

## XVI ANNUAL INTERSCHOLASTIC ELEMENTARY SPELLING BEE CONTEST 2022-2023

### CONTEST INFORMATION

**Contest Date:** Tuesday, December 6th, 2022

**Start Time:** 08h00 AM      **Ending Time:** 10h00 AM\*

\*Subject to change depending on the No. of participants and rounds.

**Location:** Salón de Actos - UEPRIM

**Contest Objectives:** To motivate students to develop English language skills, structures, rules, etc., such as spelling, range of vocabulary, concept comprehension, homophones, synonyms, parts of speech, etymology, syntax, listening comprehension, pronunciation, and to develop correct English usage that lasts a lifetime.

To have students drill on metacognitive and thinking skills such memorization, inferring meaning from context by using words in examples, etc., as part of the preparation for spelling words from a word bank in competition.

**Participant Profile:** The contestants must be legally enrolled in **fifth, sixth, or seventh grade** of the Ecuadorian Basic Education System. Up to **3 students** from each school may participate.

### Acceptance reception deadline:

Each school must confirm participation and send the participants' enrollment and attendance documents physically to the UEPRIM or by email to [sromero@ueprim.edu.ec](mailto:sromero@ueprim.edu.ec) (Lic. Sofia Romero Yaguachi, Foreign Language Department), by **Friday, November 18th, 2022**.

# RULES

1. The Caller announces the word to be spelled from the word list provided (this year we have 600 words for the Elementary Spelling Bee). He/she will make a concerted effort to pronounce all words according to the diacritical marks of Webster's International Dictionary and its Addenda section, Merriam-Webster.
2. In competition, after the Caller gives the Speller a word, the Speller will be encouraged to *pronounce* the word both before and after spelling it. The Judges may not disqualify a Speller for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it.
3. The Speller may ask the Caller to repeat the word, use it in a sentence, define it, and/or provide the part of speech category (verb, noun, etc.) The Caller shall grant all such requests until the Judges agree that the word has been made reasonably clear to the Speller.
4. The Judges may disqualify any speller who ignores a request to start spelling.
5. The role of the Caller is: **a)** to pronounce the word correctly, and **b)** to give a sentence, definition, or other pertinent information about the word in question according to the Speller's requests.
6. The role of the Judges is to determine whether the contestant has spelled the word correctly or not. They may also give a definition or sentence if asked to do so by the Caller or if they believe that the meaning of the word has not been made clear enough.
7. The role of the Speller is: **a)** to gather as much information as possible to help spell the word correctly and **b)** to spell the word correctly. The Judges may not disqualify a speller for asking a question.
8. Having started to spell a word, a Speller may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning. In retracing, however, there can be no change of letters or their sequence from those first pronounced. If letters are changed in the re-spelling or their sequence is altered, the Speller will be eliminated.
9. The competition shall be conducted in rounds. Each Speller remaining in the Spelling Bee at the start of a new round shall spell his/her corresponding word. If the word is spelled correctly, the Speller will continue on to the next round.
10. Upon missing the spelling of a word, a Speller immediately drops out of the competition, except as provided in Rule 11. The next word will be given to the next speller.
11. This rule addresses the procedure that should be followed at the end of a Spelling Bee. When the number of Spellers is reduced to two in a round, the elimination procedure changes. At that point, when one Speller misspells a word, the other Speller shall be given an opportunity to spell that same word. If the second Speller spells that word correctly, plus the next word announced, then the second Speller shall be declared the champion. If one of the last two Spellers misspells a word and the other Speller, after correcting the error, misspells the new word, then the misspelled new word shall be referred to the other Speller. If this other Speller then succeeds in correcting the error and correctly spells the next word announced

then he or she shall be declared the champion. If both Spellers misspell the same word, both shall continue in the competition, and the one who first misspelled the word shall be given a new word to spell.

Note: There is no Champion until the Speller corrects the spelling of the misspelled word and then correctly spells the next word announced.

12. The Webster's International Dictionary with its Addenda section, Merriam-Webster (<http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com/>) shall be the final authority on how a certain word in question ought to be spelled. If there is more than one way to spell a word, any correct spelling shall be accepted, as long as the pronunciation and definition are exactly the same as had been stated by the Caller. Obsolete or regional forms of spelling the word listed separately in the dictionary will not be accepted.
13. Any question relating to the spelling of a word should be referred to the Judges immediately.
14. If a teacher or Coach wants to appeal a decision made by the Judges, the appeal must be immediately following the elimination of the Speller. This appeal has to be oral and before the next Speller receives his/her word. Petitions to disqualify other Spellers shall not be entertained.
15. If a word has one or more homophones, the Caller will indicate which word is to be spelled. If the word is not adequately explained, by definition or use in a sentence, then any spelling of the homophone shall be accepted.
16. The Judges are in complete control of the Spelling Bee. Their decision shall be final on all questions.
17. If you would like additional information, please call Timothy Nilsson or Sofia Romero Yaguachi, at the Department of Foreign Languages UEPRIM, at (07) 2981878, 2981880, 2981881 ext. 112, or email us at [lenguasextranjeras@ueprim.edu.ec](mailto:lenguasextranjeras@ueprim.edu.ec) or [sromero@ueprim.edu.ec](mailto:sromero@ueprim.edu.ec)