



Challenge Guide 2012

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实践剧场 [thetheatrepractice](https://www.facebook.com/thetheatrepractice)

Overview

1. Background

Introduced in June 2006 as part of our *Street Play* programme for the Singapore Arts Festival Fringe, Story Challenge received an overwhelming response from both audience and participants. Conceived and organised by The Theatre Practice, Story Challenge was officially launched as a nationwide storytelling tournament in 2007. Now an annual event, 2012 begins with our sixth Challenge tournament as we continue to push the limits of wit and creativity!

2. Objectives

Story Challenge is so named because it demands versatility from Challengers. From cognition to creativity, to cooperation in Team Story Challenge, Story Challenge draws from a wide array of skill sets. Furthermore, Story Challenge hopes to promote eloquence and a healthy interest in language.

3. Eligibility

Story Challenge is open to all Primary and Secondary School students of 2012. There are no further restrictions on nationality, race, or gender.

4. Categories

Story Challenge is divided into English & Mandarin tournaments, with respective Individual & Team entries. The following are the 8 categories.

Primary School Individual Mandarin Category	Primary School Individual English Category
Primary School Team Mandarin Category	Primary School Team English Category
Secondary School Individual Mandarin Category	Secondary School Individual English Category
Secondary School Team Mandarin Category	Secondary School Team English Category

5. Registration & Participation

1. Registration Deadline: 3rd February 2012
2. All participants are required to register through their respective schools.
3. Individual competition is only limited to the registered participant.
4. Group competition allows for a team of 4 participants, whereby any 3 participants may be chosen to compete at any given time.
5. Each school may send a maximum of 2 Individual & 2 Team entries per Language Category.
6. Age restrictions: Primary school: 7 to 12 years old only; Secondary school: Sec 1 to 5 only (no Senior High level)
7. Registration Fees: \$15 per Individual entry; \$35 per Team entry.
8. Once an entry has been registered, no further changes in participants' details will be entertained.
9. Should a Category have insufficient entries, the Organiser reserves the right to withdraw that Category from the competition.

Competition Details

1. Registration Deadline

Registration Deadline: 3 Feb 2012

2. Important Dates & Time

Venue	Events	Category	Date	Time
River Valley High School	Briefing & Demonstration	English & Mandarin	18.02.2012 (Sat)	1000 – 1300 (Pri)
				1400 – 1700 (Sec)
	Preliminaries	English & Mandarin	25.02.2012 (Sat)	0930 – 1300 (Pri)
				1400 – 1730 (Sec)
	Semi-finals	English	03.03.2012 (Sat)	0930 – 1300 (Pri)
				1400 – 1730 (Sec)
		Mandarin	04.03.2012 (Sun)	0930 – 1300 (Pri)
				1400 – 1730 (Sec)
	Finals	English & Mandarin	10.03.2012 (Sat)	0930 – 1300 (Pri & Sec)
				1400 – 1730 (Pri & Sec)

Address of River Valley High School: 6 Boon Lay Ave Singapore 649961

3. No. of Participants & Age Restriction

No. of Participants:

Schools are allowed to send no more than 2 entries per category per language group.
Register 4 students for each Team entry (choose 3 participating contestants for each round)

Age restriction:

Primary school: 7 to 12 years old only

Secondary school: Sec 1 to 5 only (no Senior High level)

4. How to Register

By online registration only: <http://www.practice.org.sg/story-challenge/form.html>

5. Registration Fees

\$15 per Individual entry; \$35 per Team entry

6. Payment Method

(Payment must be received by **10 Feb 2012**)

Cash:

Please make payment at The Theatre Practice between 10am to 6pm, Monday – Friday.

Cheque:

Please send a crossed cheque made payable to: "The Theatre Practice Ltd." Please indicate the name of school and teacher-in-charge on the back of the cheque for identification purposes.

E-invoice:

An electronic invoice will be sent directly to your school for payment.

Invoice:

A hard copy invoice will be mailed directly to your school for payment.

Address of The Theatre Practice:

**155 Waterloo Street
Stamford Arts Centre, #02-08
Singapore 187962**

Office No.: 6337 2525

**Registration will only be processed upon receipt of payment.*

Competition Schedule

1. Briefing & Demonstration

Objectives

The briefing & demonstration session is to facilitate a clear understanding of game play. Ideally, all participating students & accompanying teachers are encouraged to attend. It is compulsory for all participating schools to send at least one teacher and one student representative.

Time & Date

English & Mandarin (concurrent sessions) – 18th February 2012, Saturday

Primary School students: 10:00am – 1:00pm

Secondary School students: 2:00pm – 5:00pm

2. Competition Schedule

Preliminaries

English & Mandarin Categories (Concurrent sessions) – 25th February 2012, Saturday

Order of presentation: To be decided by a ballot during the Briefing & Demonstration session.

(Absentees will be notified of ballot results by the organizer.)

Semi-finals

English Categories – 3rd March 2012, Saturday

Mandarin Categories – 4th March 2012, Sunday

Finals

English & Mandarin Categories – 10th March 2012, Saturday

Time: 9.30am – 1pm (English); 2 – 5.30pm (Mandarin)

Location for Workshops & Competition

River Valley High School

6 Boon Lay Avenue S(649961)

Please note: As the school canteen is closed on weekends, please bring along your own food and drinks if necessary. However, food and drinks are not to be consumed inside the classrooms unless otherwise stated.

Rules & Regulations

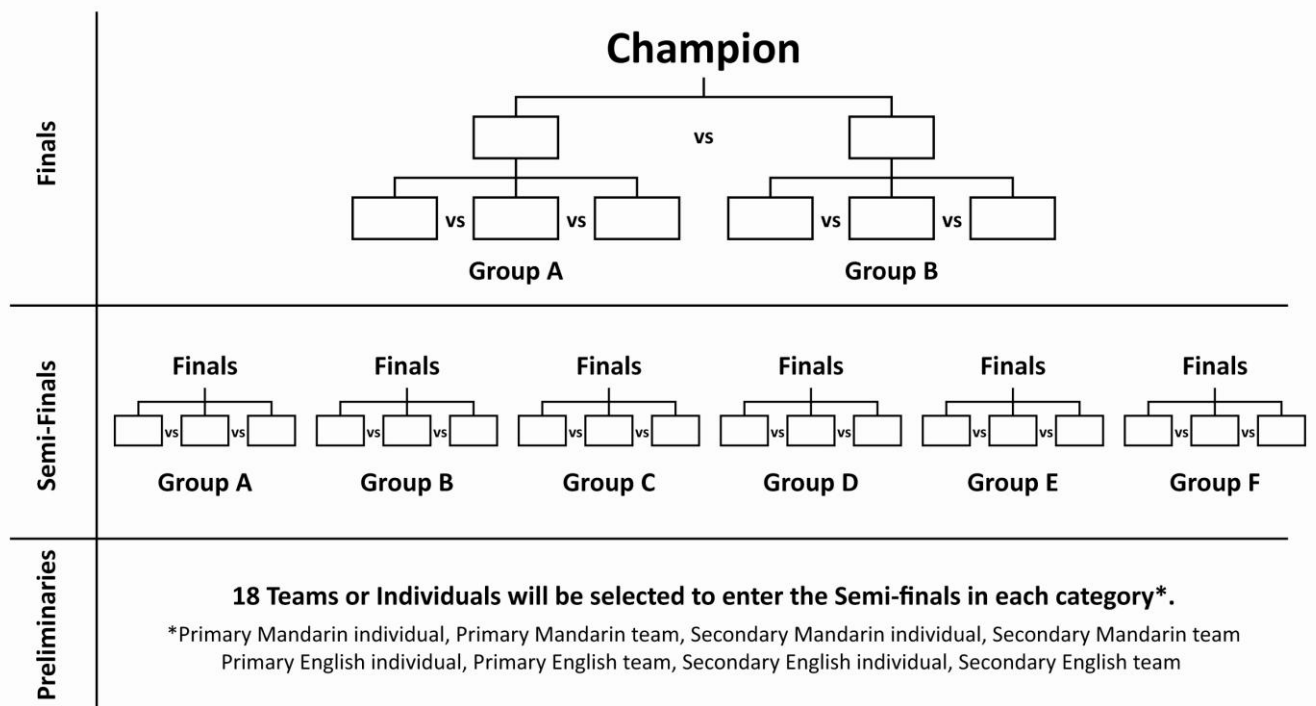
1. Challenge Format

Story Challenge is strictly by elimination only.

Preliminaries: 18 Teams or Individuals will be selected to enter the Semi-finals.

Semi-finals: 18 Teams or Individuals will be divided into 6 Groups. Each Group will have a common topic, each Team or Individual will have a different condition.
6 Teams or Individuals will be selected to enter the Finals.

Finals: 6 Teams or Individuals will be divided into 2 Groups. Each Group will have a common topic, each Team or Individual will have a different condition.
2 Teams or Individuals will be selected to contest for the Champion and Runner-up title.



Note: Competition group and order of presentation to be decided by a ballot.

2. General Game Play

- 1) The order of performance will be decided by a ballot for all challengers before Story Challenge begins.
- 2) 15 minutes before the performance, all challengers will be given a **common topic**. (e.g. the 3 little pigs)
- 3) Prior to performance, each challenger will receive a **unique condition** for their story. (i.e. there must be an accident in the story, OR the word "sorry" must be said 3 times in the story)
- 4) Challengers must then perform an original story that fulfills the common topic, unique condition, and time limit. Points will be duly awarded for creativity, ability to adapt, and expression in story-telling.
 - Please note: Word play or punning of words used as conditions in the competition is strictly not allowed. The word should be used as it is spelt; only the context of its usage may be creatively altered.

3. Conditions for Individual Challengers

- 1) The order of performance will be decided by a ballot for all challengers before Story Challenge begins.
- 2) 15 minutes before the performance, the challenger will receive a common topic. Story preparation may begin.
- 3) 3 minutes before the performance, the challenger is to proceed to the waiting area and receive a unique condition.
- 4) Each story-telling performance should last between 2 to 3 minutes. After 2 minutes, a green indicator will be raised. After 2.5 minutes, a red indicator will be raised. When the time is up (3 minutes), a bell will sound. Challengers are required to end their story immediately. If they do not end the story at the bell, the facilitator will intervene. Penalties will be imposed if the facilitator is required to intervene to end the performance.
- 5) Judges are not to be disturbed till the results are finalised.

4. Conditions for Team Challengers

- 1) The order of performance will be decided by a ballot for all challengers before Story Challenge begins.
- 2) 15 minutes before performance, the challenger will receive a common topic. Story preparation may begin.
- 3) 3 minutes before performance, the challengers are to proceed to the waiting area and receive a unique condition.
- 4) Each story-telling performance should last between 3 to 4 minutes. After 3 minutes, a green indicator will be raised. After 3.5 minutes, a red indicator will be raised. When the time is up (4 minutes), a bell will sound. Challengers are required to end their story immediately. If they do not end the story at the bell, the facilitator will intervene. Penalties will be imposed if the facilitator is required to intervene to end the performance.
- 5) Judges are not to be disturbed till the results are finalised.

5. Things to Note

- 1) All challengers should be neatly and appropriately attired. No revealing attire or unusual costumes should be worn.
- 2) Organiser will provide 3 chairs and up to 3 wireless hands-free microphones; there is neither any requirement nor limitation as to how the chairs may be used, only that they should be used safely. No other properties will be allowed on stage.
- 3) Challengers should be punctual. The Organiser reserves the right to disqualify any late-comers.
- 4) Once challengers receive their competition topic, any form of discussion with non-challengers and the use of mobile phones in any manner (including, but not limited to, text messaging), is strictly forbidden. Participants are also not allowed to leave the waiting room. Unauthorised communication will lead to automatic disqualification.
- 5) Performances should fulfill the given time limit. Points will be deducted accordingly if the story is longer or shorter than the given time. Please refer to the Judging Criteria.
- 6) Challengers should avoid sensitive themes, including but not limited to politics, sex, race, religion, and violence in their stories.
- 7) If you wish to raise an objection, please approach the Organiser before the results are announced.
- 8) All decisions made by the Organiser regarding the rules and results of Story Challenge are final.

6. Judging Criteria

1. Content (50%)

- The story should revolve around the topic and include the given conditions.
- The story should be structured and complete.
- Clarity of thought and meaning.
- Novel ideas and creativity.

2. Expression (40%)

- Clarity of Voice & Use of Language
- Verbal & Physical Expression
- Individual Flair or Team Cohesion

3. Time Management (10%)

If the length of performance exceeds or does not fulfill the given time limit, points will be deducted.

7. Judges

Panel will comprise of professionals from the theatre and education industries.

8. Prizes & Awards

- All 18 Teams or Individuals selected from the Preliminaries will receive a certificate of participation.
- A Champion, a Runner-up & 4 Semi-finalists will be named for each category.
- *Challenge Cup* for Team Champions: A hand-crafted crystal trophy will be engraved with the winning school's name every year and kept by the school to proudly display for one year. Schools are to return the trophy in good condition the following year. Should there be any damage, schools will be penalised to replace the cost of the trophy.

9. Photography and Video-recording

- All participants agree to be videotaped and photographed while participating in Story Challenge.
- The Theatre Practice will have the rights to archive, publish, use, copy, adapt, distribute, publicly perform, display or edit the photographs and video-recordings bearing the name, image, voice and/or other likeness of the participants, in all media.