



Trinity County Office of Education

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Trinity County Spelling Bee Grades 4-6 and 7-9

Rules and Procedures

1. Participating schools may use any selection process to choose their student representatives. The number of students per school has been established by the Trinity County Office of Education Ed Services Department.
2. This is a written test. Official spelling list forms will be provided for each contestant to print the spelling word in the space provided.
3. Pencils will NOT be provided. Each student participant should arrive with 2-3 sharpened #2 pencils.
4. The spelling bee pronouncer will read the word, use it in a sentence, and then read the word again. This will be followed by a pause to ensure the word is clearly understood. All questions should be asked during this pause. Timing (15 seconds) will begin after the last question, and students will then write the pronounced word.
5. A contestant may raise their hand to request that a word be re-pronounced or defined only during the pause after the sentence and re-reading of the word.
6. Students may write the word as many times as needed in the PRACTICE SPACE provided on the test form. The official word must be written in the FINAL SPELLING WORD SPACE on the form before TIME is called. An official timekeeper will allow students approximately 15 seconds per word. When "STOP" ("Pencils Up") is called, students must immediately raise their pencils.
7. If a homonym is given, the speller must spell the word as used in the context of the sentence.
8. In the competition, proctors will check each word and note whether the word is spelled correctly. Words must be printed clearly and legibly! The word is marked with a "C" if it is correct, and with an "X" if it is incorrect. A flip chart attached to the side of each desk will track the number of incorrect words as a running record.
9. When a speller misspells three (3) words, they will exit the stage.
10. In the competition, words are chosen from the official Trinity County Spelling Bee list (distributed to schools prior to the competition). The official reference for this competition is Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th Edition (2003). The words are also listed on the TCOE website at <https://tcoek12.org/District/125-Trinity-County-Annual-Spelling-Bee.html>.
11. The spelling bee pronouncer and proctors will have complete control over the contest. Their decision will be final on all questions.