

Rules and Regulations for Educational Competitions

GENERAL RULES FOR ALL COMPETITIONS

1. Atfāl will be divided into different age groups for the educational competitions as shown below.

MAYAR & GROUP	TIFL'S DATE OF BIRTH
Mayār Saghīr Group 1	Date of Birth is from November 1, 2007 to October 31 2009
Mayār Saghīr Group 2	Date of Birth is from November 1, 2004 to October 31, 2007
Mayār Kabīr	Date of Birth is from November 1, 2001 to October 31, 2004

2. Each region must send names of the top Atfāl in each competition for the three age groups for participation at the national level.
3. Each participant must wear a cap during all competitions (preferably Jināh Cap).
4. Each participant must check his name prior to the start of the competition.
5. Decision of the judges will be final.
6. Participation criteria given above will be strictly followed in all competitions.
7. Some competitions will be held at the national level and some at the regional level only.
8. Muhtamim Atfāl has the authority to make any exceptions to the competition rules.
9. The following marking criteria and additional rules will be followed for each competition.

Guidelines for Judges

- Each team of judges will finalize the first, second, and third position for each competition. If there is a tie, they must rank and select only three Atfāl.
- The judges will explain the rules and the criteria before starting any competition.

TILĀWAT (3 names from each region for each age group; no restriction on Western Canada)

Criterion	Description	30 marks
Correct Pronunciation & Recitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Correct articulation of letters, correct pronunciation of words and following all rules of correct recitation (e.g. <i>AlMadd, Tashdeed, Tanween, Qalqala, Ikhfā, Izhār, Iqlab, Idghām,</i>)	10 marks
Tarannum / Melody	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Rhythmic recitation; overall sweetness of delivery, pleasant melodious voice.	10 marks
Correct Delivery, Flow, and Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Following rules for stops, pauses, and joining words▪ Clear, crisp, and strong voice;▪ Appropriate delivery, volume, and speed.	10 marks

NAZM (3 names from each region for each age group; no restriction on Western Canada)

- Repetition of the couplets is not permitted.
- Judges may limit the recitation to 2 or 3 couplets

Criterion	Description	30 marks
Correctness of Pronunciation**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Correct pronunciation of words (with some exceptions where allowed). ▪ Appropriate stops and pauses. 	10 marks
Melody	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall sweetness of delivery, attractiveness and melody in voice. 	10 marks
Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clear, crisp, and strong voice; ▪ Appropriate delivery, volume, and speed. 	10 marks

ENGLISH, URDU & FRENCH SPEECH (3 names from each region; no restriction on Western Canada)

- Time allowed for the speech competition is 3 minutes.
- At-Tashahhad time will not be included in speech time; however, marks will be deducted if it is recited incorrectly.

Criterion	Description	30 marks
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use of verses of the Holy Qur'ān, Ahādith, Quotations and / or Poetic Verses. 	10 marks
Style of delivery & Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confidence and continuity. ▪ Clear, crisp, and strong voice; ▪ Appropriate delivery, volume, and speed. 	15 marks
Oral Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presents all or most of the speech from memory. 	5 marks

ESSAY WRITING (open to all Atfāl)

- All essays must be typed and submitted online in MS Word format by June 1st. Please visit atfāl.ca for more details.

Criterion	Description	100 marks
Thesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a very clear Thesis statement in the introduction 	20 marks
Content, Writing Style, and Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use of relevant verses of the Holy Qur'ān, Ahādith, Books of the Promised Messiah^{as}, Books or Sermons of Khulafā', Newspapers, and other sources to support the key points of the essay. ▪ Clear communication & logical organization ▪ Spelling, Grammar, paragraph structure, and flow in the essay 	60 marks
Research, Originality & Quality of References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Essay is original, uses paraphrasing appropriately, and its major portions are not just copied from various sources. ▪ All key points and ideas are cited correctly and a reference list is provided at the end of the essay. 	20 marks

ADHĀN (open to any Mayār Saghīr Tifl)

1. Judges may ask a participant to start from any point and stop him at any point.

Criterion	Description	30 marks
Correct Pronunciation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Correct articulation of letters and correct pronunciation of words	10 marks
Tarannum / Melody	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Rhythmic recitation; overall sweetness of delivery, pleasant melodious voice.	10 marks
Voice & Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Clear, crisp, and strong voice;▪ Appropriate delivery, volume, and speed.	10 marks

QUIZ (Religious & General Knowledge)

1. Each team will consist of 3 Atfāl.
2. Each region is allowed to have 1 team. York, GTA Centre, Brampton, and Muqāmi will be allowed to have 2 teams.
3. All questions will be asked verbally.
4. **The questions may be directed to the individuals also.** During the tie-breaker round, these questions may be directed to any team member.
5. The quiz competition will have up to 3 rounds¹:
 - i. First Round – each team will be asked 3 questions
(The top 5 teams will move to next round and the rest will be eliminated.)
 - ii. Second Round - each team will be asked 3 questions
(The top three winners will be decided based on cumulative score after two rounds. If there is a tie, then a third round will be held.)
 - iii. Third Round - 3 Questions

¹ Minor changes may have to be made to this rule by the organizers due to changes in the Ijtima' program, time constraints and number of participating teams.