**ARTWORK**

Limit: 4 per school

Individual or group entry

Artwork from current school year only

Any topic related to German-speaking countries

Any size and form

3x5 card attached containing the following information:

Artwork (so that the entry is placed in the proper competition)

Student name(s)

School name

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

originality/creativity/concept 30

represents a German theme/topic 30

artistic technique (color, materials, presentation) 25

level of complexity (neatness, craft) 15

**BANNER**

Limit: 1 entry per school

Create a banner on butcher paper.

The banner should contain German words or a German theme in addition to the school’s name.

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 55

Design is eye-catching 20

Contains German words or theme 20

-proper spelling and mechanics

Design clearly identifies the school 15

**DIRECTED DIALOGUE – Levels 1,2,3**

Limit: 4 entries per level per school

Verbally answer 5 conversational questions. (6th question may also be asked.)

Possible themes for German 1 (all in present tense)

basic personal information family basic likes / dislikes

free time basic foods Wie findest du …?

school time weather

Possible themes for German 2 (conversational past included)

German I themes with more complex questions clothing

Was fr?, Wen?, Wem?, Warum? travel

Possible themes for German 3 (past, present, future)

German 1 and 2 themes with more complex questions, future plans, health

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

pronunciation 5 points per question

degree of fluency 5 points per question

knowledge of the topic (vocabulary) 5 points per question

grammatical correctness 5 points per question

**DIRECTED DIALOGUE – Level 4**

Limit: 4 entries per school

Talk with the judges on a topic selected by the judges. (2-minute time limit)

After answering the judges’ first question, you continue the discussion by answering additional questions on that topic. You may also ask questions.

Sample topic ideas include:

free time / lifestyle / school

plans for the future / travel

personal information / family / relationships

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 80

Pronunciation 10

Degree of fluency 25

apparent confidence with the language

degree of dependence on probing questions to keep the conversation going

Knowledge of topic (vocabulary) 25

Grammar and Structure 20

accuracy, level of difficulty of structures used

**GEBÄCK** new in 2024

Individual or group entry – one of each per school allowed

Apfelkuchen, Erdbeerkuchen, Marmorgugelhupf, Rüblikuchen, Bretzeln

Choose one of the recipes provided to your teacher by the convention coordinator.

*(Use of a different recipe may result in up to a 10-point deduction.)*

**Required**: (baked goods without these required elements will not be judged)

--3 sentences in German about your baking experience, including school name and

student name(s) on this page

--a picture of student(s) making the baked good

**DISPOSABLE CONTAINER ONLY** (up to 10 pts. deducted if non-disposable container used)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

taste 40 3 sentences in German 20

appearance/authenticity 30 picture of student(s) making baked good 10

(Up to 10 points may be deducted if a recipe other than the provided recipe is used.)

**KNOWLEDGE BOWL**

**4 competition levels:** Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4

**Team** 1-4 people - **all** in correct (or lower) level of study

(ex. for Level 3– all in German 3 OR 3 from German 3 & 1 from German 2)

Level 4 may include 4th and 5th year students

May **not** also be on another Knowledge Bowl team

**No** Fortgeschrittene

**Rules**

Two teams per round – Winning team moves to next round

Teams sit facing each other.

Each student has a buzzer.

The first student to buzz in has 10 seconds to begin the answer, without talking to others.

If the first team’s answer is not correct, one student from the other team may buzz in

within 10 seconds to answer.

A correct answer scores one point. No points are deducted for incorrect answers.

Each round is 15 questions. All answers are in German, except questions asking for a

translation. Genders must be correct in levels 2 and above. Genders will not be

counted in German 1, except when the question is asking the gender.

In case of a tie, a tie-breaker round will be completed.

A pool of sample questions is available for on-line practice with your teacher

**MUSIC - Instrumental**

2 entries per school - Solo or group

Selection must be from a composer from the German-speaking world.

Music does not have to be memorized.

**Begin the presentation with a memorized introduction (2-3 lines) in German.**

**A copy of the music must be given to judges as participants enter the room. Participants may pick it up as they leave the room.**

Maximum time - 4 minutes for performance and 2 minutes for set up

Points deducted for going over the time limit.

If you go more than one minute over the time limit, you will be asked to stop in

order to be fair to the next competitor on the schedule.

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

precision (accuracy, flow) 20 selection (level of difficulty, suitability) 20

tone (quality of sound) 10 interpretation (dynamics, style, feeling, …) 30

German introduction 10

general effect (appearance, poise, method of presentation, time limit) 10

**MUSIC - Vocal**

2 entries per school - Solo or group

Must be memorized and sung in German

With or without accompaniment (live or recorded).

**Give a copy of the lyrics for your song to the judges as you enter the room.**

(Label with student name(s) and school name.)

Say your name(s) and school before beginning your performance.

Maximum time: 4 minutes for performance and set up

(Points will be deducted for going over the time limit.)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

tone (quality, intonation) 30

interpretation (dynamics, style, …) 20

pronunciation (understandable and authentic) 30

general effect (maximum time of 4 minutes, spirit and interpretation) 20

**MUSIC VIDEO**

Limit: 2 entries per school – **Your teacher must submit on-line by April 19.**

Required for each entry:

1: Video **2: copy of lyrics in German 3: copy of English translation** (student,

teacher or internet translation – This is not counted in scoring.)

It must be a German language song and include the entire song on the video.

Lyrics and video content must be school appropriate.

Include **in the music video** itself:

Song title School name

Artist name Year video was made (must be current year)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 70

theme (Communicates the message of the song? Text provided.) 20

organization (Flows well? Filming is good quality? Blocking of scenes well done?) 15

creativity (Interesting and well-chosen backgrounds? Appropriate costuming?) 15

editing quality (Well-edited? Shows different perspectives? Contains title, artist,

school, year? 20

**Entry will be disqualified if it is not a German song.**

A high number of **points** will be **deducted** if **lyrics and translation** are **not provided**. They are essential to the judges in interpreting your video.

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLE** new in 2024

Write an article or announcement for the convention newspaper – der Nebraska Spiegel - that will be published in black and white for availability on convention day.

**Your teacher must submit on-line by April 19.**

Limit: 2 entries per school per level

3 levels: German 1, German 2, German 3/4

Maximum of 10 sentences per article

Entries may include but are not limited to informational articles, advertisements for products, or wedding/graduation announcements. Topics can be fictional or non-fictional. To be considered for judging and printing in the newspaper, content and language must be school-appropriate and non-controversial.

Each student must write the article without the use of a digital translator, artificial intelligence, or help from another person.

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 70

vocabulary (accuracy, spelling, …) 20 points

grammatical correctness 20 points

content – well-organized, clear purpose/content, interesting 20 points

appropriate level of difficulty/complexity of sentences 10 points

**POETRY WRITING AND RECITATION**

Recite **by memory** a poem you have written

Beginning level = German 1 or 2 limit of 10 per school

Advanced level = German 3, 4 or 5 limit of 10 per school

Turn in two copies of the poem at the registration desk **upon arrival on convention day**

labeled with 4 items:

-student name -level of competition (Beginning, Advanced, Fortgeschrittene)

-school name -level of study (German 1,2,3,4, or 5)

Submit a signed “Statement of Authenticity” with your poem at the registration desk.

Requirements for writing the poem:

-an original work by the student Submit signed “Statement of Authenticity” that you:

-got no help from a speaker of German (teacher, family, student of a higher level)

-did not use a translation site

-used a dictionary only to look up individual words

-a title representing any topic (not necessarily the theme of the convention)

-format - Beginning level: Formats include but not limited to: Elfchen, Haiku, Acrostic

- Advanced level and Fortgeschrittene: -at least 12 lines in length – any format

**Judges use the following criteria** Total points possible = 100

Recitation - Pronunciation (diction, enunciation, rhythm) 20

Interpretation / Presentation (emotion, feeling, mood, poise) 15

Memorization 15

Written Poem 50

Originality (creative, original); Word choice (precise words, creates vivid

images/emotions); Organization and grammar (spelling and grammar, effective

rhythm and flow, topic is clear)

**POETRY VIDEO INTERPRETATION**

Two levels: Level 1/2 and Level 3+ (Fortgeschrittene may participate in this level)

Limit: 10 entries per school per level

**Your teacher must submit on-line by April 19:** video, a copy of the

poem (including title and name of the author)

Make a video by recording your own voice reciting a poem by a German author and

creating visuals on the video to represent the poem.

-Begin your video by saying your name, school name, level of German study and year

the video was made. (It must be current year.)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

Recitation - Pronunciation (diction, enunciation, rhythm) 30

Interpretation (emotion, feeling, mood) 20

Video representation –

Communicates the message of the poem (well-chosen backgrounds) 35

Editing quality (well-edited, well-organized) 15

**Entry will be disqualified if it is not a German poem and if a copy of the poem is not provided.**

**POSTER**

Limit: 4 per school

One piece (22x28) of flat poster board

**No** three-dimensional designs.

3x5 card attached labeled with the following information:

Poster

School name (including whether high school or middle school)

Student name(s)

Must promote the German culture in some aspect. Possible themes include but are not limited to:

-German heritage in the US -history of German / US relationship

-German business/products/inventions -career opportunities US/Germany

-German culture (customs, holidays, foods, …) -English is a Germanic language

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

Content: 50

Accuracy and depth of information

Well-thought-out plan

Original design

Appearance: 35

-Appealing to the eye, colorful design

-Neatness, good use of space

Mechanics: Proper grammar, mechanics and spelling 15

**SPELLING**

Two competition levels:

Beginning Level 1 and 2 limit 6 students

Advanced Level 3 and 4 limit 6 students

Students from same school are not allowed to sit or stand next to each other.

You are eliminated when you spell a word incorrectly.

Final 6 students must remain in the room until the all winners have been determined.

The word will be said twice. You may also ask the judge to use the word in a sentence.

You have 10 seconds to begin spelling the word. (You are not allowed to write the

words.)

German alphabet must be used. For umlauts, say “a umlaut”, etc. You do not need to

indicate capital letters.

**Practice the German alphabet.**

Practice spelling aloud to someone the words from your vocabulary list, textbook, or

dictionary.

**T-SHIRT DESIGN**

Design should reflect the school in some way (school name, mascot/logo, and/or color).

If the school’s name is not on the shirt, an index card with the school’s name should be attached to the shirt to assist the judges.

Enter a shirt (not a paper design)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 50

Design is eye-catching 25

Design represents a German Club theme 15

Design represents the school (school name, mascot/logo, or color) 10

**VIDEO SKIT**

3 different levels: German 1, German 2, German 3+

Limit: 2 entries per each level

**Your teacher must submit on-line by April 19,** labeled with:

a) level, b) school name, c) year

Written by students, teacher, or German-speaking author

May be edited

Must be from current year

**At least one student making the video must attend convention.**

**Lines must be memorized.**

-no props (books, papers, etc.) containing writing or scripts (points deducted for reading)

-signs with basic language may be used to enhance the skit

Time limit 3-5 minutes (points are deducted for going over or under time limit)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

accurate vocabulary and grammar 20

selection (interesting, sufficiently difficult) 15 preparation / memorization (no scripts, no obvious reading from props) 15

blocking and movement (poised, good use of set) 10

pronunciation (pronunciation, enunciation, audible, inflection) 20 overall effect (time limit of 3-5 minutes, lasting impression, set & maintain mood,

costumes/set enhanced rather than detracted, pace) 20