

AF Exams

Poetry Recitation Competition 2025

Enrolment information

Alliance Française de Perth (AFP) is proud to announce its **114th Alliance Française Poetry Recitation Competition**.

Please read the information below carefully and be mindful that the deadline for enrolment is **Friday 16 May 2025**.

1. Competition guidelines

The competition is open to Primary school students in years 3, 4, 5 & 6 and Secondary school students in years 7, 8, 9 & 10.

French background speaker students are assessed according to a specific marking grid.

For all candidates:

Teachers must provide a video of each candidate enrolled.

The video must show the candidate in full body, reciting the poem without reading it.

- The poems must be learnt off by heart.
- The title of the poem and the name of the poet must be cited.
- Jury members will judge the candidates on their pronunciation, intonation and interpretation of the poem.
- Candidates are encouraged to use gestures, costumes and accessories!
- Videos must be submitted via WeTransfer to AFP by **Friday 16 May 2025**.

Non-French background speaker students:

A jury will watch the videos and select **20 finalists for each year group**.

Finalists will be invited to recite their poem at the final selection on **Saturday 28 June 2025** at Alliance Française de Perth, 75 Broadway, Nedlands.

The jury will select the three best candidates in each year level.



French background speaker students:

As we are expecting a small number of enrolments, all Primary school candidates (Year 3 to Year 6) will compete together, and all Secondary school candidates (Year 7 to Year 10) will also compete together.

A jury will watch the recordings and select **10 finalists for Primary school** and **10 finalists for Secondary school**.

Finalists will be invited to recite their poem at the final selection on **Saturday 28 June 2025** at Alliance Française de Perth, 75 Broadway, Nedlands.

The jury will select the best candidates in each group (Primary and Secondary) of French background speaker students.

Teaching resources

AFP provides teaching resources to all teachers who enrol their students in the competition to help them introduce the poems to the class and encourage their students to practise.

Teaching resources will include various engaging activities to do in class or in small groups.

Certificates and prizes

Participation certificate:

A participation certificate will be given to each participant in the competition.

Finalist certificate:

A finalist certificate will be awarded to each candidate selected for the final selection which will take place on **Saturday 28 June**.

The list of finalists will be displayed on the AFP's website.

Laureate certificate and prizes:

The three best students in each level, along with the best French background speaker student in each level, will be invited with their teachers and two guests at the prize giving ceremony which will take place on **Friday 24 October 2025**. They will be awarded a laureate certificate and a prize.

The list of laureates will be displayed on the AFP's website.

Calendar

Friday 16 May	Last day to enrol and submit the candidates' videos to AFP.
Thursday 12 June	Publication of the list of finalists on the AFP's website.
Saturday 28 June	Poetry Recitation Competition final selection
Friday 24 October	Prize giving ceremony for all the laureates



2. Enrolment guidelines

a. Go to [AF website - enrolment page](#) and follow the steps.

Download and fill in the Excel spreadsheet named “**NomEcole_AF-Exams-Enrolment-Form-Poetry 2025**”, add the name of your school, then upload it.

- Use one spreadsheet for all candidates.
- Nominate one teacher to be the main point of contact between the school and AFP but indicate the teachers' email addresses corresponding to their students.

b. Submit the videos via WeTransfer

Videos can be shot with a video camera, a smartphone, an iPad, or even a webcam. The jury will not take into account the quality of the video. However, please note that background noises or bad quality sound might affect the jury's ability to judge the pronunciation and intonation of the poem.

Each video file should be named with the name and level of the candidate and the name of the school, i.e. YourSchool_Year6_John_Dupont.mp4

Teachers must submit videos via **WeTransfer**, please allow enough time to upload the videos, as it can take a while if you have lots of them. If you shut down your computer while uploading, it will not be complete.

Send videos via WeTransfer :

1. Save all your recordings in a folder named “YourSchool_AF Poetry Recitation Competition”
2. Go to <https://www.wetransfer.com/>
3. Add the file and send it to exam@afperth.com.au

If you have any issue sending the files, please send an email to exam@afperth.com.au

3. Fees and payment

The registration fee is \$20 per candidate, including GST.

Payment is required within 30 days after issuing the invoice. Payment not received within this period will lead to the cancellation of the enrolments.

For further information, please contact the Alliance Française de Perth office on 08 9386 7921 or by email on exam@afperth.com.au

Monday to Thursday - 9:00am to 6:30pm

Friday – 9:00am to 5:00pm

We thank you for your commitment and participation.



AF EXAMS Terms and conditions

French version

La participation de votre établissement scolaire à la prochaine édition des AF EXAMS – *Poetry Recitation Competition* dépend du respect des conditions rappelées dans ce document. Celui-ci vise à garantir l'équité entre les candidats·e·s et entre les établissements participants.

Votre établissement, en la personne de son·sa représentant·e pour les AF EXAMS – *Poetry Recitation Competition*,

1. s'engage à fournir des informations correctes et valides concernant les candidat·es qu'il inscrit (notamment en ce qui concerne les *French Background Speaker students*) ;
2. s'engage à respecter les dates limites communiquées par l'Alliance Française de Perth ;
3. s'engage à respecter les modalités de récitation mentionnées dans les « *Competition guidelines* » ;
4. s'engage à respecter les modalités d'envoi des vidéos mentionnées dans les « *Video Submission Guidelines* » ;
5. s'engage à payer les frais d'inscription dans les délais mentionnés dans les « *Fees and payment* » ;
6. déclare être conscient·e que le non-respect de l'une ou l'autre de ces conditions pourra entraîner **la disqualification de l'ensemble des candidat·es de l'établissement** inscrits aux AF EXAMS – *Poetry Recitation Competition*.

AF EXAMS Terms and conditions

English version

Your school's participation in the next AF EXAMS - Poetry Recitation Competition depends on compliance with the conditions set out in this document. The aim of this document is to ensure fairness between candidates and between participating schools.

Your school, in the person of its representative for the AF EXAMS - Poetry Recitation Competition,

1. undertakes to provide correct and valid information concerning the candidates' registration (in particular concerning French Background Speaker students);
2. undertakes to respect the deadlines communicated by Alliance Française de Perth;
3. undertakes to comply with the recitation procedures set out in the '*Competition guidelines*';
4. undertakes to comply with the '*Video Submission Guidelines*';
5. undertakes to pay the registration fees by the deadlines set out in the '*Fees and payment*' section;
6. declares that they are aware that failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in the disqualification of all the school's candidates registered for the AF EXAMS - Poetry Recitation Competition.



POETRY RECITATION COMPETITION

2025 POEM SELECTION

Poems from Francophone Africa

Cette année, nous avons choisi de présenter quatre poèmes d'Afrique francophone.

Ce choix reflète notre désir d'ouverture et de diversité culturelle. Nous voulions offrir aux jeunes une perspective enrichissante, tout en restant fidèles à la langue française.

Le thème de la tolérance, essentiel et universel, nous a semblé particulièrement pertinent aujourd'hui. Il invite à réfléchir sur l'acceptation des différences, la paix et le respect des autres, des valeurs partagées à travers les cultures et les générations.

Cette initiative vise à encourager les jeunes à réfléchir sur des sujets sociaux et humanitaires tout en approfondissant leur compréhension de la poésie et de la littérature francophone.

This year, we chose to present four poems from Francophone Africa.

This choice reflects our desire for openness and cultural diversity. We wanted to offer young people an enriching perspective while staying true to the French language.

The theme of tolerance, essential and universal, seemed particularly relevant today. It encourages reflection on the acceptance of differences, peace, and respect for others, values shared across cultures and generations.

This initiative aims to encourage young people to reflect on social and humanitarian issues while deepening their understanding of poetry and Francophone literature.



Years 3 & 4

Il m'a dit

Edmond JABÈS (Egypte)

Il m'a dit : Ma race est la race jaune.

J'ai répondu : Je suis de ta race.

Il m'a dit: Ma race est la race noire.

J'ai répondu : Je suis de ta race.

Il m'a dit : Ma race est la race blanche.

J'ai répondu: Je suis de ta race ;

car mon soleil fut l'étoile jaune

car je suis enveloppé de nuit;

car mon âme, comme la pierre de la loi

est blanche

Le livre de Yukel, 1964



Years 5 & 6

Pirogue

Mbaye Gana KÉBÉ (Sénégal)

Tolli Tolli

Vogue ma pirogue.

Tolli Tolli

Vogue dans l'océan.

Sa voile est une palme,

Un balai lui sert de rame.

Tolli, Tolli

Vogue ma pirogue.

J'irai vers la Chine,

L'Amérique latine et Jérusalem.

J'irai partout dans le monde

Où il faut semer la paix.

Vogue ma pirogue,

Tolli, Tolli,

Ma pirogue sans haine,

Ma pirogue sans chaîne

Où je voudrais voir

Tous les enfants du monde.

Rondes, 1979



Years 7 & 8

L'homme qui te ressemble

René PHILOMBÉ (Cameroun)

J'ai frappé à ta porte
J'ai frappé à ton cœur
pour avoir bon lit
pour avoir bon feu
pourquoi me repousser ?
Ouvre-moi, mon frère... !
Pourquoi me demander
si je suis d'Afrique
si je suis d'Amérique
si je suis d'Europe ?
Ouvre-moi, mon frère... !
Pourquoi me demander
la longueur de mon nez
l'épaisseur de ma bouche
la couleur de ma peau
et le nom de mes dieux ?
Ouvre-moi, mon frère... !
Je ne suis pas un noir
Je ne suis pas un rouge
Je ne suis pas un jaune
Je ne suis pas un blanc
mais je ne suis qu'un homme
Ouvre-moi, mon frère... !
Ouvre-moi ta porte
Ouvre-moi ton cœur
Car je suis un homme
l'homme de tous les temps
l'homme de tous les lieux
l'homme qui te ressemble !..

Petites gouttes de chant pour créer l'homme
Éditions Semences Africaines, 1977



Years 9 & 10

Poème à mon frère blanc

Léopold SEDAR SENGHOR (Sénégal)

Cher frère blanc,
Quand je suis né, j'étais noir,
Quand j'ai grandi, j'étais noir,
Quand je suis au soleil, je suis noir,
Quand je suis malade, je suis noir,
Quand je mourrai, je serai noir.
Tandis que toi, homme blanc,
Quand tu es né, tu étais rose,
Quand tu as grandi, tu étais blanc,
Quand tu vas au soleil, tu es rouge,
Quand tu as froid, tu es bleu,
Quand tu as peur, tu es vert,
Quand tu es malade, tu es jaune,
Quand tu mourras, tu seras gris.
Alors, de nous deux,
Qui est l'homme de couleur ?

Recueil "Chants d'ombre" 1948