

OCM BOCES Regional Battle of the Books: Official Rules

1. A proctor will be assigned to monitor each battle and verify the keyword answer written by the recorder.
2. Each team will be allowed to have one official answer sheet and two pencils with them at the table during a Battle. No other items should be on the table. All writing is done by the team's recorder, and only in the form of answers to the Battle questions asked by the moderator.
3. Sixteen questions will be asked in a single Battle.
4. The question reader will ask a single question of all teams at once. A repeat of the question should be read automatically to cut down on the need for requested repeat. Timing, however, starts immediately after the question has been read for the first time. Each team will have 1 minute (30 seconds on a tie-breaker question) in which to discuss and record their answer to the question.
5. The team's response can be written on the official answer sheet in keyword form. Written answers need to be legible, and keywords need to be complete and spelled well enough to be easily recognized by the proctor.
6. Discussion and writing must stop when time is called.
7. When time is called, the question reader will call on the spokesperson to say the team's answer out loud. The teams will alternate giving the first oral response. In other words, Team A will answer first on question one and Team B will answer first on question 2, etc.
8. After all teams have stated their answers, the reader will then state the correct answer and award points to the teams, allowing 5 points for the correct title and an additional 3 points for the correct author. To be judged correct, the title and author must be stated in order and in full, just as they are on the bookmarks, and this stated answer must match the title and author keywords as written on the official answer sheet. If the answer given orally differs from the keyword, no points are awarded for that answer.

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9. The team's spokesperson may request an additional repeat of a question. All repeats plus the recording of the answer must take place within the time limit.
10. In the event of a CHALLENGE, this procedure will be followed:
 - a. In the regional Battle, each team is allowed 3 free challenges.
 - b. If the challenge is successful, the team will still have 3 challenges.
 - c. If unsuccessful, the challenging team will lose that challenge and reduce their remaining challenges.
 - d. Each challenging team will have TWO minutes to find and write the page numbers where the answer can be found in the book they named. When time is called, discussion and writing must stop.
 - e. If the team has found an answer, the spokesperson will then be asked to use the text on only the page numbers they have recorded on their answer sheet to prove that the question could be answered correctly in the named book.
 - f. The scorekeeper will begin timing after the reader recognizes the challenge and 1-3 unmarked copies of the book are given to each challenging team. The official timer will announce only the end of the TWO minute time period. The challenging team should be able to provide exact reference to a page in the book so the reader can refer to the correct passage.
 - g. The question reader determines whether the challenge is successful or not. An answer may be considered correct by way of inference. If the question reader accepts the challenge as successful, and the other conditions for gaining a score were fulfilled, the points shall be awarded and the Battle shall continue. The reader's decision is final.
11. A sudden death tie-breaker round may be played to break a tie between 2 or more teams. The tiebreaker rules are the same as above except the time allowed to answer the question will be 30 seconds rather than 1 minute. As soon as one team has more points after a question is completed, that team is declared the winner. Challenges ARE allowed during tie-breaker rounds with the usual challenge time in effect.