



Concours d'orthographe

National French Spelling Bee Competition 2016

Dear Principal Madam/ Sir & French Teachers,

The Organizing Committee of the National French Spell Bee is pleased to announce the prestigious Inter-School National **Concours d'orthographe 2016** (National French Spelling Bee Competition-2016), an event exclusively open to school students of French in India. The first two rounds, viz. School Round and Zonal Round will take place online in the respective schools. The final offline round called National Round will be held in New Delhi in mid January 2016. The success of this contest lies in its Unique Concept, Quality and Popularity among thousands of school students.

Unique Concept – Helping Children grow beyond the classroom:

In 2011 we conducted a survey in various top ranking Indian schools offering French as third language. The results were startling: Children seldom concentrated on acquiring French vocabulary with proper pronunciation resulting in poor or incorrect oral communication even though many students already had two to three years of regular French learning in schools.

Part of the problem is with the limited time that a French teacher gets (35-40 minutes, twice/thrice a week) in a large classroom of 40 – 45 students on an average. It is difficult for the French teacher to give their best to each & every student, helping them develop all the four skills of language learning i.e. speaking, listening, reading & writing, in addition to grammar. Moreover the child learns the language as a subject to score marks rather than earning proficiency in it as a language with emphasis on listening and speaking skills. After all, what good is learning a language if one cannot communicate in it effectively?

It was precisely to create interest among students in French vocabulary and to enable them to develop correct pronunciation, complimenting the “Grammar and Comprehension” based teaching of regular French teachers in their schools that gave birth to Concours d'Orthographe. A School specific French Spell Bee competition was devised by “The National French Spell Bee Organizing Team” under the guidance of Children’s Poetry Writer cum French trainer and Director of Le Frehindi Mr. Haru Mehra. He has to his credit over 200 creative language workshops and twenty innovative rhymes specially adapted for Indian students. He has designed over 25 new language games devised from over seven years of creative interaction with school children from age groups 5 to 18.

The beauty of the contest is that students from each level are given a vocabulary of about 300 to 400 words. These have been sourced from popular French books by different publishers based on the syllabus prescribed by CIEP for the DELF Jr. A1 & A2 levels. The competition is divided into three levels and each level has a unique word bank. Thus all students class 6 and below will do one set of vocabulary from class 7 & 8 will have another set and so on. The competition is divided in three stages i.e. School Round, Zonal Round and National Round for each level. The vocabulary remains the same for all the three rounds. Our experience is that students take to this competition with a great deal of zest and enthusiasm while at the same time enriching their vocabulary and pronunciation.

Quality :

The primary word bank for each level is developed by a team of experts comprising members from both India and France led by Mr. Hemant Bisht; Ms. Supriya Kakkar & Ms. Mayuri Assudani. Mr. Hemant Bisht is Master of Arts- French, Faculty of Arts, Delhi University and Master 2 en FLE/FLS, Institut de Recherche et de Formation en Français Langue Étrangère (IRFFLE) from Nantes University, France & Ms. Supriya Kakkar is M.A. French as a Foreign Language from University of Lausanne, Switzerland where as Ms. Mayuri Assudani is DALF C2 & one of the official trainer of TV5Monde. This is proofread by Native French Teachers on our panel from Nantes University in France. Then several 15 minute Test Papers are designed basically to elicit single or multiple meanings of select words, correct spelling of these, differentiating similar-sounding words, getting the correct pronunciation of the French alphabets and other word level exercises. We conduct "**Free Interactive Language Workshops**" for schools with minimum 200 plus French learners to acquaint them with all such possible modules. The test papers are designed in a way that no two test papers are same for a particular school. Each participating student is given a unique user-ID & Password, which allows him to take unlimited online mock tests; download preparatory material; take online competition and view online results. The school and zonal rounds are online whereas the final round is an offline live competition where finalists from all over India compete in the National Round held at New Delhi in mid-January each year.

Popularity:

One winner of each level goes on an all expenses paid trip to France and the runners-up also get to go to exciting places in India & one lucky French Teacher accompanies the children to France free of cost. Also, there are over 300 consolation prizes to be won at the school level & gold medals to be won at zonal levels. Many schools work towards lifting the prestigious "**National French Spell Bee Champion**" trophy which is a matter of pride for a school as it brings the spotlight on them as a truly Global or International School. Such is the electrifying excitement this competition has created that a student goes out of the way to search the correct pronunciation by either listening voluntarily to the CD available with text books or using the online resource to get the correct meaning & phonics. In fact the photo gallery on our website www.frenchspellbee.org catalogues a renewed interest in French both from students and teachers: one is eager to learn French as a language focusing on the vocabulary and pronunciation, and the other passionately striving to fulfil the students' aspirations.

Preparatory word bank guide & Certificates:

1stRound (SCHOOL):

- All registered students will get a special **free "Word Bank"** guide which will be the basis of evaluation at all the three levels.
- All the participants of 1st round can download Participation Certificates in digital format by using the User ID & Password given to them. **Although all the students will receive their physical certificate after the respective rounds.**
- All School toppers (1st, 2nd & 3rd) will be given special surprise prizes by the sponsors.

2nd Round (ZONALS):

- Zonal Trophy will be provided to the Top three schools from each zone.
- All zonal qualifiers will receive the "Champion d'Orthographe" badge.
- Zonal participants will receive Gold; Silver & Bronze medals depending on their performance at the zonal levels.
- Zonal Participants will receive a composite physical as well as online certificate.

- All French Teachers whose students participated in the second round will receive 'Prof. Par Excellence' Certificates. The names will be same as those appearing on the online registration form where the name of the French teacher is mentioned before the name of the student.

3rd Round (Nationals):

Prizes for winners of the National Round

Final Round 1st Prize for each level	3 Prizes	All expenses paid Trip to France in June / July 2017.
Final Round 2nd Prize for each level	3 Prizes	All expenses paid to "Auroville Pondicherry" in December 2017
Final Round 3rd Prize for each level	3 Prizes	All expenses paid "Indo-French Frehindi Village" at Himalayas; Utrakhand in May 2017.
Consolation Prizes	81 Prizes	Consolation Prizes & special plaque to all the finalists !

National French Spell Bee Trophy – 2016 for the Winning Schools :

For each level the top school will win the prestigious "National French Spell bee School-2016" Trophy.

Prizes for teachers:

There are two prizes available for Teachers

Win a Trip to France :

One French Teacher will go the France on an all expenses paid trip. The 1st & 2nd runners up (2 Teachers on each trip) will go to Auroville Pondicherry & Indo-French Frehindi Village respectively. To qualify for this grand prize, you have to make sure that your student wins the contest. All teachers whose students win in the finals will be eligible for a "Luck Draw Competition". To sum up the following Five (5) Prizes are available for Teachers :

1. The Lucky draw winner goes to an all expenses paid trip to France (1 Teacher)
2. The 1st Runner up goes to "Pondichery" (1 Teacher).
3. The 2nd Runner up goes to "Indo- Frehindi Village Trip" (1 Teacher)

Highest number of student participation in the 1st round:

1. The school with the highest number of students registered for the 1st round will win two (2) complementary places on the Indo-French Frehindi Village Trip– 2017

2. The runner up school with the second highest number of students registered for the 1st round will win one (1) complimentary place on the Frehindi village Trip – 2017.

Note: The eligibility to qualify for the above prize(s) is a minimum of 100 students per school to be registered. All schools with 100 plus registrations will compete with each other for this prize.

Meilleur Professeur Certificates:

All teachers whose students win the contest will be awarded the “**Meilleur Professeur**” Trophy along with a certificate by the chief guests at the Finals.

Cash Prize in lieu of the Trip abroad :

We would like all students & Teachers to avail the unique experience to France / Belgium but In case a student or a teacher does not wish to travel to France due to some personal reasons then the following cash prizes will be applicable :

1. Rs.65,000/- (Rupees Sixty Five Thousand Only) for each France Trip Winning Student.
2. Rs. 65,000/- (Rupees Sixty Five Thousand Only) for the Lucky Draw winning Teacher.
3. No cash conversion for trips inside India i.e it is mandatory for a student/teacher to take up the Trips in India or forgo the 2nd& 3rd prizes.

TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

- ❖ Registration period: 1 July 2016 to 30th Sept 2016.
- ❖ 1st Round: 1 October 2016 to 30 October 2016
- ❖ 2nd Round: 1 November 2016 to 10 Decemebr 2016.
- ❖ Gala Live Final National Round & Prize Distribution: Tentatively 21st Jan. 2017.

Thank you for going through the proposal & we look forward to your active participation in the **National French Spell Bee – 2016**.

Thanking You

Yours truly,