Medzinárodná **súťaž Best in English**

**Ako po minulé roky , aj teraz sa organizuje súťaž Best in English.**

**Ak by ste sa mali záujem prihlásiť sa do súťaže, napíšte do Edupage správy svojim vyučujúcim anglického jazyka alebo na e-mail priamo mne -** **jankovychova.a@sengym.sk** **do 4.11.2020, aby som mohla školu a záujemcov prihlásiť.**

**Predtým si ale dobre preštudujte pravidlá( nižšie uvedené v anglickom jazyku), hlavne čo sa týka nárokov na počítač, aby ste nemali problémy so spustením úloh.**

**Rules**

The Test will take place on the **27th of November 2020**, the login into the test is possible between **9:00 AM till 14:00 AM CET** (Central European Time – UTC +1:00). Your school’s ID was sent to you by email, after the registration to the Contest.

The link with the Test will be sent to the Teachers on the 26th of November and will appear on the BIE website. We will also disclose all the audio and video files that are part of the Test, which can be used in case the Internet does not work properly, or the internet connection is too slow. There will be also an audio version of the video located next to it for the students to switch to audio if the video does not appear due to some technical difficulties. The time limit for the Test is 60 minutes and the timer starts after entering the Test. The test will close down after clicking on Submit the test or when the time elapses.

After accessing the Test for the first time, do not close the window nor refresh the page. If the Test is not available within 60 seconds after it is opened, do refresh the page by pressing the F5 button. Do not open any other windows or files during the Test. Using other devices and/or dictionaries is strictly forbidden. Do not talk to or chat with your classmates or anyone else. There are several security checks incorporated in the Test that are set to recognize any cheating attempts and suspicious keyboard and mouse movements.

All participating students from one school must take the Test at the same time under regular circumstances, which will be specified by the Teacher within the given starting timeframe (9:00 – 11:00 Central European Time). In case of using more classrooms, the Test must be initialized at the same time in all places within one school. A different scenario applies in case the school will be closed, quarantined, affected by a lockdown and/or some other measurement will be taking place - please refer to the COVID-19 Conditions below.

A pedagogical supervision is requested at all times while the Test is being taken (offline or online).

**5. Prizes**

Prizes will be announced on the [bestinenglish.org](https://bestinenglish.org/) website, section “Prizes”. It is strictly forbidden to exchange prizes for money or anything else. Prizes are non-transferable. The students have to claim the prize by February 28th 2021 at the latest.

**6. Results**

For schools, the highest average score is determined by the average result of the 10 best students from a particular school. That is, if a school nominated 50 students, only the results of the 10 best students will be considered to calculate the average score. The school with the highest average score wins, however in the case of the same score, the school with faster average completion time wins. Each school wishing to participate thus needs to nominate at least 10 students.

**7. Software Conditions**

The Test is optimized for the newest version of Google Chrome for OS 8.1, 10, and also for mobile devices with OS Windows 8 and Android 4.4 or newer. It was successfully tested on Firefox 70, Apple devices with iOS 13 and macOS Mojave. However, some errors or failures of the system may occur for MS systems, like Microsoft EDGE featured some problems with the videos if not used with a full screen using F11 on the keyboard. Microsoft Explorer is not supported.
It is quite possible that the Test will work on every device made ever since the year 2000.

Students are allowed to use their own devices, however, they still need to be supervised during the Test. Students will need headphones/earphones to use during the listening part of the Test. All devices should be wired using the Ethernet connection (UTP network cable), or through the wireless network (Wi-Fi). Please, do consult the options of connecting devices outside your school’s network with your IT specialist.

Please, do check and [test all the devices](https://bie-testing-222415.appspot.com/)you plan to use during the test, if possible. In order to check the speed of the Internet connection, it is recommended to carry out the mock test on more devices at the same time. If the mock test displays errors, please consult your IT specialist.

**8. Final results**

Preliminary results will be announced on the 15th of December 2020. The individual final score of each student will be displayed right after the end of the Test. Full final results will be available in early January 2021 at the latest.

**9. Test videos**

The videos used in comprehension exercise, are included directly in the test. In case the internet connection is too slow, the teacher can download them into his/her computer for later use. Videos will be sent to the teachers by e-mail one day before the competition. In addition, each video has an audio alternative to listen included in the test. The audio version is, of course, less data demanding.

Students can replay the video repeatedly, as needed. Every participant has to have own headphones, to prevent the distraction of other students. It is not allowed to play music or watch / listen to any other content during the test. In the case that the video cannot be played for technical reasons, the voice track version will be also sent to the teacher by e-mail.

## 11. COVID-19 Conditions

Since the current pandemic development is unpredictable and certainly a significant percentage of secondary schools will be closed at the end of November 2020 we have decided to adapt to the current situation and soften the competition rules.

* Students from closed down schools due the COVID (under a quarantine or a lockdown) or where due to the applied measures the students will not be able to join the contest at the school premises will be allowed to access the test from their own device from outside the school. \*More info below
* The minimum number of students participating from a single school is lowered from 10 to 8 students (maximum is not limited). School results will be calculated based on the top 8 from the particular school.

\* In case the student is not supervised by a teacher in person due to closed schools and will be taking the test alone and on his/her device, a distant learning tool is to be activated (Zoom, Google Meet, etc.) by the teacher/s as used during regular online classes and the students will join the session together with the teacher/s. This way they will Log in (fill out log in page) and launch the test while being supervised by the teacher through a web-camera which shall stay on during the test as well as the microphone. The teacher should make a list of the students opening the Online class session in order to have control of who was supervised during the test from the particular school. There might be trouble with the internet connection sometimes and running cameras may slow down the data flow, but it is advised to check the internet speed upfront and to keep students connected during the test.