

Public Speaking



Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition

Welcome to the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition! For 27 years this competition has been encouraging primary school students to explore ideas of multiculturalism in Australia while they practise their public speaking skills and improve their confidence. Every year around 2,000 students are chosen to represent their schools in the local finals which will hopefully be running live and in-person all around the state in 2022 – hope to see you at one of them!

Who can enter the competition?

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition is open to all interested students. The competition has two different age divisions – one for Years 3 and 4 students and one for Years 5 and 6 students. Schools can enter up to two contestants in each of the age divisions, totalling four contestants overall.

Cromer Public School Competition Dates

Stage 2 Friday 6 May

Stage 3 Thursday 5 May

What are the speaking requirements?

At each stage of the competition contestants present both a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. For their prepared speech, contestants must choose a topic from the list at the bottom of the next page. The prepared speech must convey a multicultural message. The impromptu speech topic will be on a general, non-multicultural theme, and contestants will have 5 minutes to write their impromptu speeches, starting with only blank palm cards or paper. The speaking times are outlined below. Note that speakers are expected to finish at or just beyond the official speaking time, and it will be considered poor timing to reach the continuous bell.

Division / speech	Warning bell	Speaking time	Continuous bell
Years 3 and 4 prepared	2 minutes	3 minutes	4 minutes
Years 3 and 4 impromptu	30 seconds	1 minute	1½ minutes
Years 5 and 6 prepared	3 minutes	4 minutes	5 minutes
Years 5 and 6 impromptu	1½ minutes	2 minutes	2 ½ minutes

What are the rules of the competition?

Other than the entry rules and speaking times detailed above, it should also be noted that contestants are not allowed to use any props or external aids such as Powerpoint presentations during their speeches. They are encouraged to speak from palm cards and must present without the use of a lectern or microphone. Finally, a reminder that the prepared speech must explore multiculturalism.

What are the adjudicators looking for?

The adjudicators will make their decision based on the matter, manner and method of the speakers. They will expect contestants to be confident and engaging, and will prefer speeches which balance personal opinion with information, and humour with sincerity. The prepared speeches need to show an understanding of multiculturalism, but the impromptu speeches do not. Finally, adjudicators will give equal consideration to the prepared and impromptu speeches. Detailed advice for speakers will be available on our website at artsunit.nsw.edu.au.

More details can be found on https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/program/the-multicultural-perspectives-public-speaking-competition

Students will need to let their teacher know before the speak if they are interested in participating in the competition. If you require any further information please speak to your classroom.

2022 Years 3 and 4 topics

In my language
History matters
Racism – no way!
Australia on the screen
The power of sport
Who is responsible?
My place
A safe place to call home
Symbols of Australia
Kids lead the way!

2022 Years 5 and 6 topics

In my language
The story of Australia
Everyday racism
Representation
Australia Day
Rights and responsibilities
Identity – it's complicated!
Welcome to country
Crossing borders
Healing

