

2021

“FLTRP · ETIC Cup” English Public Speaking Contest

General Guidelines for the Online Contest

ENGLISH PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

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Introduction

Initiated in 2002 by the Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press (FLTRP), the “FLTRP ·ETIC Cup” English Public Speaking Contest has gained great attention and credit both at home and abroad. Over the years it has been regarded as one of the most prestigious English public speaking competitions with very high standards in China, attracting a large number of participants from across the country. All participants eagerly embrace the opportunity to challenge, improve and be themselves. The contest has been of great help to participants by improving their English proficiency and cultivating their communication, problem solving and critical thinking skills. Nationally recognized as being both authoritative and professional, the English Public Speaking Contest has been listed, since 2018, by the “The Ranking of National Innovative Talents Training and Academic Competition of Colleges and Universities” released by the China Association of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, People’s Republic of China.

The 2021 “FLTRP · ETIC Cup” English Public Speaking Contest consists of an offline contest and an online contest, with winning contestants from both contests competing at the National Final.

The offline contest is composed of three parts: Preliminary, Provincial Final, and National Final. The procedure is as follows: the Preliminaries will be held by colleges and universities in each province; the winners will compete in the Provincial Finals organized by the provincial organizing committees and co-organized by local branches of FLTRP; the top 3 contestants from each province (altogether 90 nationwide) will compete at the National Final.

The online contest will be held on the “U 等生” app where applicants can sign up to participate. There will be three phases in the online contest, and the 90 top contestants will compete at the National Final. Besides, participants from overseas and those from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan will be invited to attend the National Final competing for the final Grand Prizes and other special prizes.

Organization

Host:

Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press (FLTRP)

Organizers:

Beijing Waiyan Online Digital Technology Co., Ltd.

China Language Assessment

Contestants

The offline contest: The offline contest is open to college students, undergraduates and postgraduates under the age of 35 and of Chinese nationality.

The online contest: The online contest is open to college students, undergraduates and postgraduates under the age of 35, including international students studying in China.

Agenda

The Online Contest

Registration:

All participants must register on the “U等生” app between June 1st and October 17th, 2021. The registration fee is 100 RMB per person. Participants must ensure that their registration information is true and accurate, otherwise they will be disqualified and the Organizing Committee reserves the right to take further legal actions.



U等生 app

Terms of Participation:

Participants of the online contest must submit a video of their prepared speech. Specific requirements are as follows:

1. Timeline:

Submission Dates: June 1st - October 17th, 2021

2. Submission Requirements:

- 1) A title. (Please refer to the video of the topic released by the Organizing Committee on the official website)
- 2) A 3-minute speech video (Size: 50M-500M. Length: 2min45s-3min15s). For optimal

audio-visual effects, please make sure your video is shot horizontally and is clear visually and audibly. The video must NOT be processed by any editing tools.

- 3) Follow the format requirements of the video available on the “U 等生” app.
- 4) There will be prizes for instructors in the online contest. Please fill in the information if you have an instructor. The information cannot be added or modified after registration deadline.

Online Contest Schedule:

1. **The preliminary:** From October 18th to November 8th, the online contest judging panel organized by the Organizing Committee will assess all submitted videos and select 300 videos for the next round of the online contest. The shortlist of the 300 contestants will be announced on the official website.
2. **The semi-final:** From November 9th to 15th, the online contest judging panel organized by the Organizing Committee will assess the 300 videos and select 150. The shortlist of the 150 contestants will be announced on the official website.
3. **The final:** From November 16th to 21st, the 150 contestants will be given their impromptu speech topic on the official website at a designated time (The specific time will be notified by the Organizing Committee). They will be required to upload their speech video within 30 minutes. The online contest judging panel organized by the Organizing Committee will assess and score all submitted videos and the top 90 contestants ranked by scores will go to the National Final.
4. **Announcement of the online contest results:** On November 23rd, the Organizing Committee will announce the results of the online contest for public notification for 2 days on the official website. Any contestants found violating the contest requirements will be disqualified.

Awards to Online Contestants:

Grand Prizes: to the 90 contestants advancing to the National Final in Beijing. These contestants will have an opportunity to sit for one free test by the English Test for International Communication (ETIC) to be taken before December 31st, 2022 (see more details on <http://etic.claon-line.cn>).

First Prizes: to the 60 contestants who advance to the final of the online contest but do not advance to the National Final.

Second Prizes: to the 150 contestants who advance to the semi-final of the online contest but do not advance to the final of the online contest.

All participants can check and download their electronic certificates of participation on the “U 等生” app. Prize winners can check and download their electronic certificates of prize on the “U 等生” app. Instructors of prize winners will receive electronic certificates for Grand Prizes, First Prizes or Second Prizes.

Judging Panel for the Online Contest:

1. **The preliminary:** The judging panel consists of no less than 5 judges (at least 1 foreign judge), among whom the Chinese judges must possess the title of Lecturer or above.
2. **The semi-final:** The judging panel consists of no less than 5 judges (at least 1 foreign judge), among whom the Chinese judges must possess the title of Associate Professor or above.
3. **The final:** The judging panel consists of no less than 5 judges (at least 1 foreign judge), among whom the Chinese judges must possess the title of Associate Professor or above.
4. **Scoring Criteria:** The principles of justice, fairness and adherence to agreed criteria must be reflected in the scoring at all contests.

The National Final

Eligibility: Contestants for the National Final include the top 3 finalists from each province (altogether 90 nationwide) from the offline contest, the top 90 contestants from the online contest, and the contestants invited from overseas and from Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan.

Location: Beijing

Date: December 6th to 10th, 2021

Determine the Order: The contestants will draw lots to determine the order of participation in each phase of the National Final. The order cannot be changed after drawing lots.

Judging Panel: The judging panels for Phase 1 and Phase 2 consist of no less than 5 judges (at least 1 foreign judge).

The judging panels for Phase 3 and Phase 4 consist of no less than 9 judges (at least 2 foreign judges).

The Chinese judges in all phases must possess the title of Professor. A judging panel meeting must be held before each phase of the contest to discuss and determine the scoring criteria in order to ensure the validity and fairness of the contest.

The contest consists of four phases.

Phase 1

The contestants for the National Final will be divided into 8 groups by drawing lots. The order of

participation in each group will be determined by drawing lots.

Date: December 6th, 2021

Procedure:

1. **Prepared speech:** Each contestant is required to deliver a 3-minute prepared speech on the topic released by the Organizing Committee.
2. **Response to questions:** The speech is immediately followed by questions raised by the judges. A total of 2 questions will be asked about the speech and the contestant has 1 minute to respond to each question.

The top 11 contestants from each group will advance to the second phase of the contest.

Scoring:

1. The scores for Phase 1 will be calculated by using a trimmed mean (the highest and lowest scores will be discarded and the remaining scores will be averaged).
2. The first 5 contestants in each group will be scored together through a discussion by the judging panel and their scores will then be announced; the scores of other contestants will be announced immediately after the Response to Questions session.

Scoring Criteria (100 points)

Prepared Speech (60%)		Response to Questions (40%)	
Content	30%	Content	20%
Language	20%	Language	10%
Delivery	10%	Delivery	10%

Phase 2

The 88 qualified contestants advancing to Phase 2 will be divided into 4 groups by drawing lots. The order of participation in each group will be determined by drawing lots. The scores for Phase 1 will not be counted in Phase 2.

Date: December 7th, 2021

Procedure:

1. **Impromptu speech:** The contestants will receive a topic for their speech according to their order of participation and will have 30 minutes for preparation. They then deliver a 3-minute speech. All topics will be kept confidential before use.
2. **Response to questions:** The impromptu speech is immediately followed by questions raised by the judges. 2 questions about the speech will be asked by the judges and the contestant has 1 minute to respond to each question.

3. **Quizzes:** Each contestant will answer 4 general knowledge questions and will have only 5 seconds to respond to each question. The total point is 1 (0.25 points for each question), which will be included in the final score for Phase 2. The questions will be varied, including common knowledge, knowledge of language, history, culture, and current affairs. The questions will be kept confidential before use.

The top 6 contestants from each group will enter Phase 3 of the contest.

Scoring:

1. The scores for Phase 2 will be calculated by using a trimmed mean (the highest and lowest scores will be discarded and the remaining scores will be averaged).
2. The first 5 contestants in each group will be scored together through a discussion by the judging panel and their scores will then be announced; the scores of other contestants will be announced immediately after the Response to Questions session.

Scoring Criteria (101 points)

Impromptu Speech (60%)		Response to Questions (40%)		Quizzes
Content	30%	Content	20%	1 point (0.25 points per item)
Language	20%	Language	10%	
Delivery	10%	Delivery	10%	

Phase 3

The 24 contestants in Phase 3 will be divided into 8 groups. The top 2 contestants in each group from Phase 2 (a total of 8) will be assigned to 8 different groups. The other 16 contestants will be randomly distributed to 8 groups by drawing lots. In each group, the contestants will use the same speech topic and the order of speeches will be determined by drawing lots. The scores for Phase 2 will not be counted in Phase 3.

Date: December 9th, 2021

Procedure:

1. **Assigned speech:** The speech topics will be kept confidential and the 24 contestants will choose a topic one day before the contest by drawing lots. The contestants will each deliver a 2-minute speech on their assigned topic according to the order determined by drawing lots.
2. **Response to question:** After all 3 contestants of each group finish their speeches, the judges will ask the contestants questions according to the order in which the speeches were given. Each contestant will be asked 1 question and will have 1 minute to respond to the question.
3. **Extension speech:** The 3 contestants of each group will each make a 1-minute extension

speech and these speeches will be given in reverse order.

4. **Group quizzes:** The 3 contestants in each group will compete against each other to answer a group of questions (5 questions). The contestants will receive 0.2 points for each correct answer and 0.1 points will be deducted for each incorrect answer.

The contestant with the highest score from each group (a total of 8 contestants) will go on to Phase 4 of the contest. All members of the Organizing Committee will be asked to vote and choose 1 contestant out of the remaining 16 to compete in Phase 4.

Scoring: The scores for Phase 3 will be calculated by using a trimmed mean (the highest and lowest scores will be discarded and the remaining scores will be averaged).

Scoring Criteria (101 points)

	Assigned Speech (60%)	Response to Question (20%)	Extension Speech (20%)	Group Quizzes
Content	30%	10%	10%	1 point (0.25 points per item)
Language	20%	5%	5%	
Delivery	10%	5%	5%	

Phase 4

The 9 contestants in the final phase will compete for the championship, the runner-up and second runner-up places.

The scores for Phase 3 will not be counted in Phase 4.

The contest procedure will be announced by the Organizing Committee.

Date: December 10th, 2021

NOTES

1. Any changes regarding the contest rules are subject to a final announcement by the Organizing Committee. Announcements will be made on the official website.
2. The contestants must guarantee that all their works are original and do not involve any violation of other people's lawful rights. Otherwise, once the violation is confirmed, the contestants will be disqualified and have to undertake all the consequences caused.
3. Drawing lots: The contestants will draw their contestant number before the National Final but an agent can be appointed to draw the number if a contestant cannot be present in person. In this case, a letter of authorization with the contestant's signature must be delivered to the Organizing Committee for reference. If the contestant fails to appoint an agent before the lots are drawn, s/he will be deemed to have abstained from participation.

Contestants must draw lots by themselves for the order of speeches, and an agent cannot be accepted. If a contestant fails to take the draw, s/he will be deemed to have abstained from participation and the position will be filled by the contestant with the highest score among the remaining contestants of the previous phase.

4. Tiebreak: There will be a tiebreak if the last two or more contestants tie for the next phase in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the National Final. The competition order during a tiebreak will be decided by drawing lots. Each contestant will randomly draw a topic and have 10 minutes to prepare for a 2-minute impromptu speech, and then respond to 2 questions asked by the judges. Results will be announced immediately after the speeches and the contestant with the highest score will go to the next phase. If there is a tie in Phase 3 or Phase 4, the judging panel will discuss and decide which contestant should go to the next phase.
5. The Award Ceremony: All contestants at the National Final are required to attend the final phase and the Award Ceremony.
6. Certificates and awards: Certificates and awards for the National Final will be issued at the Award Ceremony and will not be re-issued if the contestants fail to attend the ceremony. The certificates for the online contest can be downloaded from the official website.
7. All participants, including contestants and instructors, are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. (The Organizing Committee will make arrangements for accommodation.)

Awards

Contestants' Awards

Grand Prize:

To the top 9 contestants advancing to Phase 4 of the National Final, including 1 champion, 2 runners-up, and 6 second runners-up.

Champion

The Champion will receive a trophy, a certificate, and the opportunity to attend an exchange program at George Mason University in July 2022.

Runner-up

The Runners-up will each receive a certificate, and the opportunity to attend an exchange program at George Mason University in July 2022.

Second Runner-up

The Second Runners-up will each receive a certificate and the opportunity of training and competing at the Asian Debate Institute in August 2022.

* The time arrangements of the exchange programs are subject to the final announcement by the Organizing Committee, and the current time arrangements are for reference only.

First Prize:

To the top 15 contestants advancing to Phase 3 of the National Final but failing to reach Phase 4. First Prize winners will each receive a certificate and an opportunity to go abroad or to Hong Kong and Macao on an exchange visit.

Second Prize:

To the 64 contestants advancing to Phase 2 of the National Final but failing to reach Phase 3. Second Prize winners will each receive a certificate and an award.

Third Prize:

To the contestants advancing to Phase 1 of the National Final but failing to reach Phase 2. Third Prize winners will each receive a certificate and an award.

Special Awards:

These awards will be granted to the individuals for their special accomplishments. The winners will each receive a certificate and an award.

Instructors' Awards

Grand Prize to Instructors: to the instructors of the 9 Grand Prize winners.

Champion's Instructor

The Champion's Instructor will receive a Grand Prize certificate and the opportunity to attend the IATEFL conference in March or April, 2022.

Runner-up Instructor

The Runners-up Instructors will each receive a Grand Prize certificate and the opportunity to attend the IATEFL conference in March or April, 2022.

Second Runner-up Instructor

The Second Runners-up Instructors will each receive a Grand Prize certificate and the opportunity to attend the Asia TEFL International Conference in July or August 2022.

* The time arrangements of the exchange programs are subject to the final announcement by the Organizing Committee, and the current time arrangements are for reference only.

First Prize Instructor:

This award will be presented to the instructors of the 15 First Prize winners.

Instructors of the First Prize winners will each receive a First Prize certificate and an opportunity to go abroad or to Hong Kong and Macao on an exchange visit.

Second Prize Instructor:

This award will be presented to the instructors of the 64 Second Prize winners.

Instructors of the Second Prize winners will each receive a Second Prize certificate and an award.

Third Prize Instructor:

This award will be presented to the instructors of the Third Prize winners.

Instructors of the Third Prize winners will each receive a Third Prize certificate and an award.

Notes about the exchange programs

1. Please note that the schedule of the exchange programs may be subject to change. FLTRP will notify all participants immediately if there is a change and will make every effort to help make other arrangements. Any disagreement by a prize winner about the arrangements made by FLTRP will be deemed as withdrawal from the program. The exchange programs will be postponed to the next year in the case that they are canceled due to force majeure such as epidemics.
2. FLTRP will cover the cost of travel (a return ticket for international flights between Beijing and the destination), registration and accommodation for prize winners. The prize winners will bear any other expenses.
3. Only instructors who have registered for the National Final can join the exchange programs and for each contestant there can be only one instructor.
4. The exchange programs are valid for only one year. The prize winners who are unable to join the exchange programs due to passport or visa application problems will forfeit the opportunity.
5. A contestant who wins more than one prize can only choose to attend one exchange program.

Key Events

June 1st - October 17th, 2021: Registration for the “FLTRP · ETIC Cup” English Public Speaking Online Contest is open and contestants can submit their videos of the prepared speech

on the “U 等生” app.

November 23rd, 2021: The results of the online contest will be announced.

December 6th - 10th, 2021: The National Final

The Organizing Committee reserves the right of final explanation of the general guidelines.

“FLTRP · ETIC Cup” English Public Speaking Contest
Secretariat of the Organizing Committee
May 2021





Zhong Yutong and Ni Kan, the Runners-up of the 2015 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest, at George Mason University



Zhou Dingyi, the Runner-up of the 2012 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest, at George Mason University for English Public Speaking training

USA



A prize-winning instructor of the 2010 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest at the English-Speaking Union International Relations Conference for academic exchanges



Zang Yingjie, the Champion of the 2016 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest and Tang Jie, the Runner-up of the 2016 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest, at George Mason University

**“FLTRP · ETIC Cup” —
A Global View**



The Champion's instructor of the 2017 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest in the UK for the IATEFL (International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language) conference



The Second Runners-up of the 2016 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest in South Korea at the Asian Debate Institute for training

UK



The First Prize winners of the 2010 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest in Singapore and Malaysia for cultural exchanges

ROK

Singapore



The Second Runners-up of the 2014 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest in South Korea at the Asian Debate Institute for training



The First Prize winners of the 2016 "FLTRP Cup" English Public Speaking Contest, the Grand Prize winners of the 2016 "FLTRP Cup" English Writing Contest and Reading Contest, the National Final contestants of the 2016 "FLTRP" Star Teacher Contest in Singapore for cultural exchanges

Host

Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press (FLTRP)

Organizers

Beijing Waiyan Online Digital Technology Co., Ltd

China Language Assessment

Official Website

<https://uchallenge.unipus.cn>

Official WeChat Subscriptions



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