

# Academic UIL Events

Practices are held before school, after school or virtually.

You may sign up for tryouts using the Google form with this email or posted on the Crockett UIL Site: <https://cis.parisisd.net/UIL>

## Dictionary Skills 5th & 6<sup>th</sup> coached by Tricia White

Each Dictionary Skills test consists of 40 objective and short answer questions to be completed in 20 minutes. Contestants use dictionaries during the competition, which may be tabbed. Contest questions cover word origins and histories, parts of speech, pronunciation, variant spellings, plurals, alphabetizing and other such elements. Test questions are also taken from charts, tables and lists contained in the dictionary.

The subject matter of all tests is taken from the Merriam Webster's Intermediate Dictionary, 2004 and subsequent editions.

## Oral Reading 5th & 6<sup>th</sup> coached by Norma Miller

Reading literature out loud provides opportunities for students to analyze the text, to grow and to develop as a performer, to communicate a message to an audience and to perform an artistic creation. Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 read a selection of poetry. Each selection may be one poem, a cutting of a poem, or a combination of poems. The same selection may be read in all rounds, but different selections are permissible. Selections must be published although the poet may be unknown or anonymous.

## Maps, Graphs & Charts 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Coached by Tricia White

The maps, graphs & charts contest is designed to help students learn to get information from a variety of maps, graphs and charts including world maps, pie charts, bar charts and local area maps.

Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 75 multiple choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blank questions which must be answered in 45 minutes.

## Listening 5th & 6th coached by Krista Bruns

Through preparation for the contest, participants will listen actively to a variety of material and learn to analyze and evaluate a speaker's message critically. The objective tests will measure skills such as identifying the main idea and supporting ideas, drawing conclusions, distinguishing fact from opinion, and mastering other listening and thinking skills.

Contestants will listen to a script ranging from seven to ten minutes in length, take notes as needed, and use their notes to answer 25 multiple choice, true/false and short answer test questions. A variety of subject matter will be used for the listening tests.

## Number Sense 5th & 6<sup>th</sup> Coached by Kim Dillard

Individuals are called upon every day to use their ability to make quick mental calculations to make decisions. The development of such abilities should be an integral part of the math curriculum. Concepts covered include, but are not limited to: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, proportions, and use of mathematic notation.

Students will be given a 10-minute, fill-in-the-blank test which they must complete without doing calculations on paper or on a calculator. Erasures and mark-outs are not permitted.

## **Ready Writing 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **Coached by Courtney Mathews**

Contestants are given a choice between two prompts which defines the audience, and provides the purpose for writing. Students should be encouraged to analyze the prompts for the purpose of writing, the format, the audience and the point of view. The format may be, for example, a letter, an article for the newspaper or an essay for the principal. Various writing strategies may be stated or implied in the prompt. Some of these include:

Description to inform -- describe the happening or person/object from imagination or memory;

Narration -- write a story;

Persuasion -- describe and argue just one side of an issue; describe both sides of an issue then argue only one side; write an editorial; write a letter to persuade, etc.

There is no minimum or maximum number of words the contestants must write.

## **Spelling 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **Coached by Misty Gage**

The spelling contest is designed to give students exposure to a wide variety of vocabulary words. It is not a contest of memorization. For the most educational value, preparation for this contest should include instruction in the rules of the English language, meanings and definitions, and root words. In addition to learning to spell proficiently, contestants will learn to write clearly and to capitalize words properly.

Students will write down words given by the pronouncer on their paper at a rate of approximately five words per minute.

(B) Grades 5 and 6: 80 words; tiebreaker, 20 words. The tiebreaker is given to all contestants immediately following the initial test.

## **Chess Puzzle 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **coached by Aimee Driggers**

Chess puzzle competition is very different from tournament chess play. Contestants in a chess puzzle contest receive a paper-and-pencil test that includes a series of chess boards with pieces in particular positions. Questions are based on analysis of material or possible moves in each given diagram.

## **Modern Oratory- 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **Coached by Krista Bruns**

In Modern Oratory, contestants will select one of the topics, determine the critical issues in the topic, and acknowledge both pro and con points citing support discovered in their research. Students will choose a side they will defend and support that side with additional evidence. Along with the skills of analysis, research, note-taking, documentation, evaluation and decision-making come those of delivery and the skill of memorization.

## **Editorial Writing- 6<sup>th</sup> Only**

### **Coached by Chelsea Hogan**

The Editorial Writing Contest is designed to develop the persuasive writing skills of the participants. Students must advocate a specific point-of-view in response to a prompt.

## **Calculator Applications 6<sup>th</sup> only**

### **Coached by LaShunda Harris**

Students will take a test containing 80 problems in 30 minutes. The contest consists of problems, which may include calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, roots, and powers. It also includes straight-forward calculation problems, and simple geometric and stated problems similar to those found in recently adopted textbooks.

Students may use any silent, hand-held calculator that does not require auxiliary electric power. The calculator data and program memory should be cleared prior to the contest; students may not use pre-recorded programs during the contest