

# Rules and Procedures

## Madras Battle of the Books

Please read these to your first group before you begin competition.

1. The team that sits on the left will always be given first chance at the odd numbered questions, and the team on the right will always be given first chance at the even questions.
2. Each team will tell the OFFICIAL who is serving as its CAPTAIN. The OFFICIAL will accept answers only from the CAPTAIN; no other team member's answer shall be heard and recorded.
3. The "odd" team will go first and be read question number one.
4. The team shall have 10 SECONDS after the reading of the question to give its response through the team CAPTAIN. Teams are encouraged to confer before giving a response. Only the first answer the CAPTAIN gives will be acceptable – the team cannot use up the time left to guess other titles.
5. If the title is correct, the team is awarded 10 points.
6. If a team gives an incorrect answer, the opposing team may pick up points for the correct answer (5 points). The question will be repeated to the "acquiring" team, which will then have 5 seconds in which to come up with their answer.
7. Regardless of who scored on the last question, even numbered questions will be read to the even team, and odd numbered questions will be read to the odd team. This means that an "acquiring" team will get to answer two questions in a row – the one it acquired, followed by their own.
8. If a team has begun its response before time is called, it will be allowed to complete it.
9. Challenges to questions should be made immediately at the end of the question. The team captain should raise their hand and express the challenge to the reader. The reader will then get the attention of the judge and they will make the decision after consulting the book as needed. Once the next question has been read, challenges to previous questions may not be made. Scores will be totaled at the end and a winner of that round announced to the two teams. It is okay for there to be a tie. Then, the teams will be sent on to their next round. Each team will compete in two rounds today.

## Other Info for the Reader: (You don't have to read this page to the students.)

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### Answers

An answer is considered correct even if mispronounced, as long as the judge can discern it. That may mean that an incorrect article in a title may be used or answers that are slightly off (such as Zekmet the Stone Cutter instead of Zekmet the Stone Carver) are acceptable as well. (That Stone Carver Guy is not acceptable.)

### Books and Notes

Battle Books and notes cannot be used during the battles.

### Challenges

The questions are proofread and worded carefully to avoid mistakes. The most common challenge occurs when a question may have two correct answers. If a team has a challenge, these must be expressed at the end of the question, and they must do this through the team captain. Once you have moved on to the next question, it is too late for a challenge. You (the reader) will raise your hand and the judge will come to your table to address the challenge. We will have copies of the books to consult to look up the challenge and make a decision. We may throw out the question and have you just ask another question from the extras on the bottom of your sheet. If in doubt, let us be the ones to make the final decision!

### Absent Team Members

There is no minimum number of players on a team required to be present to still be eligible to compete. Absent team members or those that have decided to drop out of the competition do NOT disqualify a team or prevent them from playing. They will play with the team members that are present (even if there is just one person that wants to compete). Teams may not consist of more than four members. If there is a teacher with only one team, this team will automatically become the Teacher Champion and advance to the next round of competition. If a team does not appear for a round, the other team will automatically win that round by default.

### If there is a Tie

If there ends up being a tie after both rounds have been completed, this will be handled at a later date.

### Awards

Awards will be given out at a later time during English Language Arts classes to the team with the highest cumulative score after the second round of questions.