



We look forward to seeing you in the third China Daily “21st Century Cup” International English Speaking Competition and “Belt and Road” Youth English Speaking Competition

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Welcome

Dear all,

We are delighted to invite you to take part in the third China Daily “21st Century Cup” International English Speaking Competition and “Belt and Road” Youth English Speaking Competition.

We believe that to appreciate the beauty of all civilizations, more communication is needed between different countries.

Under the slogan of “Let the world hear your voice”, China Daily, China’s national English newspaper, and 21st Century English Education Media, a renowned multimedia educational brand that is part of the China Daily group, have long dedicated themselves to improving cultural exchanges and dialogue between young people around the world.

We organized the first China Daily “21st Century Cup” International English Speaking Competition in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province, in March 2019.

Representatives from more than 30 countries and regions took part in the first global final, and in Hangzhou over three days the young contestants had a great chance to communicate with each other and to better understand each other’s cultures.

With the success of the first competition, the second China Daily “21st Century Cup” International English Speaking Competition was held in October 2020 in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, attracting more than 200 contestants from about 30 countries and regions. The success of the competition was all the more remarkable given the strictures under which it was held, with an online format being adopted to ensure that those who took part could do so in the utmost safety.

Though it was a pity these talented young people could not gather together physically in beautiful Guangzhou, we believe that the interactions they did enjoy added up to memories that will last a lifetime.

We are of course keen to see that more young people interested in public speaking and who see it as an essential skill join us in the competition.

If you have any questions after reading the accompanying information please feel free to contact me. We look forward to seeing you in the competition and in China.

“21st Century Cup” English Speaking Competition Committee

Competition structure

The third “21st Century Cup” International English Speaking Competition begins on December 31, 2020, and students aged 16 to 22 (as of August, 2021 when the grand final is held) from around the world are cordially invited to take part.

The competition is in two stages:

- ⌚ An online preliminary contest. For this, speech scripts are to be submitted between January 1 and June 31, 2021.
- ⌚ Global semi-finals and finals will be held in August 2021, with a specific time to be set later. The competitions will be held in a Chinese city if the situation of epidemic prevention and control allows it.

If you wish to take part

🕒 Applicants must be:

Aged from 16 to 22, and can take part regardless of nationality or field of study. Those who took part in either the first or the second “21st Century Cup” International English Speaking Competition National Semi-Final and Final are **ineligible** to take part.

🕒 How to take part (for contestants of non-Chinese nationality)

1. Individuals

Send your speech scripts and videos on the given topic, “Healing the world”, with registration form directly to intl@21stcentury.com.cn

Speech requirements: Contestants need to complete a speech draft of about 500 words based on the topic of the contest.

Video requirements: No longer than 4 minutes.

All works submitted and uploaded will be scored. Contestants with the highest score of his or her countries will advance to the global semifinal.

2. Institutions/schools

To any interested in hosting the competition at a regional/national level, please contact us through one of the following:

Email: intl@21stcentury.com.cn

WeChat account: chenhuan0217

Phone: 86 15810715217

* Chinese contestants need to take part in the “21st Century Cup” English speaking competition national final to get the chance for a spot in the international competition. First prize winners of the national final aged between 16 and 22 will compete for a spot.

What if you advance to the semifinal/final?

At the global semifinal, each contestant will deliver a prepared speech, an impromptu speech and answer two questions from question masters, one based on their prepared speech and one on their impromptu speech. Top 6 contestants from the semifinal will advance to the global final.

At the global final, each contestant will deliver a prepared speech, an impromptu speech and answer three questions from question masters, one based on their prepared speech, one on their impromptu speech and a free question. All contestants in the global semifinal/final will receive certificates.

Judging criteria:

The maximum score is 100 points – 30 points for the prepared speech, 40 for the impromptu speech, and 30 for the Q&A session.

The above three parts of the competition be judged in accordance with the following maximums:

Speech content.....	45 percent
Language quality.....	35 percent
General impression.....	20 percent

Useful contacts and addresses

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Frequently asked questions

1. Do I need to pay for taking part in the competition?

No. It is completely free during the online preliminary contest and online final. You may need to pay for flights to a beautiful Chinese city for the global semifinal/final.

2. Where is the final going to be held?

This is yet to be determined, but we will let you know as soon as possible.

3. What if I cannot speak Chinese?

Don't worry. In this competition all speeches are delivered in English.

If you are fortunate enough to reach the global semifinal/final we will take good care of you while you are in China.

4. What if international travel is impossible because of the pandemic when the global semifinals and final take place?

We will switch to online competitions if necessary.

The third China Daily “21st Century Cup” International English
Speaking Competition and Belt and Road Youth English
Speaking Competition Application Form

Full name (as in your passport)				Photo
Gender		M/F		
Date of birth		Nationality		
Awards won in a public speaking competition (if any)				
Phone number		Email address		
Name of school or university/college				
Program of study		Year of study		