

**Texas State Junior Classical League  
Academic Contest Rules  
2018-19**

**I. Rules**

- A. To enter any academic contest, a student must be enrolled in Latin and/or Greek in the 2018-19 school year or be a veteran. They must compete in the level of classical language in which they are enrolled, following procedures outlined below. Also, students must be members of the TSJCL and NJCL and be registered for the 2019 TSJCL State Convention.
1. All academic contests will be divided into eight (8) levels:
    - a. **½ A:** Junior high or middle school students who will take more than one year to complete Latin I and/or Greek I and are currently in the first year (grades 6-8).
    - b. **½ B:** Junior high or middle school students who will take 2+ years to complete Latin I and/or Greek I and are currently in the second year or middle school students who will complete Latin I and/or Greek I in one year (grades 7-8).
    - c. **I:** High School or middle school students who will complete Latin I and/or Greek I within one year.
    - d. **II:** High School or middle school students enrolled in second year of a Latin and/or Greek course.
    - e. **III:** High School students enrolled in third year of a Latin and/or Greek course.
    - f. **IV:** High School students enrolled in fourth year of a Latin and/or Greek course.
    - g. **V:** Students with five (5) or more years of Latin and/or Greek.
    - h. **Veteran:** Students who have completed a) all the Latin and/or Greek offered at their school, b) at least three levels of Latin and/or Greek and are not currently enrolled in a Classical Language, or c) a course in Latin and/or Greek prior to this school year, but are unable to enroll in Latin and/or Greek this school year. Veteran results do not count in sweepstakes but veteran students will be able to receive ribbons. Veteran students are not allowed to compete in Dramatic Interpretation, Latin Oratory, Decathlon, Certamen, or Sight Recitation.
  2. **Greek Students:** Students enrolled in Greek courses will compete in the level one higher than the highest level of a Classical Language which they have completed. Students concurrently enrolled in two languages will compete in the highest level in which they are enrolled. (e.g., A Greek I student who is *enrolled in* Latin III will compete in Level III. A Latin I student who has *completed* Greek III will compete in Level IV.)
  3. Students who compete in academic contests for consecutive years must show progression in level and may not compete in the same level more than once, except for students whose Latin I course comprises a 2+ year period who may compete in Level 1/2B more than once.
  4. To ensure fairness and proper placement in a level of competition, sponsors who desire clarification are strongly encouraged to send a detailed description of the school's scheduling arrangement for Latin and/or Greek to a State Chair. The State Chairs will then decide each school's placement on a case-by-case basis. Other questions about academic contests should be addressed to the TSJCL First Vice President.

- B. All TSJCL chapters and members-at-large **MUST** abide by the eligibility requirements set forth by the University Interscholastic League (UIL) in order to compete at Area and/or State competitions. Contact any State Chair with any questions about UIL policy.
- C. Each TSJCL chapter may enter only one (1) contestant in each level of each academic contest except for Dramatic Interpretation (explained in II.O.1) and Reading Comprehension (explained in II.L). In the case of multiple entries from the same school, the highest-scoring contestant will receive an award, the other contestants will be disqualified, and the school will be warned that any infraction in a subsequent year may result in **disqualification of the school from each event in which an infraction has occurred.**
- D. A student may enter only two (2) academic contests. The academic contests include: Classical Art, Decathlon, Dramatic Interpretation, Geography and Monuments of the Ancient World, Grammar, Greek Derivatives, Greek History, Greek Life and Literature, Latin Derivatives, Latin Literature, Latin Oratory, Mottoes, Mythology, Reading Comprehension, Roman History, Roman Life, Sight Recitation, and Vocabulary.
- E. Any infraction of the above rules may result in the disqualification of the student(s) involved.

## II. Contests

- A. **Grammar:** There will be two grammar tests. Students participating in Level ½ A, Level ½ B, or Level I will take the Elementary Grammar test. All other students will take the Advanced Grammar test. The Elementary Grammar test will not include verbals (except for present active, perfect passive, and future active participles and complementary infinitives), deponent verbs, the subjunctive mood, or indirect statements.
- B. **Latin Derivatives:** Emphasis will be placed on English words derived from Latin.
- C. **Vocabulary:** Latin and English equivalents and idiomatic expressions will be emphasized. Latin to Latin will be included.
- D. **Mythology:** Greek and Roman myths, gods, and heroes will be covered.
- E. **Roman Life:** The public and private lives of the Romans will be covered.
- F. **Latin Literature:** The significant authors (Livius Andronicus through Boethius), their lives, works, and styles will be covered.
- G. **Roman History:** All phases of Roman History from 31 BC to AD 476. Some important figures and events up to the reign of Justinian may be tested as well.
- H. **Greek History:** All phases of Greek History from the Minoan Civilization through the death of Alexander the Great will be covered.
- I. **Greek Life and Literature:** The public and private lives of the Greeks will be covered as well as the significant Greek authors and their lives, works, and styles.
- J. **Greek Derivatives:** Emphasis will be placed on English words derived from

Greek.

- K. **Mottoes, Phrases, Abbreviations, and Famous Quotations:** Emphasis will be placed on Latin mottoes, abbreviations, and phrases used in English, as well as famous mottoes and quotations. (Latin idioms are tested on the Vocabulary Test.)
- L. **Latin Reading Comprehension:** Selections for comprehension will be suited to the level of Latin studied by the contestant. Level ½ and I students will take the Level I test. Level II students will take the Level II test. Third, fourth, and fifth year students will take either the Prose Advanced Reading Comprehension test or the Poetry Advanced Reading Comprehension test. A school may have students competing in both Advanced Poetry and Advanced Prose, and the same student is allowed to take both Advanced Reading Comprehension tests. The comprehension questions will be asked in English and Latin.
- M. **Geography and Monuments of the Ancient World:** The test will include knowledge of the monuments (e.g. buildings and other structures) and of the physical and political geography of the civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome, including comparisons between the ancient and modern worlds.
- N. **Classical Art:** Students should be able to recognize works from the Greek Bronze Age through the late Roman Empire, including Etruscan art, covering all art forms.
- O. **Sight Recitation:**
1. The Sight Recitation contest will overlap with written tests in the convention schedule. Students should complete any written test before competing in Sight Recitation.
  2. Contestants will be given a brief selection in Latin appropriate to the year of Latin being studied by the contestant.
  3. Macrons will be used to indicate long vowels in the passages.
  4. Contestants will be given a ten (10) minute preparation period in which a Latin dictionary may be used. Contestants desiring to use a dictionary must bring their own because dictionaries will not be provided.
  5. Contestants will be judged on their ability to read aloud in Latin, noticing their particular expression, tone of voice, pronunciation, and phrasing.
  6. Pronunciation for the contest will be based on the Classical pronunciation in *Vox Latina*.
  7. Judges may ask very general English questions to verify the contestant's general comprehension of the selection. Although these are not directly part of the scoring criteria, they may be used to break a tie.
  8. Level ½ students will perform the Level I selection, but they will be judged separately from the Level I contestants. Awards will be given for each level of Latin.
  9. Level V students or higher will perform the Level IV selection.
  10. Presentation will be judged on the criteria listed below. The parenthetical point values will be used only in judging the poetry entries.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Prose</b>	<b>Poetry</b>
1) Confidence	5	(5)
2) Continuity	5	(5)
3) Phrasing	5	(5)

4) Syllabification	5	(5)
5) Vowel Quality	5	(5)
6) Vowel Length	5	(5)
7) Consonant Quality	5	(5)
8) Double Consonants	5	(5)
9) Word Accentuation	5	(5)
10) Elisions	0	(5)
11) Scansion	0	(5)
12) Fluidity	10	(10)
13) Appropriate Expression	20	(20)
14) Overall Effectiveness	25	(15)
Total	100	(100)

**P. Dramatic Interpretation:**

1. One (1) contestant may be entered per gender of character portrayed and per level of Latin and/or Greek per school. The gender of the contestant need not match the gender of the character portrayed.
2. Level ½ students will perform the Level I selection, but they will be judged separately from Level I contestants. Level II students will perform the Level II selection. **Level III or higher will perform the advanced POETRY selection but will be scored according to level.** N.B.: There will *not* be an advanced prose category at the TSJCL competition. However, a student may choose to memorize the advanced prose selection for the NJCL competition.
3. Each level will be divided by gender of the character portrayed. Awards will be given for each gender of each level of Latin.
4. The selection must be memorized. All contestants may provide their own prompts; judges will not prompt.
5. The contestant has the option of giving a one-minute introduction in English.
6. No costumes may be worn. No props may be used.
7. Contest pronunciation will be based on the Classical pronunciation in *Vox Latina*.
8. Level I and II contestants are not required to read with elision and meter, but they may do so.
9. The selections are the 2019 National Junior Classical League Convention selections, which can be obtained from the following webpage after November 1st: [www.njcl.org](http://www.njcl.org). Please make sure to use the 2019 passage selections and not any of the selections from previous years. **N.B.: Latin III students and/or higher must perform the POETRY selection!**
10. Presentation will be judged on the criteria listed below. The parenthetical point values will only be used in judging the advanced poetry entries.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Levels 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
1) Memorization	25	(25)
2) Character Portrayal and Depth	20	(20)
3) Pronunciation	20	(15)
4) Enunciation	10	(5)
5) Voice Control and Eye Contact	10	(10)

6) Natural Gestures & Appropriate Movement	10	(10)
7) Phraseology	5	(5)
8) Scansion	0	(10)
Total	100	(100)

**Q. Latin Oratory:**

1. **THE SELECTION MUST BE MEMORIZED.** Contestants may provide their own prompts; judges will not prompt.
2. No introduction in English may be given.
3. No costumes may be worn. No props may be used.
4. Contest pronunciation will be based on the Classical pronunciation in *Vox Latina*.
5. Level ½ students will perform the Level I selection, but they will be judged separately from the Level I contestants.
6. Level II students will perform the Level II selection.
7. Levels III, IV, and V students will perform the advanced selection, but each level will be judged separately.
8. Awards will be given for each level of Latin.
9. The selections are the 2019 National Junior Classical League Convention selections, which can be obtained from the following webpage after November 1st: [www.njcl.org](http://www.njcl.org). Please make sure to use the 2019 passage selections and not any of the selections from previous years.
10. Presentation will be judged on the criteria listed below.

**Criteria**

1) Memorization	25
2) Pronunciation	15
3) Audience Contact	15
4) Natural Gestures and Oratorical Style	15
5) Enunciation and Voice Control	15
6) Phraseology and Interpretation of Passage	15
Total	100

**R. Decathlon:**

1. Any contestant may take the Decathlon test and only one other academic contest.
2. The Decathlon test will cover Grammar; Vocabulary; Roman Life; Roman History; Latin Literature; Mythology; Reading Comprehension; Mottoes, Phrases, and Abbreviations (Famous Quotations will not be included); Latin Derivatives; and Geography and Monuments of the Ancient World.

**III. Any further questions concerning Academic Contest Rules should be directed to:**

**Luke Martin**  
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