



FAQs Schools Oracy Competition 2023

1. What is the Gresham Schools Oracy Competition?

The Gresham Competition is a competition for students inviting them to record and submit a short presentation on a particular topic, answering **one** of the questions provided. It is designed to promote the art of communicating complex information in a clear, concise and compelling way.

2. What are this year's topics?

This year's competition has a few different themes, and your presentation should focus on one of the following questions:

1. How can the law aid in creating a more equal, diverse and inclusive society?
2. How might Large-Language models like ChatGPT affect the future of education?
3. Could genome editing consign genetic diseases to history and would that be ethical?
4. Should the exploration of space be left to private companies, or to governments?
5. How far is it morally justifiable to curtail personal freedoms to protect the environment?
6. If you could introduce a Private Member's Bill to change one law in a UK jurisdiction, what change would you propose, and how would you argue for it in a Parliamentary speech?
7. With rising mental health issues in young people, how could an emotional response to music be used to help?
8. Paganism in Britain was replaced by Christianity with apparent speed and ease. What are the parallels today for religions and other societal changes?
9. The prime minister has said that everyone should learn maths to age 18. Is he right?
10. The wind-up radio (invented in Britain) was transformational in the developing nations in transmitting information before the internet or solar power were widespread. What area today would a small invention be best focussed on for those societies?

3. Who can enter the competition?

Year 12 students in England and Wales, S5 students in Scotland and Year 13 students in Wales and Northern Ireland. No mature students.

4. Are students allowed to join the competition as a pair or group?

No, individual entries only please; however, you can work together on filming/provide feedback on your peers to help them give a better presentation

5. Should I use a Powerpoint presentation, graphic elements, props or animations?

You have a bit of leeway as to how you construct your video, but the main focus should be you speaking. You can use images, graphs or other visual props if you feel that helps explain your points. Perhaps browse some of our examples to get inspiration: <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/gresham-competition/how-make-great-presentation>

6. Can I use notes?

Yes if you want to, but don't read from them throughout the whole presentation

7. When should I submit my presentation:

The deadline for submission is 6pm on 8 December 2023.

8. How do I submit my presentation?

Submission has two parts:

1. please fill out your [entry form and summary document here](#)
2. upload the video file to the corresponding folder ie if you are presenting on question 1, upload to Q1, if you are presenting on question 2, upload to Q2 etc.

9. What are the rules for entering?

1. Presentations must be **no longer than 5 minutes** – if you submit a video that is longer than 5 minutes your entry will be **disqualified**
2. When you start your presentation, please state your name, your school and which question you are answering
3. You must submit a six point summary citing up to six sources of your presentation
4. Act as though you are presenting to a live audience at Gresham Hall
5. Don't sit and read from your notes throughout your presentation
6. If shortlisted, you will perform the same presentation as the one you entered

10. What happens after I submit my presentation?

We will let you know if you have been shortlisted early in the new year. Following shortlisting, finalists will be invited to a panel event to present their topic live on 26 March 2024 in London; each finalist will have five minutes to present and five minutes for Q&A with the panel. For the final we can help to create slides for your presentation and you can schedule time for a practice session earlier in the day.

Three Gresham medals will be awarded (Bronze, Silver and Gold).

Please note this competition is open to state school or sixth form college students only.