

Houston ISD  
Name That Book High School Competition  
Rules and Regulations

**Eligibility**

- The HISD Name That Book competition is open to any HISD school or HISD affiliated charter school. Schools may send one team to compete in each level in which they qualify.
- Students in grades 9-12 may participate in the High School Competition. Team selection and configuration is at the discretion of the sponsor.
- Three to five students may make up a team with one official alternate who sits in the audience. One student is designated to serve as captain.
- Additional students from the school may come to observe if space permits.

**Name That Book Reading List**

- The official list of books to be read will be posted on the Library Services homepage and distributed to sponsors by the Department of Library Services.
- The list is based on state and national notable book lists as well as through recommendations from contest sponsors from the prior year.

**Procedures**

- Each contest will consist of five (5) rounds, with each round consisting of five (5) questions. There is a break after the third round so the contest is divided into two sessions with a total of 25 questions in the contest.
- The alternate may substituted during the break between sessions, or in the case of illness or other emergency at the discretion of the sponsor.
- Questions or statements will be read by an announcer and be read one time only.
- Questions and correct answers will be displayed on a screen viewable by the audience.
- Each question will be addressed to all teams at the same time.
- After the question is read, each school team will have 45 seconds to discuss the question and write the answer on a small dry erase board. Anyone on the team may write the answer. Each team captain will stand when time is called and display their team's answer when requested to do so. No one will be allowed to write after time has been called or while standing. No one will display the schools' answer until requested to do so.
- Questions are predominately quotes. For some books, physical or audio clues are also possible. An audio clue might be a song that is played for all to hear. Teams would have to identify the book the song came from. A physical clue might be an object that played an important role in the plot of the book. A physical clue would be displayed to all teams at the same time and teams would be asked to identify the book the object came from.
- The book title must be legible, exact and without misspelled words. A title will consist of all words and punctuation marks up to a colon or semi-colon. The board cannot be erased until the end of the round in case an answer needs to be rechecked.
- Teams will not be penalized for not writing the articles, a, an, or the at the beginning of a title or for capitalization. Omitted punctuation will be counted as an error.

- A team may protest the answer to a question. Teams are limited to two (2) protests per session. Any protest must be made at the end of each question, after each team has displayed an answer. The team captain must raise the penalty flag; the captain will meet with the team sponsor and discuss the protest. The team captain may approach the judges, and three minutes is allowed to resolve the protest.
- A team may protest their own answer only, not the answer of another team.
- In the case of a tie at the end of Round 5, a 'sudden death' round of additional questions will be asked until only one team remains. Fewer than but no more than ten (10) additional questions may be asked during the sudden death tie breaker.
- The number of teams advancing to the finals is dependent upon the total number of schools participating in the contest.
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### **Judges**

- Judges will arbitrate questions about answers, ties and protests.
- The judges may penalize and/or dismiss teams for inappropriate behavior such as outbursts, disrespectful conduct, or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- All judges' decisions are final.