



GCCISD Elementary UIL Tournament

GCCISD believes in academic excellence for all students. With this in mind, the Elementary UIL Tournament was developed. This academic competition spans the curriculum-expanding on what is learned in the classroom. Each year students across the district compete with students from other GCCISD elementary schools. The UIL tournament consists of 21 UIL events for 2nd-5th grade students. Participation in the tournament is a first step towards achieving academic excellence, as well as a stepping stone for future academic competitions.

1. Art Memory- 4th grade & 5th grade

As part of their study, students will demonstrate an understanding of art history and interpret ideas and moods in original artworks while making informed judgments about the artwork. Part A of the contest requires the contestant to identify the names of 15 selected artists and titles of pictures selected randomly by the director from the official list of 40 pictures. Part B consists of 30 questions about art history and art elements characteristic of the 40 art selections (Art Memory prints are good for two years)

2. Creative Writing-2nd grade

The contest is designed to promote creativity in an academic format and to encourage writing skills at an early grade level. Contestants will be given a prompt with several captioned pictures. From these pictures, the students will create an original story based on their selections in 30 minutes.

3. Dictionary Skills-5th grade

Thorough knowledge of the dictionary is a way to increase a student's ability to find the information that is needed for class work as well as everyday living. Contest questions cover word origins and histories, parts of speech, pronunciation, variant spellings, plurals, alphabetizing and other such elements.

4. Listening Skills-5th grade

The listening contest is designed to help students recognize the importance of effective listening skills and to identify problems they may have in listening effectively. 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.

5. Maps, Graphs, and Charts- 5th grade

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. The objective test will measure skills such as using a reference book to locate information, making comparisons, estimating, and approximating, using scale and interpreting grid systems, legends and keys.

6. Music Memory- 4th grade & 5th grade

The focus of the Music Memory contest is an in-depth study of fine pieces of music literature taken from a wide spectrum of music genres to expose students to great composers, their lives, and their music. Students will listen to approximately 20 seconds of up to 20 musical selections and identify the name of the major work, selection and the name of the composer (The Music Memory List is new each school year).

7. Number Sense-4th grade & 5th grade

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.

8. Oral Reading-4th grade & 5th grade

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. The oral reading competition should be an extension of the classroom literary and language arts activities in poetry, short stories and children's fiction. Students read a selection of poetry. Each selection may be one poem, a cutting of a poem, or a combination of poems.

9. Ready Writing-3rd grade, 4th grade, & 5th grade

This contest helps students to learn to write clearly and correctly a paper that is interesting and original. 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.

10. Spelling- 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 4th grade, & 5th grade

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.

11. Storytelling-2nd grade & 3rd grade

To tell a story, the participant must develop skills in listening, thinking, and speaking. This contest also allows for the development of creative expression, something being given more attention in the professional world. Contestants shall listen to a storyteller read a brief story only once, and then retell that story in their own words.