

Word Power!

**Become
Lesotho's best
reader and
win M500
and
50
books
for
your
school**



Transformation Resource Centre

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The reading competition

The aim of this first ever National Reading Competition is to encourage children to devote themselves to literature and read aloud from their favourite book. The joy of and the fun in reading should be the centre of the competition.

Choosing and preparing a short excerpt from a book motivates children to an active examination of literature. Furthermore, the competition encourages students to listen to others, and to get a closer look into the wide variety of classic and today's literature.

During this competition children make the experience that books offer many facets of suspense, entertainment and information and open new horizons.

Mot'soa Senyane,
TRC Director

Who can participate?

All students of Form B can participate in the competition. In the initial stage each class determines its own reading champion. After this, the class winners compete in the school championship.

Every school can register its best reader with the Transformation Resource Centre until the **30th April** for the National Competition in Maseru in August 2005

Prizes: First in National competition M500, second M300, third M200. Their schools receive a substantial book package.

What to read?

The students should read a short passage from a novel of their own choice plus a text that is unknown to them. The language of the texts has to be English.

Student's choice:

- reading time is **three** to **five** minutes

In the beginning the student should name title and author of the novel and give a short introduction to the passage they are going to read.

Surprise text:

- chosen by the teacher/jury
- should have the same level of difficulty for all students (no foreign or particularly difficult words)
- reading time is two to three minutes

Who will assess?

To assess the contributions, Transformation Resource Centre has developed an evaluation form which is attached to this flyer. It can also be sent by mail on request (☎ 2231 4463) or downloaded from our website at www.trc.org.ls

On class and school level teachers and other students evaluate the performance.

For the final round in Maseru TRC will organize a jury. The decision of the jury cannot be contested.

Implementation in school

Reading - as well as listening - should be fun! Not competing but enjoying literature should be the focus of this competition. Students should experience reading as a pleasure not an obligation.

The reading competition doesn't have to be limited to the contestants but could include other activities such as:

- discussions about books
- suggestions for the school library
- visiting the TRC and other libraries
- inviting local authors to the school



Basic guidelines for assessment

The aim of the competition is not to simply repeat a well practised text without mistake.

The children should show that they manage formal reading techniques - clear articulation, correct accentuation, adequate reading speed - as well as grasping the content of the book.

That is why they should give a short introduction to the passage they are going to read. Since not all of them have the same skills of oral presentation, this knowledge of the book could be checked by asking them questions.

Good reading should not be confused with mere acting. Dialogues or moods can also be conveyed without well practised gestures. Tripping over a word should not be overrated.

Criteria for assessment

Three different aspects of the presentation should be assessed: reading technique, understanding of the text, presentation. For each aspect the contestant can get a maximum of 5 points. In addition, jurors can take into account their personal observations to get a complete picture.

Each juror adds the total of points and compares with the other jurors. The results of all jurors will be added to a final score. The student with the highest score wins. In case of a draw the jury makes the best performers read another unknown text.

Reading technique:

- Does the contestant have the appropriate technique, to present the text in a confident way (articulation, use of voice, accentuation, speed)?

Understanding of text:

- Did the student chose an adequate text?
- Does the contestant manage to put the chosen excerpt into the larger context of the book?
- Is the passage well chosen, does it have a beginning and end? How was the time management? Did the jury have to interrupt the child because the passage was too long?

Presentation:

- Does the student manage to grasp the atmosphere of the text and incorporate it into the presentation?

Reading the unknown text:

The contestants read 2 to 3 minutes from an unknown text that has been chosen by the jury. Criteria for assessment are reading technique and (partially) presentation.

Costs/Responsibilities

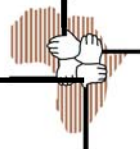
Participation in the competition is free. TRC will provide meals for the event.

TRC will identify at least one teacher per district to accompany the students to Maseru.

More questions?

To register your best school reader for the final competition in August, to request evaluation forms or for more information on the competition, please contact TRC. Contact persons: Peter Lahann and Katleho Pefole ☎2231 3681, e-mail: wfj@trc.org.ls

The deadline to register your school's best reader is the 30th April 2005!



Our partners

An event of this magnitude requires a broad support from other stakeholders that have an interest in promoting reading in Lesotho: the Ministry of Education, media houses, publishers, radio stations, libraries, and many more. We are grateful for the support of Longman Publishers Lesotho,

Cut here and send or fax to Transformation Resource Centre
PO Box 1388, Maseru 100, Fax: 2232 2791

Registration form for 2005 National Reading Competition

Block Letters please

School

Name: _____
District: _____
Address: _____

Student's Details

Name: _____
Surname: _____
Age: _____
Sex: _____
Book: _____

Authorization

Principal's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

