

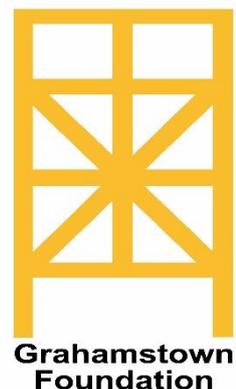
# The 2023 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD

Enrichment through English



## CALL FOR ENTRIES

The National English Olympiad  
is a joint venture of  
the Grahamstown Foundation and  
the South African Council for English Education.



## CALL FOR ENTRIES

Entries are invited for the 48<sup>th</sup> English Olympiad, to be examined on  
7 March 2023.

### THE PURPOSE OF THE ENGLISH OLYMPIAD

The English Olympiad aims to enrich young people through the study of English, while at the same time encouraging learners to explore the English language and its literature beyond the scope of the school curriculum. In so doing, the English Olympiad encourages learners –

- to take responsibility for their own learning;
- to become empowered through the rigours of academic writing;
- to think critically and creatively;
- to see the relevance of what they study – both to themselves and to the world around them;
- to question their assumptions and to explore alternative ways of thinking and experiencing the world in which they live;
- to express those experiences in critically and creatively written responses to the English Olympiad examination questions; and
- to substantiate their opinions with relevant reference to the texts prescribed for the Olympiad.

### THE SYLLABUS FOR 2023

The 2023 English Olympiad will be based on the theme “**Care and Compassion**”, for which a prescribed mixed-genre anthology, *A Better World*, and a study guide have been compiled by the Chief Examiner, Dr Diana McDermott.

### THE DATE OF THE EXAMINATION

The 3-hour examination is to be written at all participating schools on **Tuesday 7 March 2023**. The examination session may commence **at any time between 11:00 and 14:00**, provided candidates are allowed **3 hours** to write the examination. Participating schools are asked to ensure that the date and the time of the examination are included in their 2023 school calendars.

Please note that the date of the examination is determined by the time needed to assess the scripts and to process the results, so that the top prize winners may be invited to attend the midyear National Schools’ Festival. For this reason, requests for alternative dates cannot be considered.

### THE FORMAT OF THE EXAMINATION

Candidates are required to prepare for a **3-hour, open-book examination**. They may use the anthology, *A Better World*, during the examination, but **the study guide may NOT be taken into the examination venue**. Although the Olympiad is an open-book examination, candidates must prepare well beforehand.

The examination will require answers to the following:

- one question from Section A – a discursive essay (60 marks)
- one question from Section B – a creative response (40 marks)

When entering the Olympiad, each candidate has the choice of the **Home Language (HL)** or the **First Additional Language (FAL)** examination. All schools are encouraged to enter their candidates to write the HL paper, but candidates may choose to write the FAL paper **if they are registered at their school for English FAL**. Teachers must indicate clearly on the Entry Form whether their candidates intend to write the HL paper or the FAL paper. **If there is no indication that a candidate is entering the FAL examination, it will be assumed that the candidate will be writing the HL examination.**

## HOW TO ENTER

The competition is open to ALL learners (English HL and FAL) who will be **in Grades 9 to 12 in 2023** - that is, those learners who are currently in Grades 8 to 11. Entries are only accepted via schools: no individual or private entries are accepted.

**To enter the 2023 English Olympiad, a school must complete both sides of the official Entry Form, and email or fax the form to the Olympiad Officer before the closing date.**

### **CLOSING DATE: 30 September 2022**

**(We regret that LATE ENTRIES cannot be accepted.)**

#### **ENTRY FEE: R100 per candidate**

The Entry Fee covers the cost of the study materials (an anthology and a study guide) for each candidate, as well as the examination and assessment.

Copies of the anthology and study guide may be purchased for use by teachers at **R30** per set.

The completed **Entry Forms** and **Proof of Payment** must be received by the Olympiad Officer on or before the closing date. We regret that entries cannot be processed without proof of payment.

#### **POSTAGE/COURIER FEE**

A fee of **R120 per school** is applicable for the packaging and postage of STUDY MATERIALS to be sent to schools in South Africa. Schools outside South Africa are required to pay full courier costs.

**NB - Please remember to include the postage fee of R120 when submitting your school's entries. Study materials cannot be sent to schools that have not paid this fee.**

## DETAILED ASSESMENTS

Provision is made for a limited number of candidates to apply for comment on their individual scripts. Application must be made on the Entry Form when the school sends its entries and proof of payment to the Olympiad Officer. **The fee for each detailed assessment is R180 over and above the entry fee. A maximum of two detailed assessments per school is permitted.** Assessments will be sent to the candidates via their schools after the Olympiad results have been released.

*Please note that answer scripts are not returned to schools or to candidates.*

## ENGLISH OLYMPIAD ENTRY FEE BURSARIES

The Eastern Cape Branch of SACEE offers a limited number of partial bursaries to learners who cannot afford the full English Olympiad entry fee. If a candidate is not able to afford the full entry fee, he/she should write and sign a short letter of application that explains why he/she would like to write the English Olympiad and how he/she plans to prepare for the examination. The letter must also confirm that the candidate is committed to writing the examination on 7 March 2023. In addition, the School Principal should provide a short letter endorsing the candidate's bursary application.

Bursary application letters should be sent to the Olympiad Officer **BY 16 SEPTEMBER 2022** so that a decision may be taken and the school may be notified of the outcome of the application before the deadline for entries and fee payments. Bursaries will be awarded to those who satisfy the bursary qualification requirements, on a first come, first served basis, and decisions may be based on the commitment that the applicant school's learners have demonstrated in writing the examination in previous years.

Successful bursary applicants will pay a reduced fee of R50 per entry. **(NB - Please do not send any payment until the Olympiad Officer has confirmed the outcome of the bursary application.)**

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

### ALL CANDIDATES

All candidates who complete the English Olympiad examination sufficiently to warrant classification will receive certificates indicating the outcomes of their examination assessments.

(Note: Candidates who do not complete the paper, or whose answers are clearly insufficient to warrant classification, will not receive certificates.)

### Top 20 Home Language Candidates

The top twenty candidates in the Home Language examination will receive cash prizes sponsored by the Grahamstown Foundation and the South African Council for English Education (SACEE).

The prizes for the top three HL candidates will be as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize - R35 000    2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - R30 000    3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - R25 000**

The 4<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> placed HL candidates will receive lesser cash prizes.

### Top 10 First Additional Language Candidates

The top ten candidates in the First Additional Language examination will receive cash prizes.

### Top Grade 9 Home Language Candidate

The highest-ranking Grade 9 HL candidate will receive a minimum cash prize of R1000 – provided he/she achieves at least 80% in the examination.

### National Schools' Festival Tour Prizes

The **top twelve Home Language** and **top three First Additional Language** candidates will be invited to attend the July 2023 **National Schools' Festival** in Grahamstown/Makhanda, free of charge.

These prize winners will receive their certificates and cash prizes on stage during the English Olympiad Prize Giving which is held towards the end of the Festival.

If, for any reason, the National Schools Festival cannot take place, these prize winners will be provided with full on-line passes for the 2023 National Arts Festival.

### Rhodes University English Olympiad Scholarships

The **top forty-two (TBC) Home Language** candidates and the **top eight (TBC) First Additional Language** candidates will be offered **free tuition scholarships for their first-year of any undergraduate programme of study at Rhodes University** after successful completion of their matriculation examinations, subject to their meeting the University's normal entry requirements.

### Publication

After the midyear prize giving, the names of the Top 100 HL and Top 20 FAL candidates will be published on the English Olympiad website.

## WHEN ENTERING CANDIDATES ...

1. Candidates should be entered as early as possible.
2. Please complete **all** sections of the entry form to ensure that your entries are processed correctly.
3. Please indicate whether each candidate wishes to write the **Home Language (HL)** or **First Additional Language (FAL)** examination. If you do not indicate this, we will assume that they have been entered to write the HL paper.
4. Please remember to include the **postage fee of R120** when making payment, and on your entry form **indicate the PostNet branch to be used for counter-to-counter delivery** of your study materials, or a reliable postage address for Registered Mail to be sent through the Post Office.

## CONTACT DETAILS

To enter the 2023 English Olympiad, please complete and return the enclosed Entry Form to:

**The Olympiad Officer**

E-Mail: [olympiad@foundation.org.za](mailto:olympiad@foundation.org.za)

Fax: 086 262 6048    Tel: 046 603 1115

[www.saenglisholympiad.org.za](http://www.saenglisholympiad.org.za)