

2010 Collaborative Middle School Tournament

Help for Moderators

Thank you for volunteering your time to staff a tournament using our questions. We have written this brief guide to help you if you are new to moderating quizbowl or have not seen our style of questions before.

First, each packet consists of 20 competition tossups (which teams answer by ringing in) and one tiebreaker tossup, marked “Extra.” Only read the “Extra” tossup if the game is tied after 20 regulation tossups. Similarly, each packet consists of 20 competition bonuses and one extra bonus, marked “Extra.” Always read the next bonus in the packet after a converted tossup, even if the numbers do not match. For instance, if no one answered tossup 1, but tossup 2 was correctly answered, you would read bonus 1 to the team that answered tossup 2.

Second, we have bolded and underlined the required part of each answer. If a player gives only those bolded and underlined parts of the answer; they are correct. We have also endeavored to add every possible alternate answer. If you see an answer marked “accept” or “or” in the square brackets on the answer line, that is an alternate answer and should be accepted. If you see something marked “prompt on” in the square brackets, that means that the answer is not specific enough and you should prompt the player for more information. We have likewise bolded and underlined the minimum amount of information necessary for a prompt. For instance, an answer line might say “prompt on **Roosevelt**” to distinguish between Theodore, Franklin, and Eleanor; or an answer line might say “prompt on **triangle**” if the sought answer is “**equilateral triangle**.” If you see “accept either” in square brackets, that means that any or all of the bolded and underlined answer is acceptable.

Third, we have endeavored to place a pronunciation guide next to each word we expect a reasonably well-read moderator to possibly have trouble pronouncing. These pronunciation guides are listed in parentheses and quotation marks, with accented syllables written in ALL CAPS. For instance: pronunciation (“pruh-nun-see-AY-shun”). If you know how to pronounce a word, feel free to skip over the pronunciation guide. If you don’t, please try to sound out the phonetic pronunciation guide.

Fourth, we have endeavored to research all reasonable alternative answers for each question, but we recognize that there may be answers that may have slipped through our fingers. If a player or coach (depending on your tournament’s rules) protests that a given answer was incorrectly accepted or incorrectly called wrong, do not justify your decision by stating that the answer(s) on the paper is/are the only acceptable answers. Instead, tell the player/coach that you will note the protest and resolve it if it makes a difference at the end of the game; if it does make a difference, notify the tournament director about what was answered for what given answer, and let the tournament director decide the protest.

Fifth, each bonus part is to be read one at a time. If the bonus part is not correctly answered (either by the controlling team or by both teams, depending on your tournament’s rules), then you should reveal the answer to that part before reading the next part of the bonus. After a bonus is completed, you should announce how many points were earned on the bonus (for each team, if applicable) before moving on to the next tossup.

If you have any questions about what you are supposed to do, please ask the tournament director. We hope that you enjoy moderating games between two teams of bright young students.