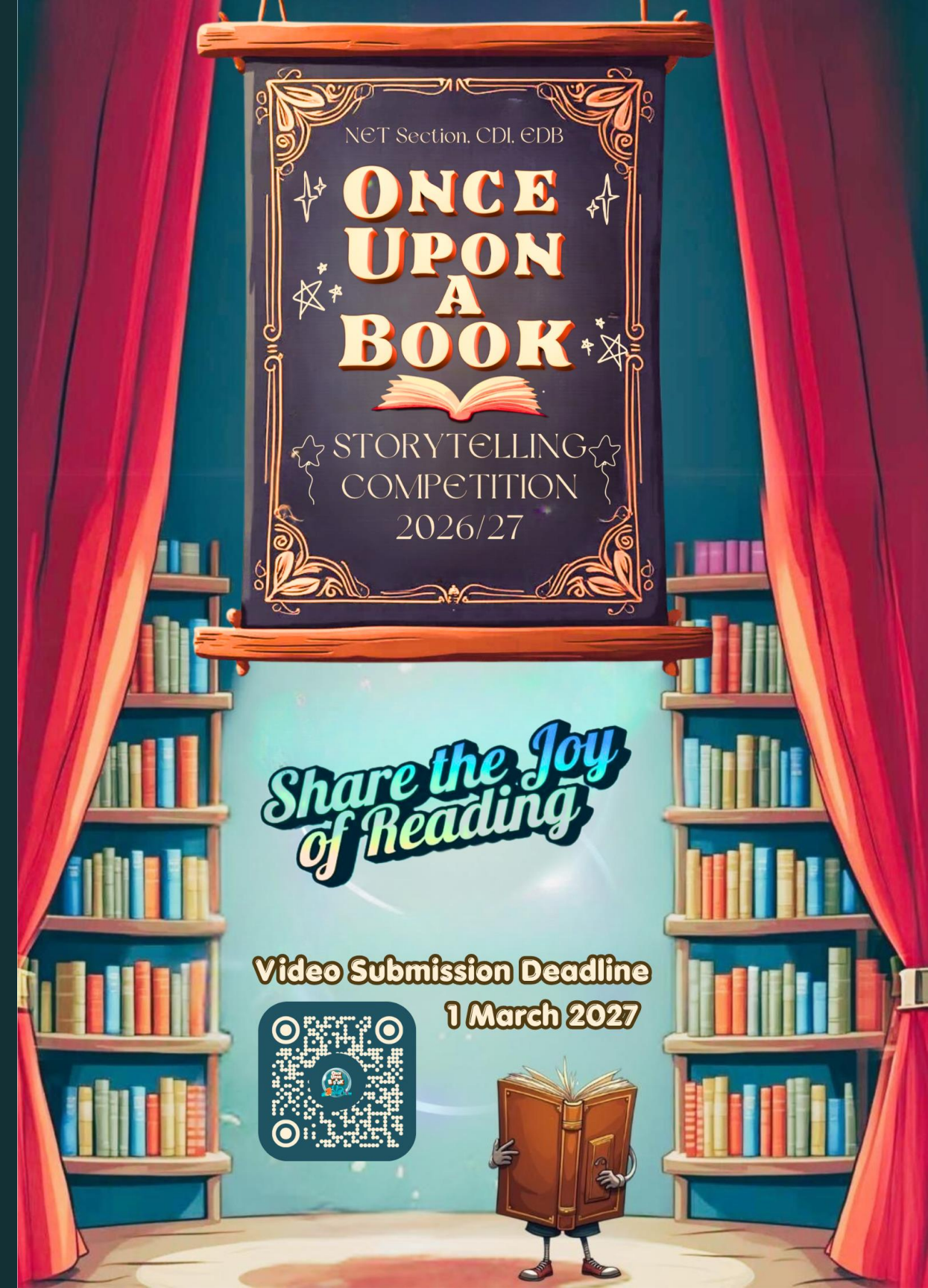


Once Upon a Book Storytelling Competition 2026/27 Briefing Session



NET Section Competitions & Activities 2026/27



Rundown

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Aims

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Question and Answer Session

Aims and Objectives

Aims

To promote reading, as reading extensively provides students with powerful learning opportunities and contributes to whole-person development.

Objectives



explore diverse narratives, characters, ideas, and emotions through reading.



express ideas freely, confidently, and creatively in English, by sharing a passion for reading a book of choice, using a range of storytelling techniques.



develop communication skills and creativity through a thoughtful video presentation of a book.



cultivate values and attitudes through engagement with books and storytelling.

What is it all about?

- Promoting reading and great storytelling
- Retelling of a story on video
- Can be part of a story or a whole story
- Present in a range of different styles
- Not a 'reading aloud', but a creative re-telling, e.g. dramatic book review, trailer
- Do not create your own story



Fiction Texts

Primary

'Lost and Found'

by Oliver Jeffers

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Book

Film

Fiction Texts

Secondary

—
'Wonder'

by R. J. Palacio

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Book

Film

Two Categories

Schools can enter one category or both.

APPLICATION DEADLINE · BOTH CATEGORIES

8 January 2027

Super Readers

Highest no. of video entries, judged by region

DIVISIONS

Primary and Secondary

AWARDS

Four Super Readers Awards, one per region

Live Unplugged

Shortlisted students from video submission to perform live

DIVISIONS

KS1, KS2, KS3 and KS4

EVENT

27 & 28 April 2027

Super Readers

Highest no. of video entries, judged by region

1 · ENTRIES AND DIVISIONS

Unlimited video entries per school, one per individual or pair

Two divisions: Primary and Secondary

2 · SUBMISSION DEADLINE

1 March 2027

3 · ADJUDICATION AND RESULTS

School awards are judged in each region of Hong Kong

Results to be announced on 13 April 2027

4 · THE AWARDS

Four Super Readers Awards: Hong Kong, Kowloon, NT East, NT West.

Presented at Live Unplugged, 27 & 28 April 2027.

Live Unplugged

Video entries first, then shortlisted students perform on stage.

1 · ENTRIES AND DIVISIONS

Maximum two video entries per school, one per individual or pair

Four divisions: KS1, KS2, KS3 and KS4

2 · SUBMISSION DEADLINE

1 March 2027

3 · SHORTLISTING AND RESULTS

10 to 12 entries are shortlisted in each division

Results announced on 13 April 2027

4 · THE EVENT

Shortlisted students perform live

27 & 28 April 2027, WP01B, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre

Key Dates



Deadline for Video Submission
for both categories

1 March 2027 (Monday)



Announcement of Super Readers Awards
and shortlisted entries for the Live
Unplugged events

13 April 2027



Once Upon a Book Live Unplugged

27 & 28 April 2027

APPLICATION DEADLINE

8 January 2027

(Friday) · Both categories



Conditions and Regulations

Please see the NET Section e-platform for details.

Points to Note: Filming

When filming the video, the camera should be in a fixed position for the duration of the video-recording.



CAMERA

Zooming and panning are not permitted.



FRAMING

The student(s) should be visible from the waist up (i.e. a medium shot).



LIGHTING

The room should be well lit.



SOUND

The sound must be audible.



SOUND EFFECTS

Students may use sound effects during the performance. Sound effects may be produced by sound Foley (using the voice, body or various objects) or digitally pre-recorded.

Points to Note: Book Covers and Editing

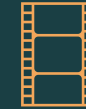


BOOK COVERS

To avoid using copyright-protected images, the covers of published books **must not be shown in the video.**

If students would like to show the book cover, they are encouraged to create the cover by hand.

Alternatively, they may use an AI-generated image or a copyright-friendly image available through the Creative Commons (See: <https://creativecommons.org/>) as long as they abide by the licensing agreements.



VIDEO EDITING

Video editing should be minimal.

The addition of special effects (e.g. green screen backgrounds, animations, transitions) or sound effects **is not permitted** in post-production editing.

Four Divisions

VIDEO LENGTH BY KEY STAGE

1-3

minute video

Key Stage 1

Primary 1 to 3

Key Stage 2

Primary 4 to 6

2-4

minute video

Key Stage 3

Secondary 1 to 3

Key Stage 4

Secondary 4 to 6



School Awards

Four Super Readers Awards, one in each region: Hong Kong, Kowloon, New Territories East and New Territories West.

EACH WINNING SCHOOL RECEIVES



A trophy



A certificate



\$3,000

book coupon

ALL PARTICIPANTS

Receive an e-certificate.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Winning schools are invited to receive their awards at the OUB Storytelling Competition: Live Unplugged 2027.

The Four Regions

One Super Readers Award is made in each region.

New Territories West

- Kwai Chung & Tsing Yi
- Tuen Mun
- Tsuen Wan
- Yuen Long

New Territories East

- North
- Tai Po
- Sha Tin

Kowloon

- Kowloon City
- Kwun Tong
- Sai Kung
- Sham Shui Po
- Wong Tai Sin
- Yau Tsim & Mong Kok

Hong Kong

- Central & Western
- Hong Kong East
- Islands
- Southern
- Wan Chai

<https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/student-parents/sch-info/sch-search/schlist-by-district/index.html>

Individual/Pair Awards

AWARD CATEGORY

Individual/Pair Awards at the OUB Live Unplugged events (to be awarded in each division)

PRIZES FOR EACH AWARD



First Prize

\$800

in book coupons

Trophy and Certificate(s)
of Award



Second Prize

\$600

in book coupons

Trophy and Certificate(s)
of Award



Third Prize

\$400

in book coupons

Trophy and Certificate(s)
of Award



Merits (x2)

\$200

in book coupons

Certificate(s) of Merit

Good Storytelling Techniques

Five areas to focus on when preparing a story

A



Content

B



Use of English

C



Vocal Expression

D



Physical
Expression

E



Presentation and
Engagement

These five areas form the adjudication criteria.

Good Storytelling Techniques



A Content

- **Narrative flow:** Logical and coherent story structure
- **Detail relevance:** Inclusion of pertinent details
- **Values:** Promotes positive values



B Use of English

- **Intelligibility** (pronunciation)
- **Fluency** (stress and intonation)
- **Range of language use**



C Vocal Expression

- **Volume:** Appropriate loudness
- **Pitch:** Varied and dynamic
- **Pace:** Controlled speed of speech
- **Articulation:** Clear pronunciation



D Physical Expression

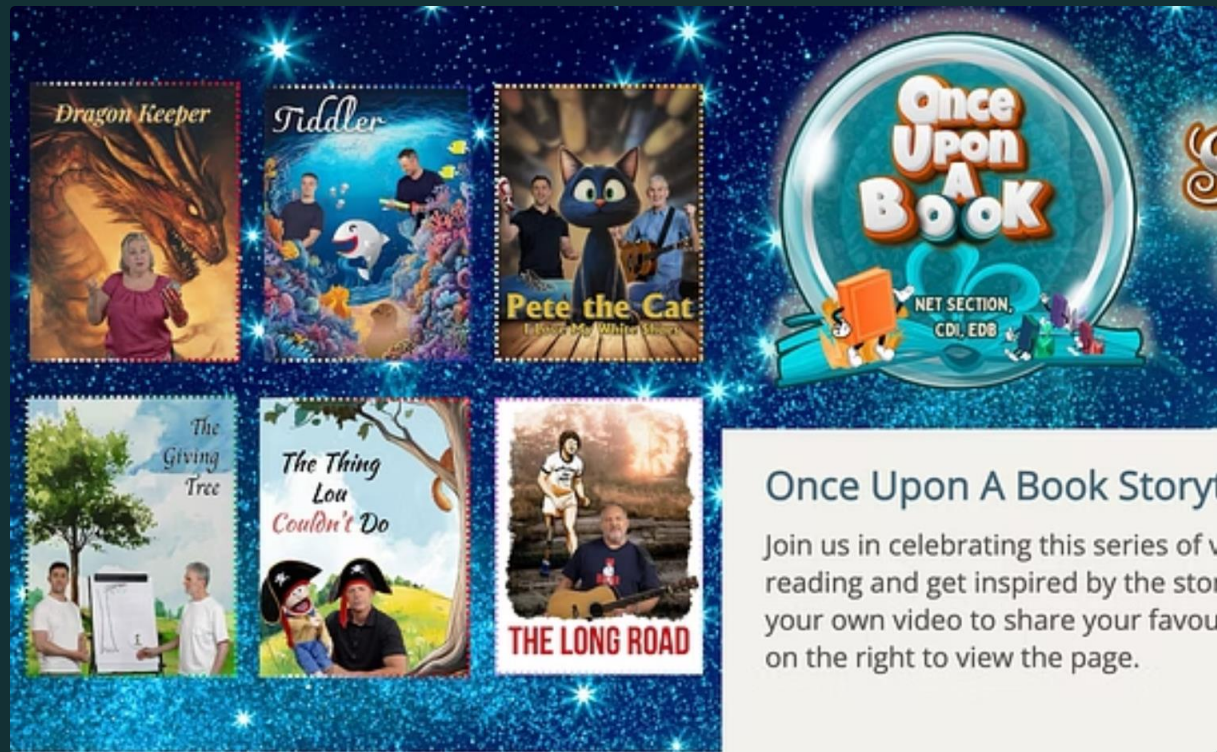
- **Gestures:** Purposeful and natural
- **Facial expressions:** Reflective of emotions and messages
- **Eye contact:** Engages the audience
- **Posture:** Confident and open
- **Movement:** Complementary to spoken content



E Presentation and Engagement

- **Visual aids:** Clear and effective
- **Organisation:** Well-structured presentation
- **Time management:** Adherence to allotted time
- **Audience interaction:** Encourages engagement and participation

Video Examples



[The Once Upon A Book Storytelling Showcase videos](https://nets.edb.edcity.hk/page.php?p=640)



[Last year's winners](https://nets.edb.edcity.hk/page.php?p=683)

<https://nets.edb.edcity.hk/page.php?p=640>

<https://nets.edb.edcity.hk/page.php?p=683>

Other Video Elements to Remember



Script



Backdrop



Props



Costumes



Video editing

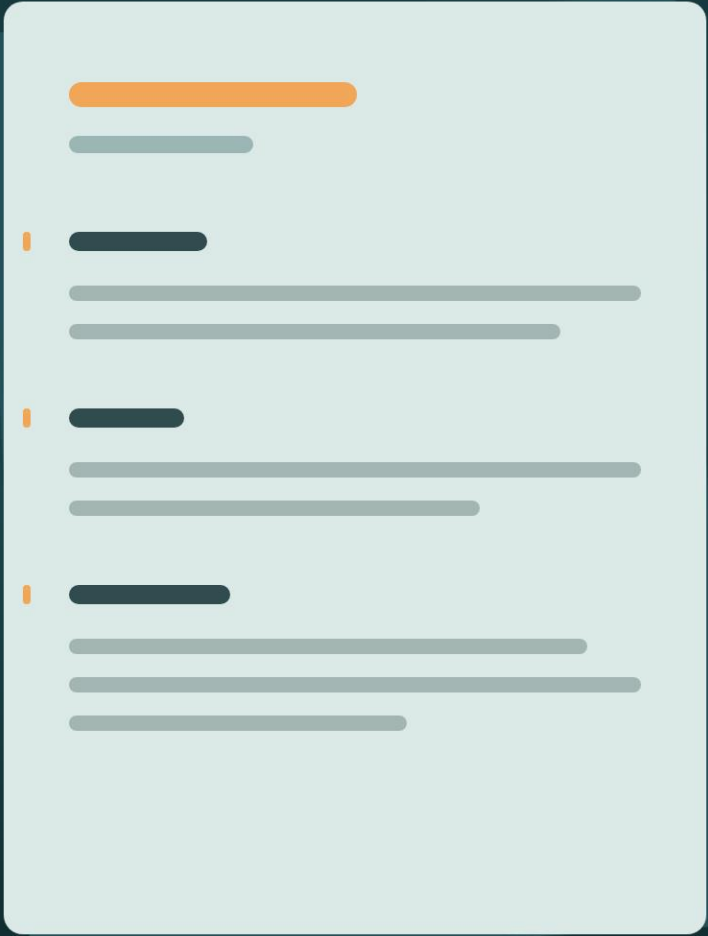


Preparation

WHAT'S
YOUR
STORY?

Script

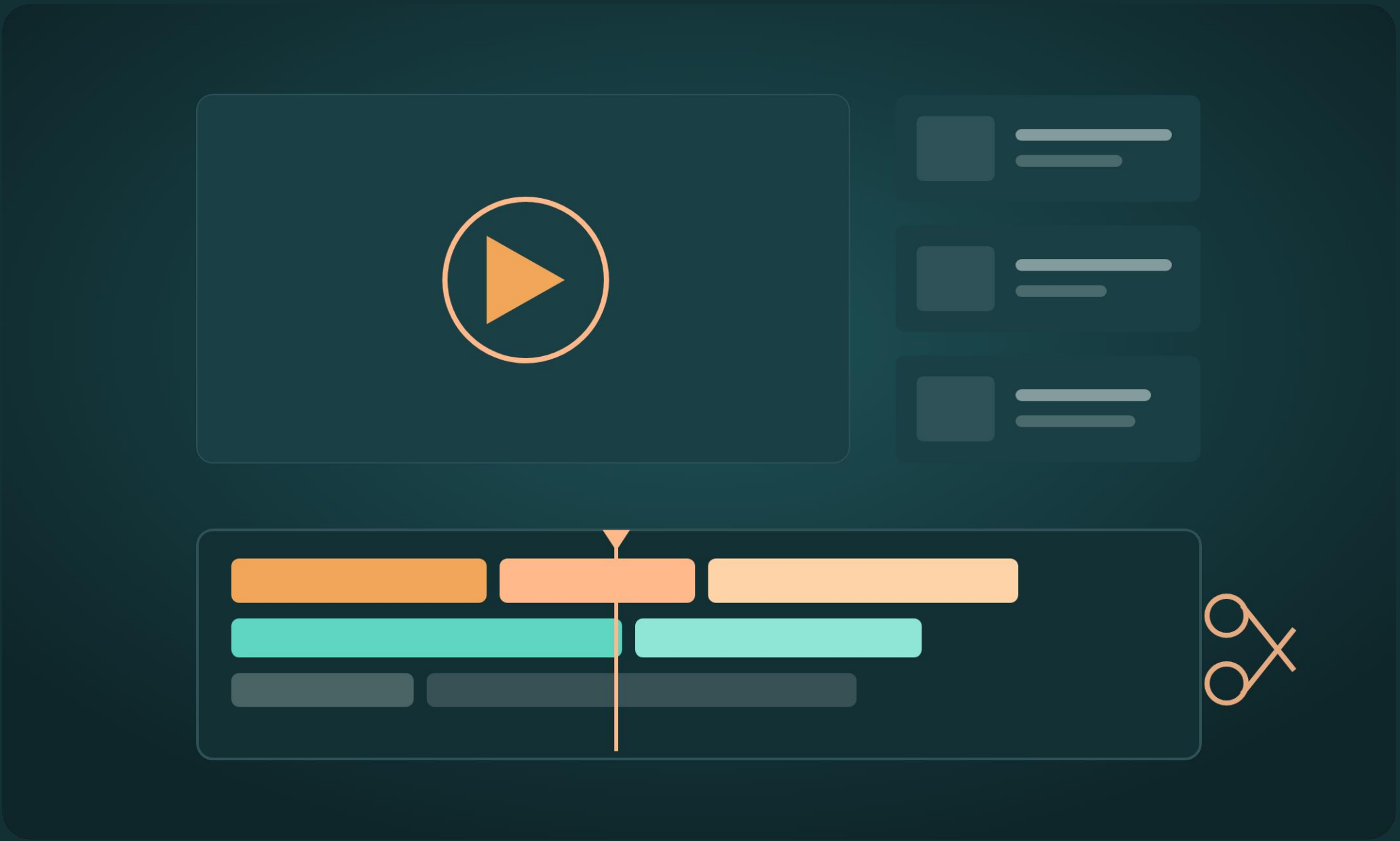
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Backdrops, Props, Costumes



Video Editing



Preparation





Roles of the Student

Roles of the Facilitator



Hints and Tips

1. Use of laptops and multi-media resources are not permitted.
2. School awards: If an individual video link does not open, it will not be counted as one entry.
3. OUB Live Unplugged: The live performance of shortlisted teams must match with what was done in the video submitted.





Forms to be Completed

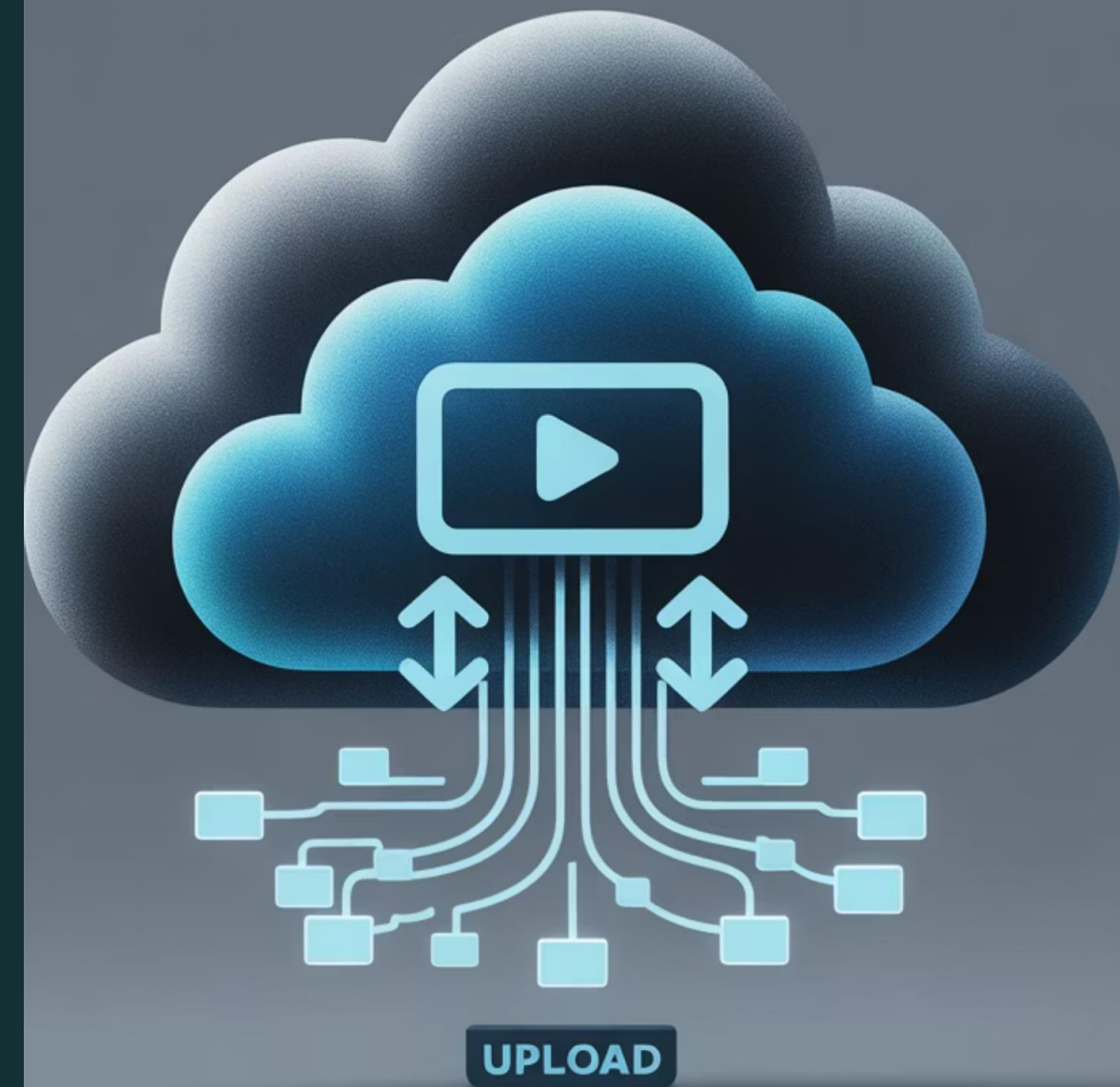
1. Application form 8th January 2027
2. Super Readers Submission Form and/or Live Unplugged Submission Form
3. Use of Images Parent Permission Form (To be handled and kept by the school)
4. OUB Video Entries Spreadsheet

(Super Readers & Live Unplugged) **1 March 2027**

All forms are available on the C&R and the competition page.

Video Entries and Links

- Recommended Video formats: MP4 or AVI
- Upload all the video entries to a shared drive (e.g. Google Drive, OneDrive, Dropbox)
- Please ensure access right is set to "Anyone with the link"
- Ensure all links are accessible until **31st August 2027**



Contact Details

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Question Time