

TIME TO TALK

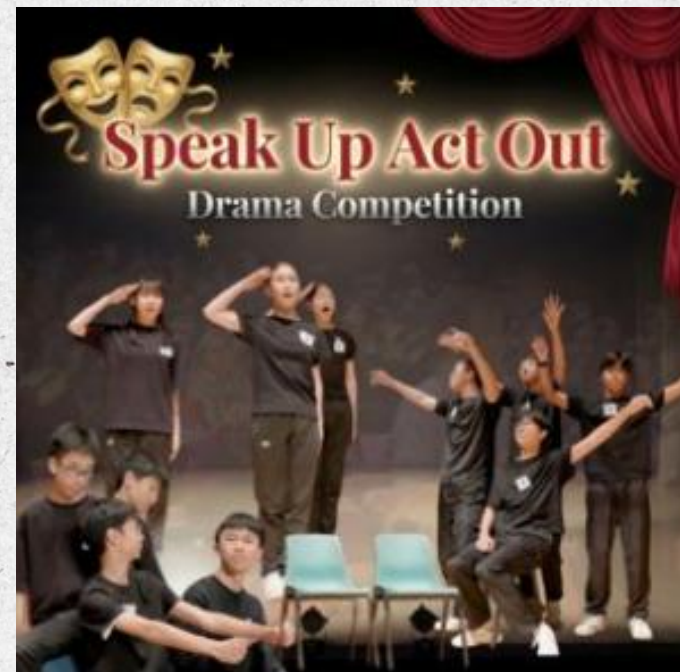
**PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION
2026 - 2027**

Briefing
Session

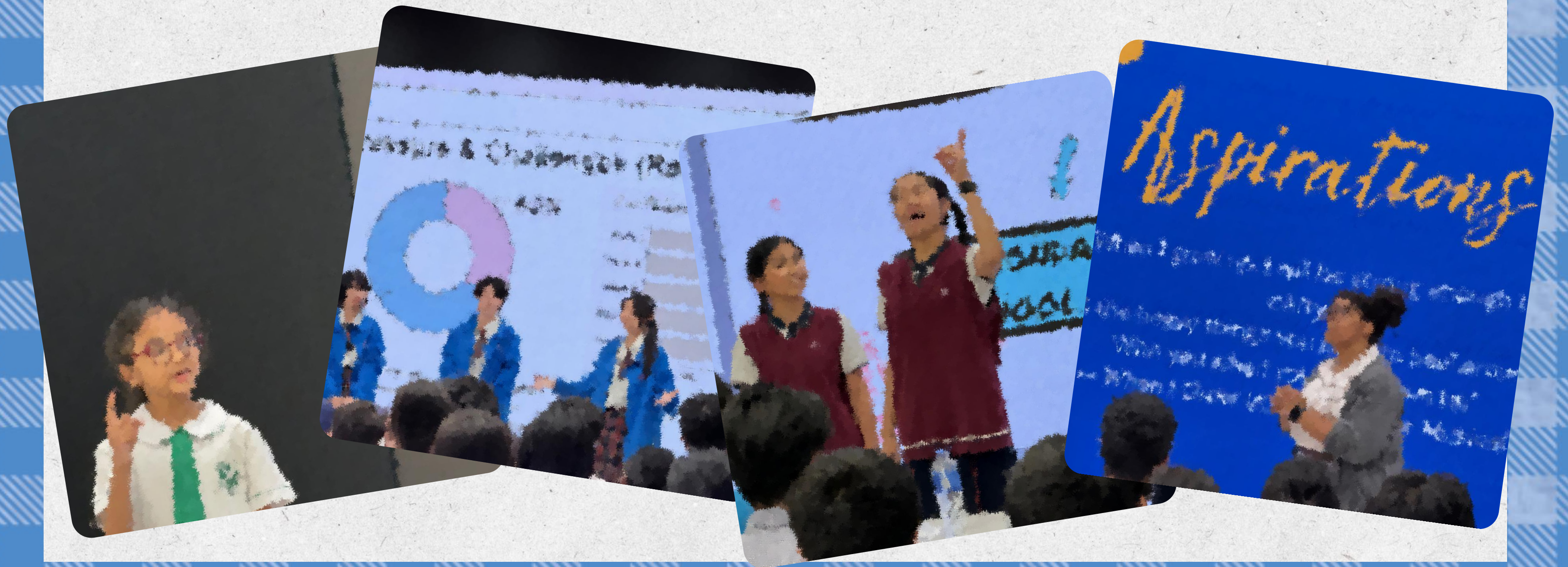
**CRAIG ROBERTSON
&
SIMON ABBOTT
29 SEPTEMBER 2026
NET SECTION, CDI, EDB**



NET SECTION COMPETITIONS AND ACTIVITIES 2026/27



Everyone can be a
BETTER PUBLIC SPEAKER!



"Public speaking is for formal occasions."



Image generated by a generative AI tool.



Image generated by a generative AI tool.

"Public speaking is for formal occasions."



Public speaking can be both formal and informal.



Image generated by a generative AI tool.



Image generated by a generative AI tool.

What is Time to Talk?

- This is a public speaking competition organised by the NET Section, CDI, EDB.
- It is open to public sector primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong, including schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme.
- Students have to produce a team speech.
- Primary and secondary schools may enter up to two teams.
- Both teams must be composed of different students.

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NET SECTION, EDB

TEAMS OF 2-4
STUDENTS

3-4 MINUTE
SPEECH

CREATIVE
USE OF ENGLISH



**PUBLIC SPEAKING
COMPETITION**

**TIME TO
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2026 - 2027

MORE
INFORMATION



Aims of the Competition

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Time to Talk will engage students of all abilities to:

- learn public speaking techniques to hone their presentation skills;
- promote reading and creative use of English;
- experiment with the use of English to develop confidence in front of an audience; and
- develop research and collaboration skills to improve their communication, and digital literacy.

Theme of Time to Talk

**Sparkling Curiosity
for Self-betterment**



**Sparkling Curiosity
across Cultures**

Topics

Sparking Curiosity
for Self-betterment

♪ How Far I'll Go
by Auli'i Cravalho

♪ A Million Dreams
by The Greatest Showman Cast

Sparking Curiosity
across Cultures

♪ Life is a Highway
by Rascal Flatts
♪ Colors of the Wind
by Judy Kuhn



Who can enter?

- Anyone can enter.
- Teams can be made up of 2-4 students.
- Students can be from any year level or a combination of year levels.
- Schools which entered last year are welcome to enter again.
- The speech can be of any form or a mixture of forms.

Teacher Roles

- Attend workshop on 10 November (highly encouraged)
- Submit e-entry form by due date 18 November
- Train students of diverse abilities in researching
- Train students in other public speaking skills
- Conduct Round 1 at school (in any form)
- Accompany students to Round 2 Finals in May 2027
- Take responsibility for the submission and checking of all documents

Student Roles

- Distribute workload fairly among team members
- Write and prepare speeches
- Ensure your speech is well-balanced and is not dominated by music, dance, puppetry and drama
- Wear school uniform
- Arrive on time
- Be respectful audience members
- Practise, practise, practise

Round 1

**Think Before
You Speak.**

**Read Before
You Think.**

- Time: December 2026 – March 2027
- Format: Mini public speaking competition held at schools (classrooms, lunchtime activity, online, group or individual)
- School support is offered during Round 1 (not Round 2)
- Schools should organise own judges – 2 minimum.
- Schools can choose the best for Round 2 (Finals).

Round 2 (Finals)



- Date:
4 – 18 May (Secondary Division)
19 – 26 May (Primary Division)
- Venue: Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre



- At least 2 judges
- 1 teacher / TA must accompany students.

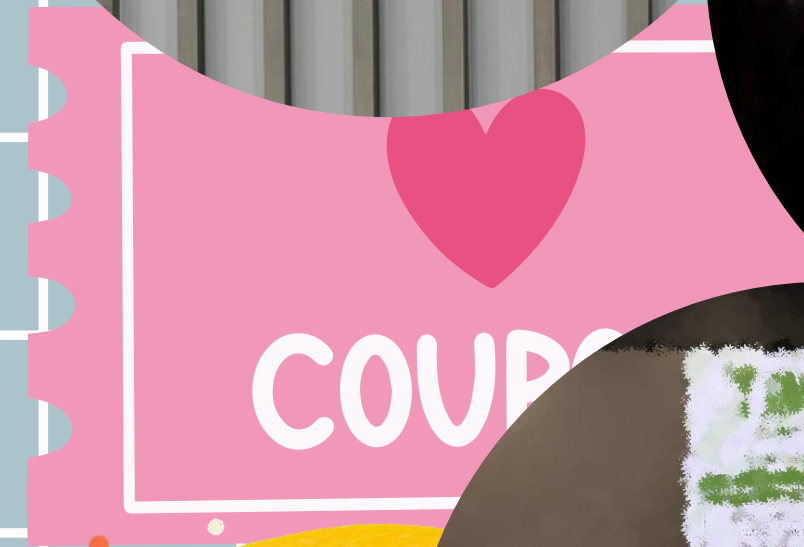
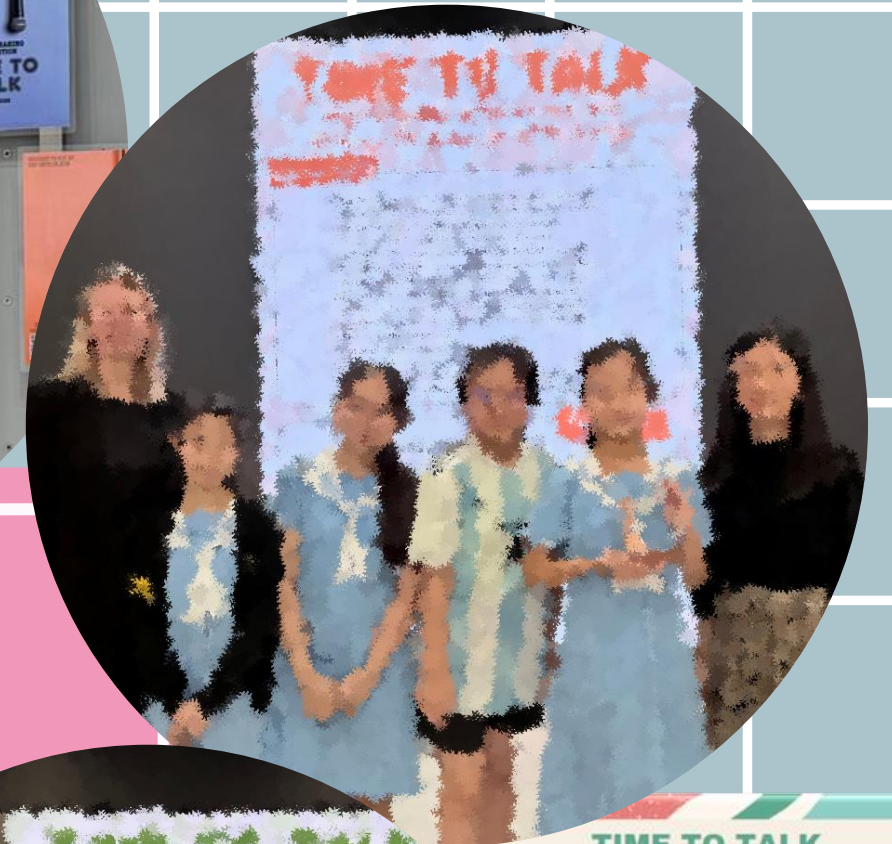
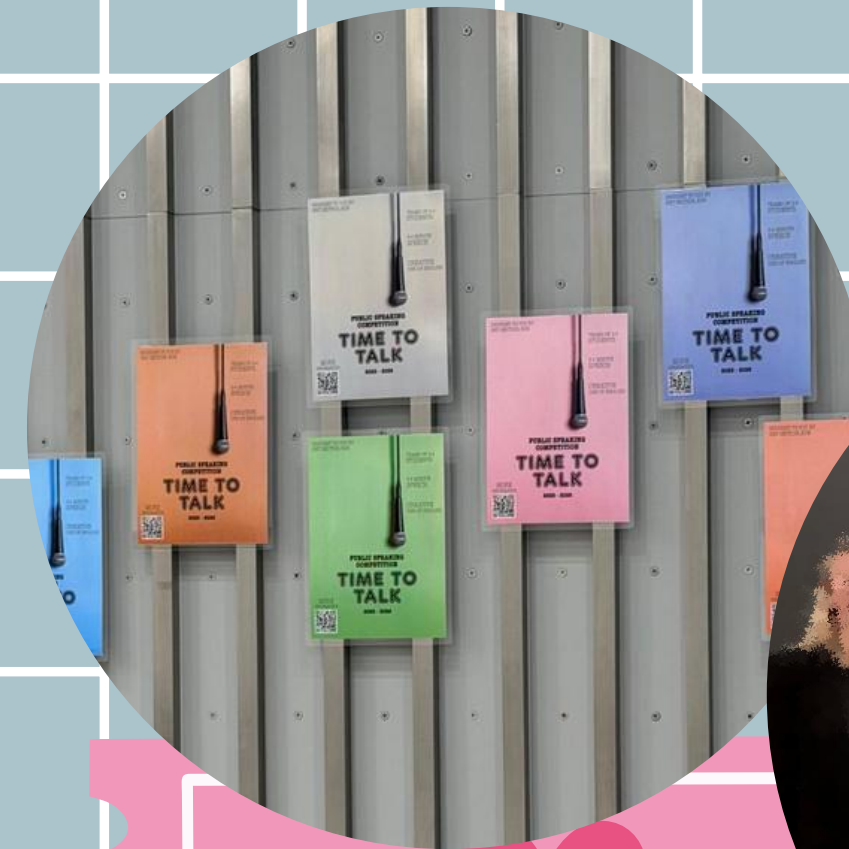
Prizes

Round 1

- A maximum of 12 trophies:
four 1st place trophies, four 2nd place trophies
& four 3rd place trophies
- Certificates
- Subject to availability

Round 2 (Finals)

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd & Merit:
book coupons + team trophy + certificates
- e-Certificate of Participation



Primary & Secondary Division

- ✓ 2-4 participants
- ✓ 3-4 minute speech
- ✓ Speech to be devised based upon one of the themes and topics - songs
- ✓ Interaction between members not just individual speeches
- ✓ IT should be used to support the speech
- ✓ Resources used for research and the AI-generated elements used in the presentation must be cited and declared.

Reference format: Company. (Year). *AI Name*. [AI image / audio / video generation model].

E.g. Google. (2026). *Gemini*. Nano Banana 2.

Rules

◆ Use of IT:

- The slides must be used to SUPPORT the presentation.
- The slides do NOT carry as much weight as the speech.
- The slides can be controlled by 1 student (not in the team) or a teacher.
- The slides must be in PDF format.

◆ Small props

◆ A balanced performance

What can we do for you?

JOIN THE SPEAKING HUB

Offer advice on:

- teaching public speaking skills
- catering for learner diversity

Observe practical sessions
and offer feedback



Conduct workshops for teachers on:

- teaching public speaking skills
- catering for learner diversity

Suggest activities to train
students

SOMETHING SPECIAL

Public Speaking Workshops for Teachers and Students

Co-organised by EDB & RTHK

Priority will be given
to the teachers and
students of the
participating schools.
Email update to
follow!



FOR TEACHERS

Event AA(T) for Primary Teachers:
23 January 2027 (Sat)
10:00am - 12:00noon
@ Studio 1, RTHK

Event AB(T) for Secondary Teachers:
30 January 2027 (Sat)
10:00am - 12:00noon
@Studio 1, RTHK

FOR STUDENTS

Event AA(S) for Primary Students:
27 February 2027 (Sat)
10:00am - 12:00noon
@ Studio 1, RTHK

Event AB(S) for Secondary Students:
6 March 2027 (Sat)
10:00am - 12:00noon
@Studio 1, RTHK

What are the judges looking for?

A. Language	<i>intelligibility, fluency, stress, intonation, range of vocabulary, grammar, signposting</i>
B. Content	<i>ideas, structure, examples (e.g. connection to personal experience), evidence of research, entertainment value</i>
C. Delivery	<i>(1) Use of voice:</i> <i>expression of emotions, voice projection/audibility, pace, pitch, pause</i> <i>(2) Presentation style:</i> <i>awareness of audience, gesture, eye contact, ingenuity of delivery</i> <i>(3) Teamwork:</i> <i>meaningful interaction among all students in the team, fair distribution of content, smooth turn taking</i> <i>(4) Use of IT:</i> <i>connection to presentation, written English, selection of images (if applicable)</i>

Reminder of Important Dates

10 NOV 2026

- Workshop
- New schools entering are encouraged to attend
- Sign up on TCS

23 & 30 JAN 2027

Public Speaking Workshop for Teachers
(co-organised by EDB & RTHK)

19 MAR 2027

- Name submission
- Complete Round 1 by end of March 2027

MAY 2027
Round 2 Finals

18 NOV 2026

Enrolment Deadline

27 FEB & 6 MAR 2027

Public Speaking Workshop for Students
(co-organised by EDB & RTHK)

2 WEEKS BEFORE COMPEITION
Submission of Slides

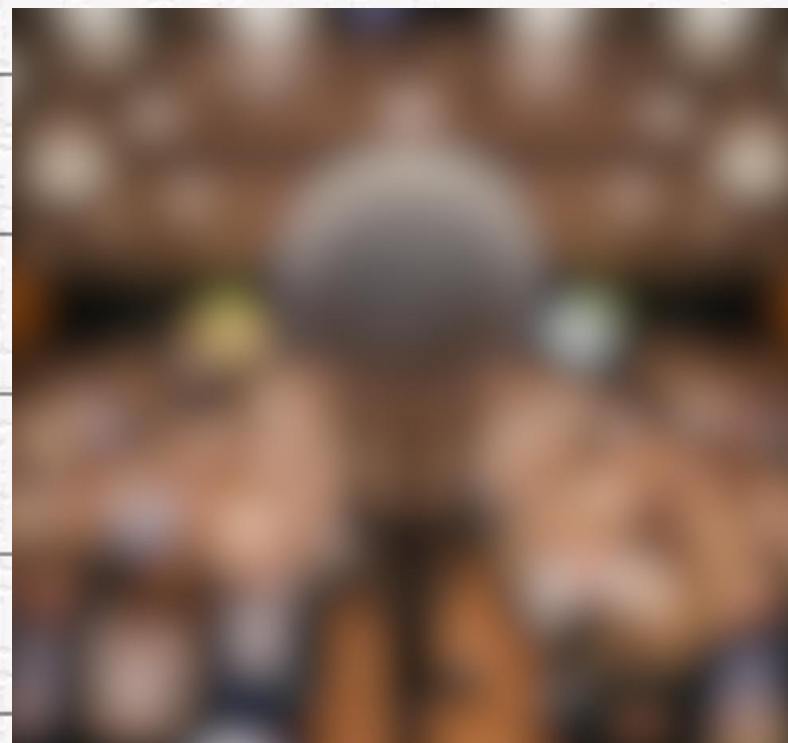
Other Important Information

Electronic submission of Microsoft Forms and Permission of Use of Images

AI-generated elements must be declared in the slides

Teachers are allowed to record their own school's performance. Please note that we will record the competition for internal use.

Slides must be submitted 2 weeks before the day of the competition



E.g. Google. (2026). *Gemini*, Nano Banana 2



Any questions?

Contact Details

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For more information



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Fostering Learning Communities Among International Educators

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Time to Talk Public Speaking Competition

- About the Competition
- Conditions and Regulations
- Adjudication
- Awards and Certificates
- Schedule of Events and Submission Deadlines
- Downloadable Documents
- Application
- Time to Talk 2024/25 Winners
- Inquiries

About the Competition

Organiser
The Regional NET Coordinating Team (RNCT), Native-speaking English Teacher (NET) Section, Curriculum Development Institute (CDI), Education Bureau.

Aims
The Time to Talk Public Speaking Competition is an inclusive competition that aims to engage students of all ability levels to:

- learn public speaking techniques to hone their presentation skills;
- promote creative use of language and reading;
- experiment with the use of English to develop confidence in front of an audience; and
- develop research, collaboration and IT skills to improve their communication.

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**Thank
You**