

GLSC Reading Contest Terms and Conditions

In school, not only reading, but also reading aloud is important and needs to be practiced. It will bring joy to the reader and the audience alike! Sharing a text in this way is a communal experience bringing the participants closer together. What's more, reading aloud contributes to language development as well as communication and expression skills. When students read aloud, they strengthen their vocabulary and their ability to concentrate. They practice creative language skills. They also learn how to speak publicly, a skill that will be beneficial later in life. Here are the Terms and Conditions for the GLSC Reading Contest.

Who can participate?

Any student of a current GLSC member school is welcome to participate.

There are two student categories and three age groups.

Category 1: German as a Foreign Language Age groups: 7-8, 9-11 and 12-16 years

Category 2: German as a Heritage Language Age groups: 7-8, 9-11 and 12-16 years

Who is considered a German as a Foreign Language Speaker? Who is considered a Heritage Language Speaker?

A German as a Foreign Language Learner has no or very little previous knowledge and starts the language course as a beginner, well below level A1 of the CEFR or as a Novice based on the ACTFL Guidelines. Heritage Language Speakers have prior language knowledge on approximately at least the A1 level of the CEFR in terms of auditory and oral communication skills.

How do you register a student for the contest?

- Only parents, not teachers, can sign up their child via a designated link on our website: www.germanschools.org
- Please use your private email address, not a school email address.
- Once the video has been received the GLSC will send a confirmation email to the parent(s) as well as the teacher.

What video formats are accepted?

- Acceptable formats are: webm, mp4 and YouTube (unlisted link).
- The filename for the video must follow the following name convention: "ParticipantName_LanguageSchoolName" (eg: *JohnSmith_ABCSchool.mp4*).
- We can only accept files with the correct student name.

When is the submission deadline?

The submission deadline is July 15, 2025.

What texts can be chosen?

Students can read continuous prose texts from books (fiction or nonfiction) of their own choosing which are identifiable and unaltered excerpts from the book they selected. No

readings of poetry or graphic novels are accepted. A reading from photocopies or a reading of self-written texts is not accepted.

How long should the student read?

The student should spend between 1.5 minutes and 2 minutes on reading the text.

What are the introduction guidelines?

The introduction (read in German) should consist of:

- Age
- Category (1 or 2)
- Title of Book
- Author

For privacy reasons, the reader should not state his or her name.

Who chooses the winners?

The winners will be chosen by the GLSC Reading Contest Jury. The jury's decision cannot be appealed. For each category/age group, there will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner.

What are the rewards for participation in the contest?

All participants registered with the GLSC will receive a certificate via email. Six 1st prize winners (one in each category/age group) will be invited to present their winning text virtually or in person at the GLSC Conference in November.

What are the Criteria of the GLSC Jury for the assessment of the readings?

Introduction	1 – 4 Points
Choice of Text	1 – 4 Points
Tempo/Volume	1 – 4 Points
German Pronunciation	1 – 4 Points
Clarity of Speech	1 – 4 Points
Expressiveness of Speech/Relation to Audience	1 – 4 Points
Compliance with Reading Time Requirement	1 – 4 Points

How can students be supported?

Teachers, mentors, parents, and older students can:

- advise students on the selection of texts.
- schedule regular practice time, i.e. during lessons.
- encourage voice variation in a loud or quiet, threatening, friendly, sad or happy manner.
- encourage appropriate gestures according to the action.
- offer performance style tips, i.e. don't read too fast or too slow, take breaks, pay attention to the punctuation marks and emphasize important sentences, don't hide behind your text, make eye contact and engage with the audience.

Have fun and good luck!

Your GLSC Board