RULES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPEECH-TO-TEXT

INTERNET COMPETITION

1. Structure of the competition

The International Speech-to-text Internet Competition 2024 will be run as a test for evaluating the chance to have a new Intersteno Internet competition next year. A wide participation will allow us to test every aspect of the contest in several languages. Thank you for your cooperation!

The International Speech-to-text Internet Competition consists in the **real time** transcription of an audio in the competitor's mother tongue for a duration of 10 minutes, dictated at increasing speed, according to the competitor's language as per the following table:

Columns	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Syllables increase per minute	16	17	18	19	20	21
1st minute	148	151	154	157	160	163
2nd minute	164	168	172	176	180	184
3rd minute	180	185	190	195	200	205
4th minute	196	202	208	214	220	226
5th minute	212	219	226	233	240	247
6th minute	228	236	244	252	260	268
7th minute	244	253	262	271	280	289
8th minute	260	270	280	290	300	310
9th minute	276	287	298	309	320	331
10th minute	292	304	316	328	340	352
Total syllables	**2200**	**2275**	**2350**	**2425**	**2500**	**2575**

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Specifically, the column to be followed will be determined based on the competitor's mother tongue.

2. Registration

Registrations start at midnight (12 am CET) on October 23, 2024 and end at 23:59 (11:59 pm CET) on December 1, 2024. **Click here to register for free.**

You can participate with the technique and/or technology you prefer to transcribe the text. Two separate classifications will be redacted: one for competitors using a standard keyboard and one for competitors using any other technology. For any further information, please contact intersteno@respeakingonair.org.

3. Modalities

Competitors can take part in the competition on the on-line platform MARS (thanks to Alessio Popoli). Competitors can participate autonomously by accessing the platform with their personal credentials from **midnight** (12 am CET) **on December 9, 2024 to 23:59** (11:59 pm CET) **on December 15, 2024**. The link to the platform and the credentials will be provided, only to registered competitors, the day before the beginning of the competition period. **Access to the platform to compete is allowed once**. No exceptions are allowed.

It is recommended to use headphones during the competition. Training is possible on the website http://reachmars.eu/.

4. Procedure

a. Follow the provided link;

b. enter your personal credentials;

c. when you are ready to start, click on "Start"; the audio track will start and you will be able to transcribe immediately (the cursor is already in place);

d. corrections are allowed only while you are transcribing the audio;

e. once you can no longer continue transcribing, click on "Stop";

f. the results, but not the placement in the classification, will be shown immediately.

5. Evaluation

To qualify for a certain minute, the competitor's accuracy for that minute must be greater than or equal to **98% (2% max. errors)**. In that case, corrections will move on to the next minute and so on until the end. If the competitor does not qualify for a certain minute, the software will stop correcting and consider the last valid minute for the sake of the classification.

A competitor, to be admitted to the classification, must qualify at least for the **third minute.**

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The accuracy is automatically calculated as follows:

$$(1 - (number\ of\ mistakes/number\ of\ characters\ in\ the\ minute)) * 100\ \%$$

where "number of mistakes" means the total number of **additions**, **substitutions** and **removals** from the original text. A maximum of one error is counted per word, unless subsequent errors in the same word are more than 10 characters apart.

All the evaluations will be automatic. Only the first 10 places will be manually checked.

6. Grounds for disqualification

The reasons for being disqualified from the competition can be:

- correcting the transcribed text while the dictation is still running (for example, the competitor decides to stop transcribing at minute 5 and starts correcting first 5 minutes while the dictation continues); if the competitor can no longer follow the audio, they must submit the work clicking on "Stop" within 10 seconds;

- recording or downloading the audio source to know the contents of the dictation in advance, or to supply other competitors with the audio.

7. Classification

Two separate classifications are drawn up: one for competitors using a standard keyboard and one for those who use any other technology. Competitors reaching a higher valid minute will be classified before those with a lower minute. Between competitors classifying in the same minute, the most accurate one will qualify higher.

The classifications are published within 48 hours after the end of the competition on onA.I.R. website, on Intersteno website and on their social media.

8. Complaints and information

E-mail complaints are allowed within seven days of the publishing of the final classifications. You will receive a response within seven days of receipt of the complaint email. The contact email address for the competition is intersteno@respeakingonair.org.