

## UIL Academics Competition Summary Page

Competition	Summary
Calculator Applications	Students will use mathematics and calculators to solve a series of math problems. Topics include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, roots, and powers, as well as topics found in recent mathematics textbooks.
Mathematics	Students will use mathematics to solve a series of problems using only their brain, pencil, and paper. Topics include arithmetic, integers, fractions, decimals, exponents, order of operations, probability, statistics, number theory, interest, measurements, and conversions.
Number Sense	Students will use mathematics to solve a series of problems using only mental math. Students will not be able to make any marks on paper except to answer. Topics include arithmetic, geometry, algebra, and number theory, as appropriate for grade level.
Chess Puzzle	Students will solve a series of chess puzzles. This event focuses on analytical thinking, pattern recognition, and creativity.
Dictionary Skills	Students will answer questions created from the Merriam Webster's Intermediate Dictionary using a dictionary during the competition. This event focuses on reading, spelling, and communication.
Editorial Writing	Students will read a fact sheet based on a situation, form a personal stance, and then write an editorial, as though writing for newspaper. This event focuses on forming and supporting a perspective and then effectively communicating about the topic through writing.
Ready Writing	Students will write for a specific purpose and audience, which will be chosen by the student from one of two prompts. The prompts may ask for a letter, a news article, a story, a persuasive essay, or something else. The writer will analyze the prompt for purpose, format, audience, and point-of-view, and then employ various writing strategies to achieve a clear, well-written, interesting, and original piece of writing.
Spelling	Students will correctly spell a series of words in written format as they are spoken aloud by a pronouncer. Contestants in this event will focus on the rules of the English language, vocabulary meanings and definitions, and root words.
Maps, Graphs, and Charts	Students will solve a series of questions requiring the use of

	maps, graphs, and charts. This event focuses on reading visual graphic organizers, using reference materials, making comparisons, estimating and approximating, using scale, and interpreting grid systems, keys, and legends.
Social Studies	Students will solve a series of problems relating to social studies including history, government systems, economics, citizenship, and culture.
Science	Students will solve a series of problems relating to scientific facts, the understanding of scientific principles, and the ability to think through scientific problems. Contestants will need to both have a good knowledge of science the ability to think critically about a variety of scientific concepts and processes.
Impromptu Speaking	Students will create and present an impromptu speech without notes. Students will draw 3 topics, choose the one they want to develop, and spend 3 minutes preparing the speech. This event focuses on speaking skills, organization, and creativity.
Modern Oratory	Students will deliver a 3-6 minute prepared and memorized speech on a topic without the use of notes. Contestants will select one of the topics, determine a critical issue on the topic and acknowledge both pro and con points citing support discovered in their research. Students will choose and side, then support and defend that perspective.
Oral Reading	Students will perform a selection of poetry or prose. This year 6 <sup>th</sup> grade will read poetry, while 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade will read a prose selection. The reading must be under 6 minutes long, and may be as short as desired. This event focuses on literary analysis, performance skills, communication, and memory.
Listening	Students will listen to a selection and take notes. The notes and other content remembered by the student will then be used to answer a series of questions on the selection. This event focuses on listening, note taking, and memory.
Music Memory	Students will become familiar with several fine pieces of music taken from a wide spectrum of music genres to gain exposure to different composers and their music. Student will have approximately 20 seconds to name the major work, the selection title, and the composer. This topic focuses on listening skills, musical analysis, and memory.