a student's ability to find the information that is needed for classwork as well as everyday living. The subject matter of all tests is taken from Merriam Webster's Intermediate Dictionary. Students are given 20 minutes to answer 40 objective and short-answer questions.



#### Maps, Graphs & Charts (grade 5)

The maps, graphs & charts contest is designed to help students learn to get information from world maps, pie charts, bar charts and local area maps. The 75-question objective test that students must complete in 45 minutes measures skills such as using a reference book to locate information, making comparisons, estimating and approximating, using scale and interpreting legends and keys.



#### Social Studies (grade 5)

This contest is designed to encourage students to expand their knowledge of social studies, particularly in the areas of history, geography, government systems, economics and citizenship. Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 40 questions which must be answered in 30 minutes. Test content is specifically correlated to the TEKS curriculum.



# Listening (grade 5)

Contestants will listen to a script ranging from seven to ten minutes in length, take notes as needed, and use their notes to answer 25 multiple choice, true/false and short answer test questions. A variety of subject matter will be used for the listening tests.

