



Linguistic School
Moscow



British Lyceum
Moscow

About «Language and the World» International Conference of Schoolchildren

«Language and the World» International Conference of Schoolchildren is a traditional annual event held by (General Education Private Institution) Linguistic Secondary School within the framework of the of the Centre for International Youth and Public Diplomacy (within the school) project with support of Cambridge University Examination Centres in the Russian Federation and the Commission on Education of Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The Conference is included in the annual action plan of UNESCO Associated Schools Network of the Moscow Region.

The purpose of the conference is to educate the younger generation in the spirit of friendship, mutual understanding, cooperation, international solidarity, awareness and acceptance of ethno-cultural and linguistic diversity in the world.

The main objectives of the conference include the provision of schoolchildren with additional advanced opportunities:

1. In-depth study of individual subjects, especially in interdisciplinary issues;
2. Development and consolidation by schoolchildren of independent research skills and abilities, creative and representative activities; opportunities for self-realization, development of intellectual abilities and erudition.
3. Improving public speaking skills, gaining experience in participating in scientific conferences, improving foreign language skills and using these skills in public speeches and presentations.
4. Formation of a more grounded and responsible approach to choosing a future profession.

The event consists of three main organisation stages:

- Opening ceremony, plenary reports;
- Competition of student creative, research and project works;
- Summing up of results with the award ceremony of winners and prize-winners.

In the intervals between the above stages, coffee breaks, out-of-competition performances, quizzes, etc. are provided (at the discretion of the organizing committee). Traditionally, members of the Presidium are organizers and guests of honor (researchers, representatives of higher education, public organizations, foreign missions and non-governmental organizations accredited in the Russian Federation).

The jury includes one teacher from each participating school and acts under the chairmanship of a specialist who is able to maximize coordinated work in full accordance with objective judging. The event takes place during one full school day.

Students of years 5-11 with their individual or collective works are invited to participate. Time limit for each performance is 10 minutes. The research and project formats assume three mandatory elements:

1. Abstract (submitted by participants to the jury immediately before the start of a speech, or sent in advance by e-mail)
2. The presentation (report) should be based solely on the main ideas in the introductory and final parts of the abstract, with the addition of some of the most significant (relevant, interesting, etc.) facts contained in its main part.
3. Computer presentation accompanying the speaker's speech.
4. Abstracts of the report are sent to the organizing committee of the conference for publication in the collection. The requirements for the abstracts are set out in the information letter.

Requirements for the abstract:

1. 9-11 sheets.
2. Title page should indicate the name of the event, topic, name of the school represented by the participant, the personal data of the author (surname, first name, class), personal data of the teacher-head (surname, first name, patronymic, position), place and year of writing the abstract should be indicated at the bottom of the title page.
2. Contents page should indicate page numbers of the main sections of the work.

3. Introduction should include a definition of the topic, its universal and personal relevance, range of issues under consideration, characteristics of the information resources used.
4. Main part: sections (at least two per abstract), subsections (at least two per chapter);
5. Conclusion: a set of interim conclusions per section, as well as a general conclusion of the entire work;
6. Footnotes: numbered list of references to information sources;
7. Applications: illustrative material (tables, graphs, diagrams, reproductions, etc.);
8. Information resources: the list of information sources used by the author.

References should be marked in the text of the abstract in Arabic numerals at the end of the corresponding sentence. References to illustrative material should also be made at the end of the sentence, by means of an entry (Fig. No.) containing the serial number of the illustration. Placement of illustrations in the text of the main part is not allowed.

The choice of language used in the abstract, as well as the report, should be according to the competence of each participant. Reports read in any language other than Russian and English must be provided with an accompanying translation (this condition applies only to the announcement of the report; the abstract does not need to be translated).

From the organizing committee's standpoint, the need to follow the above requirements for abstract layout as a single format for this event is due to the requirements that students' work is entirely independent both with information resources and directly in the texts they compose.

Accompanying students to the conference by one of the members of the teaching staff of the school they represent is mandatory.

The breadth of coverage of the issues raised in «Language and the World» allows teacher-leaders to provide potential participants with a wide range of topics covering such processes as, for example: the formation of languages and intra-linguistic structures, issues of intercultural communication, the development of states (main stages) and interstate relations, and many others. The theme «Language and the World» provides for the study and coverage by its participants of issues related to situations in which language, as a reflection of an idea, becomes a means of forming and implementing any significant socio-political, scientific, legal, ideological or any other general

cultural project. It is possible to consider both concrete examples (advice, command, order, creative insight, association, etc.) and the means of intellectual anticipation of a particular end result (scientific theories, the language of science as such, planning, forecasting, modelling, mathematical calculation, creative intent, etc.).

The main criteria for evaluating contestants are:

- completeness of disclosure of selected topic;
- independence of work done;
- relevance of selected problem/topic;
- level of foreign language proficiency;
- quality of presentation, originality of presentation of material, layout of the abstract.

Each position is evaluated on a ten–point scale, maximum number of points is 50.

Before presenting the paper, the speaker sends a copy of the abstract to the Organizing Committee, or sends it in PDF format by e-mail in advance, if participation in the conference is remote.

At the end of the conference, all its participants are awarded certificates. Winners and prize-winners are awarded diplomas of I, II and III degrees, as well as valuable prizes and gifts. Scientific supervisors of winners and prize-winners are awarded diplomas.

A guided tour of Moscow is provided for participants and guests.

N.B. «Language and the World» Conference may be held in remote format.