

2018 Young Adult Battle of the Books Rules

Wheaton Public Library

Eligibility

Middle schools (serving grades 6-8) located within the City of Wheaton or District 200 School District boundaries are eligible to participate in Young Adult Battle of the Books (YABOB). Schools outside of these boundaries that participated in YABOB in 2015 are allowed to continue to participate. However, if a school located outside the designated boundaries decides not to participate, the school will not be considered eligible for the next year's YABOB season. **Each eligible school may have ONE YABOB team.**

Battle Etiquette

- Teams are allowed to change players between rounds, but not during a round.
- If a team does not appear for a scheduled Battle, it forfeits and receives zero points. The Battle is conducted as usual for the opposing teams present.
- If a team member does not appear for a scheduled Battle and a substitute is unavailable, the team may play with less than four players.
- Spectators are allowed at all Battles provided they are affiliated with the teams playing that day. Fellow team members should sit at the back of the audience while their team is playing.
- Please do not record (copy) Battle questions during Battles.
- Please turn off all cell phone ringers during Battles.

Challenges

If a team feels they answered a question correctly and were not awarded points, players may challenge the answer to a question **immediately after** a meet. Players have 24 hours to provide a text reference for the challenge. Students who support the challenge with a specific text reference will be awarded points. Once awarded, points cannot be deducted. The Battle moderators may take up to 24 hours to review the challenge and all decisions are final.

Battles

Battles are held in Wheaton Public Library's Lower Level Large Meeting Room. Battles begin promptly at 3:45pm and typically end by 4:20pm. Most Battles have three teams competing at once. Occasionally, due to scheduling issues and total number of teams, only two teams compete at a Battle.

Questions

Questions can be taken from the text or images of a book. Text can include, prologues, epilogues, and author's notes.

ROUND 1

Individual Questions—Each team is asked 8 questions and given 30 seconds to answer each question. If a team member asks to have a question repeated, this is included in the allotted response time. The answer to each question is the entire title of the book, plus the author's first and last name (see Title and Author Notes below). If a team answers incorrectly, the opposing team does not have an opportunity to answer the same question for points. Correct answers receive 5 points. 1 additional point is given for supplying the first and last names of the book's author (6 possible points total).

Sample Round 1 Question: In which book do you read about a subdivision called The Farm?

Answer: *The View from Saturday*, by E. L. Konigsburg

Title Note: The full title, as listed on the YABOB list for the current year, is required. However, if the full title includes a colon (:), the words after the colon are not required. Examples: *Terrible Typhoid Mary* and *A Long Way from Chicago* are acceptable answers.

Author Note: The author's first and last names are required. If the author has three words in his/her name, stating all three is required. Example: Susan Campbell Bartoletti. Middle initials are not required. Example: Jennifer A. Nielsen or Jennifer Nielsen would earn the point. However, if an author uses initials as a first name, state the initials. Example: L. M. Montgomery. You will not lose points for mispronunciation of a name. However, correct pronunciation is appreciated. Many of the YABOB authors are included in the Author Name Pronunciation Guide:
<http://www.teachingbooks.net/pronunciations.cgi>

Bonus Questions—In addition to the individual questions in Round 1, there are 8 bonus questions. One bonus question is posed to all of the teams at the end of each set of individual questions. Each team has 30 seconds to write down its answer on a provided dry erase board. An automatic repeat of the question is given within the 30-second allotment. Bonus questions are based on character recognition. Correct answers receive 3 points.

Sample Bonus Question: Which book features a character named Brian Robeson? Answer: *Hatchet*

Title Note: The full title is not required during bonus questions, since some titles are very long. Writing the first few words of the title on the dry erase board is sufficient to earn points. Verbal answers are not accepted for bonus questions.

ROUND 2

Each team is asked 8 multiple choice questions and given 15 seconds to answer each question. The answers to the questions are taken from the content of the books. The team may say the actual answer or the letter (A, B, or C). Correct answers receive 5 points.

Sample Round 2 Question: In *Squashed*, by Joan Bauer, what does Ellie's father do for a living? A. Doctor, B. Motivational Specialist, C. Farmer Answer: B. Motivational Specialist

For the individual questions and multiple choice questions, it is suggested that team members appoint a spokesperson to announce the answer. After conferring with the team, the spokesperson rings the bell and gives the answer. The first complete response from a team member is that team's official answer. Team members should also designate one person to write the answers on the dry erase board for the bonus question.