



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION
DIVISION OF ESCALANTE CITY



February 12, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
NO. 072, s. 2026

2026 DIVISION FESTIVAL OF TALENTS (DFOT) – HISTOPOP/POPDEV CONTESTS

TO: OIC-Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. In line with the conduct of the National Festival of Talents (NFOT) 2026, Schools Division of Escalante City will conduct the **Division of Festival of Talents (DFOT)-HISTOPOP/POPDEV** with the theme: A Celebration of Talents and Skills Through Performances and Showcase in Various Arts Disciplines on **February 18, 2026, 9:00 a.m.** at **Escalante Central Elementary School**

2. The DFOT- HISTOPOP/ POPDEV competitions are as follows:

CONTESTS	Grade Level	Contest Managers
Speak Up! Extemporaneous Speech	Grade 11 or Grade 12	Elinore L. Colmenares
Pop Quiz	Grade 10	Oscar D. Mascuñana
Kasaysayan Quiz	Grade 6	Jay Miko B. Lesondra

3. The activity aims to:
- enhance learners' knowledge and understanding of Philippine History by assessing their mastery of key historical events, figures, and concepts through quiz-based competitions;
 - develop learners' critical thinking, analytical skills, and effective communication abilities by engaging them in fast-paced questioning and impromptu speaking activities that require clarity, accuracy, and confidence; and
 - promote historical awareness, patriotism, and cultural pride by encouraging learners to reflect on the significance of historical experiences and their relevance to contemporary Philippine society.
4. Participants in DFOT are learner-contestants, coaches, judges, Quiz Masters, facilitators, TWGs and members of the Execom.
5. Relative to this, Araling Panlipunan Coordinators will have a virtual meeting on February 13, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. via MS Teams. Link will be provided in the AP group chat.
6. Attached are the guidelines, mechanics, criteria and TWGs for each contest.
7. Participation in the 2026 DFOT – HISTOPOP/POPDEV is voluntary and shall not, in any way, affect the time-on-task of teachers as this activity's target learning standards and competencies are already embedded in teachers' actual classroom teaching and assessment process.
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8. All expenses incurred in the conduct of the activity shall be chargeable against Division/School MOOE and/or Local Funds or any other available funds subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
9. Widest dissemination of this Memorandum is earnestly desired.


PETER G. GALIMBA
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Officer – in-Charge
Office of the Schools Division Superintendent 

Enclosure: As stated
Reference: None
Allotment: 1,2,3,4,5
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:
DFOT POPDEV CONTEST
Tan/ CID/ 2/12/ 2026



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Enclosure to Division Memorandum No. 072

List of Contest Manager/ Quiz Master and Judges

CONTESTS	CONTEST MANAGER/ QUIZ MASTER	JUDGES
Speak Up! Extemporaneous Speech	Elinore L. Colmenares	Mae Joy M. Tan, PhD Sheila M. Carambacan Prilyn S. Albarico, EdD
Pop Quiz	Oscar B. Mascuñana	Edrick C. Miano Perly M. Mapa Chona M. Prietos
Kasaysayan Quiz	Jay Miko B. Lesondra, PhD	Desiree L. Miano Alma C. Sinining Marivic S. Portunes



HISTOPOP

(A Showcase of Talents and Skills in Araling Panlipunan)

COMPONENT AREA	Kasaysayan ng Pilipinas Kwiz	
KEY STAGE	Key Stage 2 (Grade 6)	
NO. OF PARTICIPANT/S	One (1) learner-contestant	
TIME ALLOTMENT	180 mins.	
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	Naipamamalas ang patuloy na pag-unawa at pagpapahalaga sa kasaysayan ng Pilipinas mula sa ika-20 siglo hanggang sa kasalukuyan, tungo sa pagbuo ng tiyak na pagkakakilanlan bilang Pilipino at mamamayan ng Pilipinas. Naipamamalas ang malalim na pag-unawa sa kasaysayan ng Pilipinas base sa pagsusuri ng sipi ng mga piling primaryang sangguniang nakasulat, pasalita, awdyo-biswal at kumbinasyon ng mga ito, mula sa iba-ibang panahon, tungo sa pagbuo ng makabansang kaisipan na siyang magsisilbing basehan ng mas malawak na pananaw tungkol sa mundo.	
21ST CENTURY SKILL/S	Communication, Creativity, Critical Thinking Skills, Global Citizenship, Technology Literacy	
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES DOMAIN	Traditional Cultural Expression and Performing Arts	
DESCRIPTION	The quiz shall be based on the concepts of Philippine Geography, History, and Culture from Araling Panlipunan Grade 6.	
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS		
A. MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND EQUIPMENT	To be provided by the participants: -school ID -certification as official contestant of the region	To be provided by the host region: -markers -white board -timer -LCD projector -sound system -tables and chairs -tally sheets -tabulation sheets ● -internet connection
B. VENUE	Airconditioned/Well-ventilated Computer Laboratory/ Room	

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	Round		Points	
	Easy	(8 items)	1	(8 points)
	Average	(7 items)	2	(14 points)
	Difficult	(6 items)	3	(18 points)
	Total		21 Items	
			40 points	
RUBRICS				
MECHANICS				
Pre-Event				
<p>A. The quiz is open to all learners officially enrolled in Grade 6, S.Y. 2025-2026.</p> <p>B. There shall be one learner contestant from Grade 6.</p> <p>C. The test questions shall be based on the Grade 6 Araling Panlipunan competencies.</p> <p>D. Filipino shall be used as the official language in the quiz</p>				
During the Event				
<p>A. Learner-contestants shall be given a total of twenty-one (21) questions, divided into three categories: eight (8) "easy," seven (7) "average," and six (6) "difficult" questions.</p> <p>B. Points shall be awarded for each correct answer as follows: one (1) point for an "easy" question, two (2) points for an "average" question, and three (3) points for a "difficult" question. In the event of a tie, a clincher question shall be asked until a winner is determined.</p> <p>C. Learner-contestants shall have ten (10) seconds to answer "easy" questions, twelve (12) seconds for "average" questions, and fifteen (15) seconds for "difficult" questions.</p> <p>D. The quizmaster shall read each question twice. Countdown shall start after the question has been read the second time and the quizmaster says "GO". When the quizmaster says "STOP" or "TIME IS UP", contestants must raise their answers to the audience and the Board of Judges until the proctors have verified or confirmed the answer. Those who are unable to observe the instructions shall not earn a point.</p>				

- E. The Chair of the Board of Judges will decide whether or not the instruction is observed.
- F. The learner-contestants are allowed to change their answer within the allotted time.
- G. In case of a protest or inquiry during the actual quiz proceedings, the following procedures shall be observed:
- Only the learner contestants or the official coaches are allowed to raise a protest or inquiry before the next question is read.
 - The protest or inquiry shall be addressed orally to the chair of the Board of Judges who shall recognize the protest or inquiry after validating the proof/evidence presented.
 - The chair shall announce the decision upon deliberation with the members of the board of judges.
 - The decision of the board of judges is final and irrevocable.
- H. National winners shall be proclaimed based on cumulative scoring.

After the Event

The board of judges shall provide general feedback on the conduct of Kasaysayan ng Pilipinas Kwiz.



HISTOPOP

(A Showcase of Talents and Skills in Araling Panlipunan)



COMPONENT AREA	Pop Quiz	
KEY STAGE	Key Stage Three (3): Grade 10	
NO. OF PARTICIPANT/S	1 learner-contestant from Key Stage Three 3 (Grade10)	
TIME ALLOTMENT	180 mins.	
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	Ang mag-aaral ay may pag-unawa sa mga epekto ng mga isyu at hamon na may kaugnayan sa kasarian at lipunan upang maging aktibong tagapagtaguyod ng pagkakapantay-pantay at paggalang sa kapwa bilang kasapi ng pamayanan.	
21ST CENTURY SKILL/S	Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking Skills, Problem Solving, Information and Media	
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES DOMAIN	Digital Media, Creative Research and Development	
DESCRIPTION	<p>The quiz focuses on assessing understanding of population dynamics, development issues, trends, development and their social, economic, and environmental impacts. Specifically, it covers the following Population Education Core Messages/Key Concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family Life and Responsible Parenthood ● Gender and Development ● Population and Reproductive Health, Population, Environment, Resources, and Sustainable Development 	
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS		
C. MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND EQUIPMENT	To be provided by the participants: -school ID -certification as official contestant of the region	To be provided by the host region: -markers -white board -timer -LCD projector -sound system -tables and chairs -tally sheets -tabulation sheets -internet connection
D. VENUE	Airconditioned/Well-ventilated Computer Laboratory/ Room	

- F. The quizmaster shall only read each question twice. Countdown shall start after the question has been read for the second time and the quizmaster says GO. When the quizmaster says "STOP "or "TIME IS UP.", participants must raise their answers to the audience and to the Assessing Committee until such time that the Proctors have verified or confirmed the answer. A general reminder shall be given to all. However, if the participant still violates, his /her answer shall not be considered.
- G. A participant shall be allowed to change his/her answer within the allotted time.
- H. In case of a tie, a clincher question shall be asked.
- I. In case of inquiry during the actual quiz proceedings, the following procedures shall be observed:
- Only the participant or the official coach is allowed to raise an inquiry before the next question is read. The inquiry shall be addressed orally to the assessing committee which shall recognize the inquiry.

The chair shall announce the decision upon deliberation with the members of the committee.

After the Event

The board of judges shall provide general feedback on the conduct of Pop Quiz.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	Round		Points	
	Easy	(8 items)	1	(8 points)
	Average	(7 items)	2	(14 points)
	Difficult	(6 items)	3	(18 points)
	Total		21 Items	
			40 points	
RUBRICS				
MECHANICS				
Pre-Event				
<p>A. The formulation of test questions at the local and national levels shall be based on the following Population Education Core Messages/Key Concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family Life and Responsible Parenthood; ● Gender and Development; ● Population and Reproductive Health; and ● Population, Environment, Resources, and Sustainable Development. <p>B. The Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) shall prepare and provide the questions and review materials for the Pop Quiz. Each answer slide deck must include specific competency and reference.</p>				
During the Event				
<p>A. During the quiz, learner-contestants shall be provided with <i>whiteboards</i>, markers, and erasers.</p> <p>B. Questions shall be constructed using the English language.</p> <p>C. Learner-contestants shall be given a total of twenty-one (21) questions, divided into three categories: eight (8) "easy," seven (7) "average," and six (6) "difficult" questions.</p> <p>D. Points for every correct answer shall be given as follows: One (1) point shall be given to the correct answer for each "easy" question, two (2) points for each "average" question, and three (3) points for each "difficult" question.</p> <p>E. Participants shall be given ten (10) seconds to answer each question. For questions that require computation, participants shall be given a maximum of thirty (30) seconds.</p>				



HISTOPOP

(A Showcase of Talents and Skills in Araling Panlipunan)



COMPONENT AREA	Speak Up! (Impromptu)	
KEY STAGE	Key Stage Four (4): Grades 11 to 12	
NO. OF PARTICIPANT/S	1 learner-contestant from Key Stage Four (4)	
TIME ALLOTMENT	180 mins.	
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	Develop students' awareness of cultural, social, and political dynamics, and sensitivity to cultural diversity; provide them with an understanding of how culture, human agency, society, and politics work; and engage them in examining the country's current human development goals. Students should acquire ideas about human cultures, human agency, society, and politics; recognize cultural relativism and social inclusiveness to overcome prejudices; and develop social and cultural competence to guide their interactions with groups, communities, networks, and institutions.	
21ST CENTURY SKILL/S	Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking Skills	
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES DOMAIN	Research and Development	
DESCRIPTION	The <i>Speak Up</i> is an impromptu speech competition of the National Festival of Talents (NFOT) designed to showcase their communication, creativity, and critical thinking skills in public speaking on topics of human cultures, human agency, society, and politics; recognize cultural relativism and social inclusiveness to overcome prejudices; and develop social and cultural competence to guide their interactions with groups, communities, networks, and institutions.	
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS		
E. MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND EQUIPMENT	To be provided by the participants, coach, Supervisors: ATTIRE: Culturally Inspired Attire	To be provided by the host region: -timer - 2 LCD projectors facing the contestant and audience -judging sheets
F. VENUE	Airconditioned/Well-ventilated Hall	

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	Exhibit Rubrics		Percentage			
	Message and Content -Relevance to the specific content in the mechanics. -Bases of arguments -Unity and Coherence are evident. -Powerful and meaningful message.		50 %			
	Delivery and Performance -Facial expression, hand gestures. -Emphasized the different elements of the performance. -Words are pronounced distinctly and correctly. -Projection of authentic emotion.		30 %			
	Originality -The piece has a unique central idea and innovative supporting points.		10 %			
	Over-all Impact -Voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, and evidence of understanding are in unison to convey the message effectively and with great impact.		10 %			
	Total		100%			

RUBRICS	MESSAGE AND CONTENT 50%	5	4	3	2	1	Score
	-Relevance to the specific content in the mechanics -Bases of arguments -Unity and Coherence are evident -Powerful and meaningful message	The message is highly relevant; arguments are well-grounded and strongly supported; unity and coherence are consistently maintained; the message is powerful, meaningful, and deeply engaging.	The message is generally relevant; arguments are adequately supported; unity and coherence are evident with minor lapses; the message is clear and meaningful.	The message is somewhat relevant; arguments are partially supported; unity and coherence are occasionally inconsistent; the message is clear but lacks depth.	The message shows limited relevance; arguments are weak or unsupported; coherence is minimal; the message lacks meaningful insight.	The message lacks relevance; arguments have no basis; unity and coherence are absent; the message is weak or unclear.	
DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE 30%	5	4	3	2	1	Score	
-Facial expression, hand gestures -Emphasized the different elements of	Facial expressions and gestures are highly effective; performance	Facial expressions and gestures are appropriate; perform	Expressions and gestures are limited; performance elements are	Minimal or inappropriate expressions and gestures; perform	Delivery lacks clarity and expression; no		

<i>the performance</i> -Words are pronounced distinctly and correctly -Projection of authentic emotion	elements are strongly emphasized; pronunciation is clear and accurate; emotions are authentic and compelling.	ance elements are evident; pronunciation is generally correct; emotions are believable.	unclear; pronunciation has lapses; emotional projection is inconsistent.	nce elements are absent; pronunciation is unclear; emotions seem forced.	perfor man ce elem ents; emot ion is absent; major pronun ciation issues.	
ORIGINALITY 10%	5	4	3	2	1	Score
<i>-The piece has a unique central idea and innovative supporting points</i>	The piece has a unique central idea supported by innovative and creative details.	The piece presents a clear central idea with some original and creative elements.	The idea shows limited originality; supporting points show minimal creativity.	The piece lacks originality; ideas and supporting details are predictable.	No originality; ideas are repetitive or copied.	
OVERALL IMPACT 10%	5	4	3	2	1	Score
<i>-Voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, and evidence of understanding are in unison to convey the message effectively and with great impact</i>	Voice, articulation, dramatic appropriateness, and understanding blend seamlessly, resulting in high impact.	Most elements work well together, showing good impact and clear understanding.	Some elements do not blend well; impact and understanding are limited.	Elements do not integrate; performance has minimal impact and weak understanding.	No impact; shows no understanding of the message.	
TOTAL						

MECHANICS

Pre-Event

- A. Discussion of contest mechanics.
- B. Draw lots to determine the sequence of delivery.
- C. Holding area will be provided for contestants prior to his/her delivery.

During the Event

- A. The *Speak Up!* (Impromptu) competition is open to all Senior High School learners, both from private and public schools, who are enrolled for the school year 2025-2026.
- B. There shall be one learner-contestant per region.

- C. The competition shall use English as the primary language however, learner-contestants may incorporate Filipino terms or phrases when citing sources, quotations, or emphasizing key ideas to support their claims and arguments.
- D. The contestant shall pick the topic from the box and hand it to the contest moderator to be read aloud twice.
- E. The delivery shall commence after the second reading of the topic.
- F. Each learner-contestant shall deliver his/her speech in 2-3 minutes.
- G. A timer shall be projected on the stage to show the time limit. A sound will be heard signaling that the time of delivery is over.
- H. The delivery will be cut automatically upon the completion of 3 minutes.
- I. The decision of the panel of experts is final and irrevocable.

After the Event

The board of judges shall provide general feedback on the conduct of Speak Up!