

Houston ISD
Name That Book Middle 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 6-8 may participate in the Middle School Competition. Team selection and configuration is at the discretion of the sponsor.
- Three to six 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 reading list of books will be published on the Library Services webpage and made available to interested 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 be substituted during the break between sessions, or in the case of illness or other emergency at the discretion of the sponsor.
- Each question will be addressed to all teams at the same time and will be read one time only.
- The announcer will read questions and statements. Questions are predominately quotes.
- After the quotation is read, each team will have 45 seconds to discuss 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.
- Direct quotations from the books will be identified with the title of the book from which they came. For some books, physical or audio clues are also possible. An audio clue might be a song that is played for all to hear. A physical clue might be an object that played an important role in the plot of the book. A physical clue will be displayed to all teams at the same time. Teams will be asked to identify the book that the audio or physical clue came from.
- No authors' names will be required.
- Questions and correct answers will be displayed on a screen for the audience. Words from a title *may* be present in the quotation.
- No team should display his or her team's answer until requested to do so.

- The book title must be complete and exact, but minor spelling errors will not be penalized. A title will consist of all words and punctuation up to a colon or semi-colon. The board cannot be erased until all teams' answers have been verified in case a board 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. Handwriting must be legible.
- 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.
- In the case of a tie at the end of Round 5, a “sudden death” round of additional questions will be asked until one of the tied teams misses a question. 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.

Judges

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