Canadian Parents for French
ConcoursVirtuel.ca
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Overview

The purpose of this package is to help students take part in Concours virtuel. It can also provide information to parents, guardians, teachers, administrators, and anyone else who may be interested in encouraging students to participate in Concours virtuel.

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Introduction

Ouais ! *Concours virtuel* is back for a second year! This hugely successful online public speaking competition was piloted in spring 2020, to offer an alternative to Canadian Parents for French (CPF)’s flagship event – *Concours d’art oratoire* – which had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last spring, over 900 students from across Canada submitted videos sharing their daily lives and experience during the first lockdown, *en français! Concours virtuel* offered a valuable chance for students to practise their French, as many had little exposure to French while stuck at home.

In their videos, students shared many ways their lives were impacted by COVID-19. Some confided their anxieties about the pandemic, or how disappointed they were by the cancellation of events and trips they’d been looking forward to. Many shared positive stories of making the best of the lockdown, and encouraged their peers to keep their spirits up during this difficult time.

Their entries showcased an impressive array of skills students had practised during lockdown: cooking, baking, painting, dance, music, exercise, gardening, and much more. Many were also helping their communities, from doing chores around their home, to sewing face masks for front-line workers and volunteering at food banks.

While the COVID-19 pandemic is certainly not over yet, this year we want to give students more creative licence when making their videos. We’re inviting students from across Canada to submit videos in French on anything from their favourite hobbies to their takes on current events – we want to learn all about what students are passionate about!
Important Dates

!!!IMPORTANT NOTE!!!

Please visit the Concours virtuel Webpage (ConcoursVirtuel.ca) for the most up-to-date information package!

March 1st, 2021
• Submissions open

May 1st, 2021 at 11:59 PM PACIFIC TIME
• Submissions close

June 1st, 2021
• Winners announced
How to Enter

Students are invited to make and submit a 1-3-minute video in French, which can be on a topic of their choice. Entries for Grade 6-12 categories must meet the following requirements in order to be eligible for judging and prizes.

Video Requirements

- Must be presented entirely in French.
- Does not have to be presented as a formal speech, but should demonstrate the participant’s ability to speak in French, including full sentences.
- Entries must be a minimum of one (1) minute and a maximum of three (3) minutes in length, with a minimum of one (1) minute of French speaking.
  - Entries under one (1) minute in length, or that do not include at least one (1) cumulative minute of French speaking by the participant will be disqualified from competitive assessment.
  - A penalty of one (1) point will be applied for every 30 seconds by which a video exceeds the maximum length of 3 minutes.
- Creativity is welcomed and encouraged. Video editing and music is allowed.

Submission Requirements

- All entries must be submitted via the Submission Form between March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, and May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The Submission Form can be found at ConcoursVirtuel.ca beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.
  - Submissions will close at exactly 11:59 PM Pacific Daylight time on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. No late submissions will be accepted. Please plan ahead and submit your video early, and keep in mind that videos may take some time to upload.
- All videos must be accessible through a web link. The video can be hosted on any platform, as long as it can be accessed without requiring any login and/or permission. Videos may be password protected, as long as the password is given when submitting your entry.
• For students who do not wish their videos to be public, but who would still like to participate, we recommend posting on YouTube as an unlisted video or Vimeo as a password-protected video. Both allow videos to be privately shared through links - that way the judges can still count them in the contest! For more instructions on how to do this for YouTube, click here. For Vimeo instructions, click here.

Social Media Posting Guide (OPTIONAL)*

Students/Parents/Guardians are encouraged to share their videos through social media and tag Canadian Parents for French BC & Yukon on Facebook (@CanadianParentsForFrenchBCYK), Twitter (@CPFBC), Instagram (@CPFBCYK), and/or YouTube (@CPFBCYK). Share and follow the hashtag #EnsembleADistance.

If you wish, tag some of your friends and challenge them to make a video too!

If you are submitting your entry privately, we would encourage you to make a social media post or story about your participation in this Concours, including the above elements.

*Social media sharing is entirely voluntary and not considered in contest eligibility or evaluation.

Privacy Note

At the time of submission, we will ask if you give permission for the video to be shared publicly. If you do not give permission, the video will only be viewed internally for evaluation and judging purposes.
Contest Details

*Concours virtuel* is primarily coordinated by the Canadian Parents for French British Columbia & Yukon Branch, but is open to students residing in any Canadian province or territory.

Contest Eligibility

All Canadian students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 are welcome to participate.

- Students must reside in Canada.
- Students must be enrolled in Kindergarten through Grade 12 in the 2020-2021 school year.
- All students require parental consent to participate in *Concours virtuel.*

Competition Categories

**Concours virtuel Jr: Kindergarten–Grade 5**

- Submissions for this age group will not be judged competitively.

**Concours virtuel Sr: Grades 6–12**

- Submissions will be judged by impartial volunteer judges from across Canada using the Evaluation Rubric (Appendix I).
- Groups may be split or combined to balance the number of participants in each group for judging:
  - Some large categories may be split into multiple groups. An equal number of participants will be assorted randomly into each group.
  - Some smaller categories will be combined with adjacent grades into one larger group.
- 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd}, and 3\textsuperscript{rd}-place winners will be selected in each group. This may result in multiple sets of winners in larger categories.
- Categories (Grades 6-8):
  - 1. Core French
  - 2. Late French Immersion, Intensive French & Extended French
  - 3. Early French Immersion
  - 4. Francophone
• Categories (Grades 9-12):
  o 1. Core French
  o 2. French Immersion
  o 3. Francophone

Prize Details

Concours virtuel Jr: Kindergarten–Grade 5

• All participants will receive a digital certificate of participation.
• A 10$ donation will be made to a registered Canadian non-profit for every submission in this category.

Concours virtuel Sr: Grades 6–12

• All participants will receive a digital certificate of participation.
• Winners will receive a digital certificate indicating their placement.
• Cash prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-place winners in each group.
• Each cash prize will include a matching amount, which will be donated to a registered Canadian non-profit of the winner’s choice.
• Cash prize amounts:
  o Grades 11 & 12
    ▪ 1st place: 400$ cash + 400$ donation
    ▪ 2nd place: 200$ cash + 200$ donation
    ▪ 3rd place: 100$ cash + 100$ donation
  o Grades 9 & 10
    ▪ 1st place: 300$ cash + 300$ donation
    ▪ 2nd place: 150$ cash + 150$ donation
    ▪ 3rd place: 75$ cash + 75$ donation
  o Grades 6, 7 & 8
    ▪ 1st place: 200$ cash + 200$ donation
    ▪ 2nd place: 100$ cash + 100$ donation
    ▪ 3rd place: 50$ cash + 50$ donation
FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

1. How do I submit my video?

Entries can be uploaded to a video hosting site of your choice, as long as they can be accessed by anyone with a link. Once you’ve uploaded your entry, please submit a link to it in the Submission Form, along with your contact information. Please see “How to Enter” for more details.

2. What if I’m not comfortable posting my video on social media, where anyone will be able to see it?

Several video hosting sites have the option to upload videos privately (ex: YouTube, Vimeo). Your entry does not have to be posted publicly, as long as it can be accessed via a direct link, which you will submit in the Submission Form. We will not share privately submitted entries in any way, except for with the impartial Concours judges for evaluation (Grade 6-12 only). However, we would encourage you to still tell your friends about your participation in Concours virtuel. Maybe they would like to participate too!

3. Can I include other people (or pets) in my video?

Yes, as long as they give you permission to include them in your video. If you are including anyone outside your immediate household, please also ensure you stay safe and are practicing safe physical distancing guidelines according to your local health authority.

4. What if I’m not in K-12 or a student in Canada? Can I still participate?

Anyone and everyone is welcome to participate by sharing a video on social media! Just use the hashtag #EnsembleADistance so we can all follow along. That said, only Canadian students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 can submit their videos to be eligible for prizes.
6. Can I use props, music, etc. in my video? Can I edit my video to make it even cooler?

Bien sûr! Feel free to get creative with your video using any technology skills you may already have, and this might even be a fun opportunity to learn new techniques! If there is music in your video, please make sure that you have permission to use it according to the video hosting website you’ve chosen, or else your video could be taken down by the site and the Concours judges may not be able to access it, which would be très triste!
**Inspiration**

We’ve collected many videos from *Concours virtuel* 2020 that you can check out for inspiration!

You can find many of the winning videos on the [2020 Concours virtuel Winners Page](bc-yk.cpf.ca/2020-concours-virtuel-winners)

You can also find many *Concours virtuel* 2020 entries in two playlists on our [YouTube Channel](youtube.com/user/cpfbcca):

Concours virtuel 2020 videos : Kindergarten – Grade 5

Concours virtuel 2020 videos : Grade 6 – Grade 12

**Still Have Questions?**

Please contact Robin at concours@cpf.bc.ca with your specific inquiry.