



INFORMATION PACKAGE

**Sponsored by Canadian Parents for French -
Saskatchewan (CPF-SK)**

INTRODUCTION

Canadian Parents for French is a nationwide, research-informed, volunteer organization that champions the opportunity to learn and use French for all those who call Canada home.

The objective of *Concours d'art oratoire* is to stimulate the interest of students in the learning of French. *Concours d'art oratoire* is an excellent way to improve oral French expression. It encourages students to use French in a meaningful way, which increases their self-esteem, confidence, and ability to communicate. Speech preparation can be integrated into the curriculum. Students are recognized for their efforts locally, at the provincial competition, and for those students in grades 11/12 at a national event.

This package has been prepared as a guide for students, teachers and judges to provide consistency at all levels of *Concours d'art oratoire*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All associated with Canadian Parents for French - Saskatchewan sincerely thank everyone contributing their time and expertise. We also appreciate the commitment of all the teachers and consultants who organized this year's *Concours d'art oratoire*.

Concours d'art oratoire is made possible through a grant from Canadian Heritage and the Student Achievement and Supports Branch of Saskatchewan's Ministry of Education.



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CONCOURS D'ART ORATOIRE
CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH - SASKATCHEWAN
RULES AND REGULATIONS 2024

RULES FOR STUDENTS

Grades 1-3: All Categories

Poetry selected by the teacher is presented. It is organized at the local level only and will not be part of the provincial contest.

Grades 4-8: Core French

School may determine their own requirements for presentations and speeches from core French students for these grades. It is organized at the local level only and will not be part of the provincial contest.

Grades 4-8: French Immersion

Grade 4 An imaginary story, prepared by the class or small groups as a co-operative effort, is coordinated by the teacher, but presented individually. Poems, songs or dramatic pieces are not appropriate after grade 3. It is organized at the school and/or school division level, and will not be part of the provincial contest.

Grade 5 A composition of the student's own creation on a personal topic is presented. This category is organized at the school and/or school division level, and will not be part of the provincial contest.

Grades 6-8 Students write their own speech on a topic of their choice. This category is part of the provincial contest.

Grades 9-12: All categories

Students write their own speech on a topic of their choice. This category is part of the provincial contest.

*Please note: **Under no circumstance is it acceptable for a student to reuse a speech** from a previous year **or to copy one** (in whole or in part) from another source. **If this occurs, it will be grounds for disqualification.**

Participants from grades 6 to 12 may be asked one or more questions from the judges' panel directly related to their speech.

TIME LIMITS:

Grade 1-3	30 seconds to 2 minutes
Grade 4	1 to 3 minutes
Grade 5-6	2 to 4 minutes
Grade 7-12	3 to 5 minutes

Timing will commence as soon as the contestant starts to speak. An introductory sentence is permissible, i.e. "Bonjour mesdames et messieurs et les autres concurrents, le titre de ma présentation aujourd'hui est..."

Students will *be penalized for being under or over the allotted time*: one point for every 30 seconds.

MEMORIZATION:

- Grades 1-3 - Must be committed to memory.
- Grades 4-12 - Must be committed to memory. Students presenting speeches of their own creation are permitted to use cue cards with key points.
 - *Students will be penalized for over dependency on cue cards.*

DISQUALIFICATION:

- Stating name, school or school division or identifying themselves in any way including wearing of clothing that includes a school logo or other identifying mark.
- Leaving the front of the classroom or stage before completion of speech.
- Wearing costume/attire or using display materials related to their poem or speech.

PENALIZATION:

- Poetry Recitation - Being under or over the allotted time.
 - Any deviation from poem.
 - Not stating title and author of poem.

- Speeches
 - Being overly dependent on cue cards.
 - Being under or over the allotted time.
 - Not stating title of speech.
 - Any large or rapid movement.

Gestures must be kept to a minimum. It is not necessary for the head and hands to remain completely motionless, but gestures must be natural and spontaneous as opposed to dramatic. Examples of unacceptable gesturing: wild arm movements, pirouettes, kneeling, and turning one's back to the audience.

Please see judges' and/or timekeepers' forms for specific deductions.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS

1. To ensure that all rules and regulations are followed.
2. To distribute materials to teachers, students and parents.
3. To coordinate all aspects of *Concours d'art oratoire* within their school.
4. To complete forms according to deadlines set by CPF-SK.
5. To submit the names of school winners to CPF-SK.

DATES TO REMEMBER

FOR SCHOOLS	
January 26, 2024	Form #1 should be submitted to CPF-SK.
March 8, 2024	All School Finals should be complete. Names of school winners to be sent to CPF-SK (<i>Form #2</i>) and Divisional Coordinators where a Divisional Final is to be held.
April 20, 2024	Provincial Final for grades 6-12 in Saskatoon
June 2024	National Final for grades 11/12, details to be announced.

FOR SCHOOL DIVISIONS	
March 8, 2024	All School Finals should be complete. Names of school winners to be sent to CPF-SK (<i>Form #2</i>) and Divisional Coordinator. Divisional Coordinator should submit <i>Form #3</i> to CPF-SK.
March 27, 2024	All Divisional Finals should be complete. Names of Divisional winners to be sent to CPF-SK (<i>Form #4</i>).
April 20, 2024	Provincial Final for grades 6-12 in Saskatoon.
June 2024	National Final for grades 11/12, details to be announced.

Grades 1-8

DESCRIPTION OF CATEGORIES

French Immersion		Core French	
Grade	Competition Level	Grades	Competition Level
Grades 1-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">School only	Grades 1-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">School only
Grades 6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SchoolDivision*Province	Grades 6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">School only

*Divisional Finals for French immersion students will only be held if there are sufficient participants. Otherwise, grades 6-8 winners at the school level will progress directly to the Provincial Final. A Divisional Final is needed when there is more than one school from a school division participating in *Concours d'art oratoire*.

NOTE: Due to the high participation numbers in grades 6 and 7, only the first place winner at the Divisional level (or School level if a Divisional Final is not needed) will advance to the Provincial Final. This is due to the large school level participation numbers.

ELIGIBILITY

FRENCH IMMERSION:

Students who are attending immersion classes are to participate in the Immersion Category.

*Students who have studied in the French Immersion Program for longer than one year and have transferred to a Core French Program also compete in this category.

CORE FRENCH:

Students who are studying French in the Core French Program participate in this category.

*This category is for students who have had ONLY core French study. Former immersion students are not eligible to compete in this category.

If you have questions regarding which category to place a student in, please contact Brooklyn Barré at CPF-SK at 306.244.6151 in Saskatoon, toll-free in Saskatchewan at 1.800.561.6151 or by email at cpfsask@sasktel.net.

GRADES 9-12

DESCRIPTION OF CATEGORIES

In order to make *Concours d'art oratoire* an event that is fair to all participating, we have established categories that reflect the French language background and experience of the contestants. These categories have been designed to harmonize with CPF-National groupings.

French Immersion		Enriched French Immersion	
Grade	Competition Level	Grades	Competition Level
Grades 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province	Grades 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province
Grades 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province• National	Grades 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province• National

Core French		Enriched Core French	
Grade	Competition Level	Grades	Competition Level
Grades 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province	Grades 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province
Grades 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province• National	Grades 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School• Province• National

ELIGIBILITY

FRENCH IMMERSION

Students who are attending immersion classes are to participate in the French Immersion Category unless they have extensive French background or come from French-speaking families (see Enriched French Immersion Category).

CORE FRENCH

Students who are studying or have studied French in the Core French Program participate in this category. This category is for students who have had ONLY core French study. Former immersion students, those who speak French at home, or who have additional experience in French, such as *Explore* or other exchange programs, are not eligible to compete in this category.

ENRICHED CORE FRENCH

This category is only for students who are currently studying French as a second language in a Core French Program BUT who have additional educational experiences in a French milieu (*Explore* and/or other exchange program, travel, French immersion classes in elementary school, participation in an Intensive/Post-Intensive French Program).

ENRICHED FRENCH IMMERSION

If a student is from a home where at least one parent/guardian has **the ability to communicate in French in any capacity, regardless of how often** it is used at home, they will be placed in this category. Students will also be placed in this category if they have benefited linguistically from living, for one year or more in the past three years, in a community where French is commonly spoken or whose main language is French. In addition, if a student has attended a French-first-language school for at least one year in the past four years, they will be placed in this category.

Please note: **If any of the above criteria apply to a student, they will fall into the Enriched French Immersion Category.**

Notes: The responsibility for placing students in the correct category for *Concours d'art oratoire* rests with the teacher. If you have questions regarding categories, please contact Brooklyn Barré, Admin & Communications Officer at 306.244.6151 in Saskatoon, or toll free from outside Saskatoon at 1.800.561.6151, or by e-mail: cpfsask@sasktel.net.

However, following the review of Parent Packages, CPF-SK reserves the right to move students to a more appropriate category for the Provincial Final if the information provided warrants it.

Because we are offering a broad range of categories, CPF-SK reserves the right to combine students from grades 9/10, and grades 11/12 for the Provincial Final. Judges will determine who will represent Saskatchewan at the National Final based on standing at the Provincial Final.

LEVELS & AWARDS

School Level

At the school level it is suggested that participants from kindergarten to grade 8 have the opportunity to present their poems, stories, and/or speeches to all French immersion and core French students in the school. All students who participate at the classroom/school level will receive a certificate from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education/Canadian Parents for French – Saskatchewan and a small participation gift.

This year, there are five different items that schools can request for the participation gift. All items will be provided on a “first come, first served” basis since quantities for each item vary. Schools can request up to two different items, but students can only receive one gift. For example, if there are 350 students participating, a request can be made for 100 string bags and 250 sunglasses.

It is the responsibility of each school representative to forward a request for the number of certificates and participation gifts to CPF-SK using *Form #1*. *Form #1* has been made electronic, it can be filled out and submitted [here](#).

School Division Level

Participants at this level will receive a certificate from CPF-SK. Students who place first, second and third will be awarded a ribbon and a winner's prize. We ask that the Divisional Coordinators please complete Form #2 before the event to request certificates, ribbons, prizes, and gifts for volunteers and Form #3 afterwards to indicate the winners.

Provincial Level

All participants at this level will receive a certificate from CPF-SK. Medals will be awarded to first, second and third place winners at all levels and in all categories. Note that grades 9 and 10 may compete together, as may grades 11 and 12.

Each first place winner from grade 9/10 as well as grade 11/12 will receive a *Concours d'art oratoire* plaque to be placed in the winner's school for the next school year. The first place winners from grades 9 to 12 will also receive a monetary award of \$150. Second place winners in grades 9 to 12 will receive a monetary award of \$100. Third place winners in grades 9 to 12 will receive a monetary award of \$50. In the case of a tie for second place, each winner will receive \$100 and no third place will be awarded. Should there be a first place tie, each winner will receive \$150 and no second place will be awarded.

GUIDELINES FOR JUDGING

- Do not judge accent. Pronunciation must, however, be French. For example, use of English forms for proper names is not acceptable.
- Note that public speaking is not a dramatic presentation. Any gestures that are used should be natural – not exaggerated.
- Movement across the front of the classroom or stage, or jumping up and down are not acceptable and will be penalized.
- Remember to be objective.
- Content, format, originality, and presentation must prevail over subject choice.
- Correct use of French language (syntax and vocabulary) is important.
- Participants should deliver their message fluently without dependency on cue cards.
- Judges should have an understanding of the criteria for each level as listed in the Judges' Handbook.
- To ensure consistency, judges should confer briefly prior to reaching a final decision.
- Constructive criticism and/or positive comments should be made on the comment's sheet. Where applicable try to refer to specific aspects of the student's speech.

Confidentiality: The evaluation forms remain the property of Canadian Parents for French – Saskatchewan. The judges' comments may be made available to participants only.