

2026 LEETON EISTEDDFOD- SPEECH, DRAMA AND LITERARY SYLLABUS.

Esteemed Adjudicator Ms Kerry Maxwell

Competition will be conducted in the Leeton Uniting Church Hall. Church Street, Leeton

Wednesday 13th August 2026.

ENQUIRIES

If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact the Leeton Eisteddfod Committee via leetoneisteddfod@gmail.com

RULES

1. Please refer to the General Rules.
2. Impact of number of competitors on judging:
 - a. If under 3 competitors - 1st place only will be awarded
 - b. If 4 or 5 competitors – 1st and 2nd place will be awarded
 - c. If 6 or more competitor's 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awarded
 - d. No section will be contested with only 1 competitor, however in the case of a single competitor they will be invited to perform either one age group up or perform on the understanding that there will be no prize awarded only an adjudicator's comment sheet.
 - e. The committee reserves the right to amalgamate sections with low entry numbers.
3. Prizes (refer to the general rules)
 - a. Open Individual Sections \$20.00 1st, \$15.00 2nd \$10 3rd.
 - b. 12 years and 8 years medals awarded in all places where applicable.
 - c. High Schools \$30.00 1st and \$15.00 2nd
 - d. Primary School \$25 1st and \$15 2nd.
4. Please note Public Speaking is included in Recitals sections 7 and 15.

DEBATING

RULES:

1. Teams will be advised of the topic two weeks prior to competition, including affirmative or negative.
2. Teachers must ensure that any debater competing in more than one debate does not speak in the same position in both debates. (eg if they were the first speaker in the first debate, they cannot be first speaker in subsequent debates).
3. Schools need to advise the Speech & Drama Convenor NO LATER than Monday August 3, 2026 if they intend to withdraw, and if possible, get a replacement team.
4. The convenor will contact all schools and advise of any withdrawals.

Section 21. Senior High School Teams Years 11 & 12

Speakers allowed 7-5-5 minutes respectively.

Section 22. Junior High School Teams Years 9 & 10.

Speakers allowed 5-4-4 minutes respectively.

Section 23. Sub Junior High School Teams Years 7 & 8.

Speakers allowed 5-4-4 minutes respectively.

Section 24. Primary School Teams

Speakers allowed 4-3-3 minutes respectively.

DRAMA

RULES:

1. Copies of any plays/scenes chosen must be provided by entrants (including names of the cast).
2. Plays must be of an acceptable standard and any copyright fees must be paid by the entrants before performances.
3. Cuts may be made to keep the play within time limits and these must be clearly marked on the copy provided to the secretary.
4. Entrants are responsible for their own props and scenery and these need to be kept to a minimum.
5. Setting up and dismantling the stage is included in the time frame and no curtains are permitted.
6. Performances are limited to no more than 20 minutes

Section 25. OPEN

One Act Play or any act or scene from a play.

Section 26. Secondary School

One Act Play or any act or scene from a play.

Section 27. Primary School

One Act Play or any act or scene from a play.

Section 28. Infants School

One Act Play or any act or scene from a play.

VERSE

SPEAKING

RULES:

1. All verse speaking choirs must be no fewer than ten (10) voices
2. Copies of all *Own Choice* poems to be provided to Adjudicator prior

Section 30. Special Schools.

Two *Own Choice* poems of contrasting nature.

Section 31. Small Schools (less than 100 pupils)

Two pieces:

- a. Set Poem *The Sound Collector* by Roger McGough
- b. *Own Choice*

Section 32. Infant School. (years K-2)

Two *Own Choice* poems of contrasting

nature. **Section 33. Junior Primary School**

(years 3-4) Two pieces:

- a. Set Poem *On the Ning Nang Nong* by Spike Milligan
- b. *Own Choice*

Section 34. Primary School (years 5-6)

Two pieces:

- a. Set Poem: *The Race to Get to Sleep* by Brian Patten
- b. *Own Choice*

RECITALS

Section 55. OPEN

Recital of a piece of work (poetry or prose) by a local author or poet.

PRIZES 1st \$50, 2nd \$30, 3rd \$20 + special recognition award for Adjudicator's Choice

(Can include selections from poetry collections such as: *Under Wide Skies* by Jim Graham, the works of Sarah Tiffen (published by Ginninderra Press), publications by local publishing house Riverina Writing House, including by authors CJ Talbot (*Caloro – Riverina Landscapes*) and Ben Smith (*Words for the Vision Impaired*), and collections *Memoirs and Reflections – Life in a Time of COVID*, and *Light, Land, Spirit – a study of place in words and pictures*, other local writers such as Jason Richardson, Benjamin Dodds, Melanie Ifield, and others. See your local library for copies or look online. There is much to choose from)

13 years and over

Section 1. Set Recital.

The Listeners by Walter de la Mare

Section 2. Australian Recital. Own Choice

Section 3. Bible Reading. Any selection from *Isaiah*

Section 4. Humorous Recital. Light verse. Own choice.

Section 5. Prepared Reading

Any selection from C.S. Lewis

Section 6. Impromptu Reading.

Section 7. Public Speaking

Speech should be of 5 minutes duration with a warning bell at 4 minutes. Topic – *WHY THE ARTS MATTER*

12 years and under

Section 8. Character Recital.

Own choice.

Section 9. Set Recital.

The Visitor by Ian Serrailier *OR My*

Best Ice cream by Terry Jones

Section 10. Australian Recital.

Own choice

Section 11. Bible Reading.

Any selection from *Psalms*

Section 12. Humorous

Recital. Light Verse. Own choice.

Section 13. Prepared Reading.

Any selection from Ahn Do

Section 14. Impromptu Reading.

Section 15. Public Speaking

Topic – MY FAMILY HISTORY – WHAT IT MEANS TO ME

Speech of 3 minutes duration with warning bell at 2 minutes.

8 years and under

Section 16. Character Recital.

Own choice. Costume Optional

Section 17. Set Recital.

Alphabet Sten by Jack

Prelutsky *OR Spaghetti* by Shel

Silverstein

Section 18. Bible Reading.

Any selection from Mark

Section 19. Humorous Recital.

Light Verse. Own choice.

Section 20. Prepared Reading

Any selection from the Brer Rabbit Series by Enid Blyton

LITERARY DISCIPLINE

RULES:

1. Submissions must be received by 3rd August 2026, please email to leetoneisteddfod@gmail.com
2. Competitors will be advised by email when the results will be announced and relevant trophies presented. This will be done during the speech competition.
3. Unless otherwise stated, the topic for written work is at the discretion of the competitor.
4. To avoid confusion competitors must provide a cover page clearly showing the below details:

Competitor Name:

Competitor Age:

Section No:

Contact Number:

Contact Email:

5. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope to receive your manuscript back and the adjudicators comments. These will be posted after the eisteddfod.
6. Schools are invited to submit bulk entries aligning with curriculum work in any sections

OPEN - 18 years and over

40. Original Poem (maximum 150 words)

41. Original Short Story (maximum 1000 words)

42. Written Expression (maximum 1000 words)

Topic – BOOKS THAT CHANGED ME, AND WHY THEY MATTER

16 and 17 years

43. Original Poem (maximum 150 words)

44. Original Short Story (maximum 1000 words)

45. Written Expression (maximum 750 words)

Topic – WHAT I LOVE ABOUT GROWING UP IN THE BUSH

14 and 15 years

46. Original Poem (maximum 150 words)

47. Original Short Story (maximum 1000 words)

48. Written Expression (maximum 500 words)

Topic - WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE IN RURAL TOWNS NEED TO THRIVE

12 and 13 years

49. Original Poem (maximum 150 words)

50. Original Short Story (maximum 1000 words)

51. Written Expression (maximum 500 words)

Topic – STORIES MY GRANDPARENTS TOLD ME

Primary Schools

52. Original Poem - Maximum 150 words

53. Original Short Story (maximum 1000 words)

54. Written Expression (maximum 350 words)

Topic – FRIENDSHIP

***COPIES OF SELECTED POEMS WILL BE UPLOADED SOON**