



Egmore Samskrt School  
2024 Gita Recitation Competitions

# FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED  
QUESTIONS

[www.egmoresamskrtschool.com](http://www.egmoresamskrtschool.com)

# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

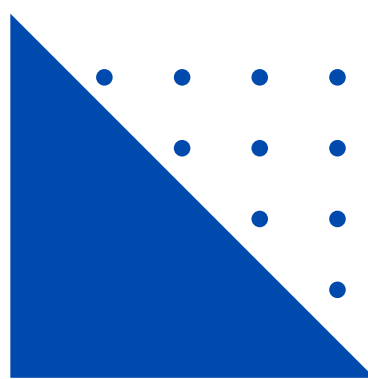


### Question

Where is the competition?

### Answer

The competition will be held online on Microsoft Teams. The link for your competition will be shared on your WhatsApp group the day before the competition.



# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

What is the Gita Mela?

### Answer

Gita Mela is a single day, in-person event to celebrate all the hard work put in by students, parents, judges and volunteers during the past year. It will be on February 4, 2024 at Sindhi Model School, Chennai. Among other activities, prize winners will be honored and will have opportunities to showcase their Gita chanting talents as a group. There will be many fun activities for kids and adults alike. Watch [this video](#) from our Secretary explaining the Gita Mela. We hope you will join us there!

# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

When is the pre-session?

### Answer

There is no pre-session this year. We suggest you test your mic and camera beforehand using the instructions on [this website](#).



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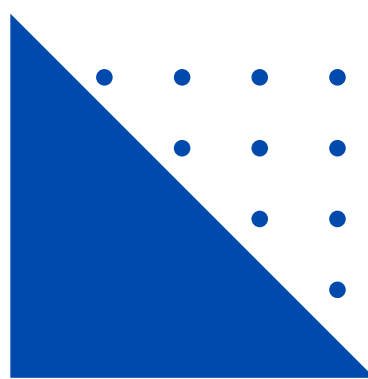


### Question

How do I know when I will be called to recite?

### Answer

Participants will be called in a pre-decided random order. This order will not be released beforehand and it cannot be changed. When a participant is called to recite, the volunteer will also announce who will be reciting next so that they can be ready.



# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

Do I need to show any form of identification during the competition?

### Answer

No, you do not need to show any identification. However, please make sure you have the name of the participant as your display name on Teams. You can learn how to do that [here](#).



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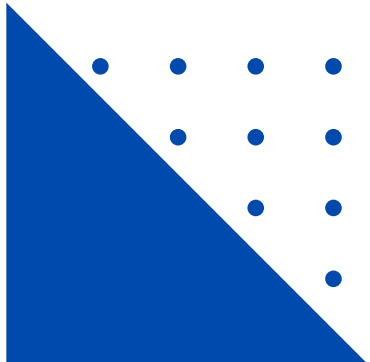
### Question

What type of device do I need to use to join?



### Answer

You can use any device that supports Microsoft Teams and has a working camera and microphone. We recommend that you download Microsoft Teams onto your device several days before the competition.



# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

What if I am having technical issues?



### Answer

Contact ESS Tech Support on WhatsApp message to (do not call). If your name is called to recite and you are having technical issues, you will be called again at the end so that you may fix your issue.



### TIP

Join from a room in your house that has a strong internet connection.



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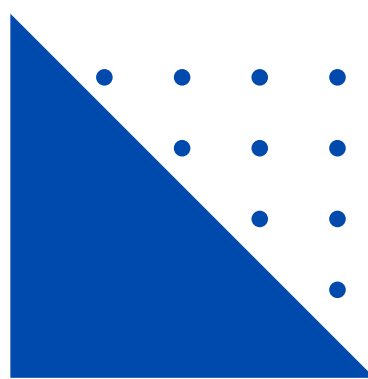


### Question

Will I get feedback on my recitation from the judge?

### Answer

Judges cannot give individual feedback, but they will give general feedback to all participants at the end.



# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

How is the scoring done?



### Answer

Judges score using three categories – memory, pronunciation, and general impression. Memory and pronunciation carry equal weightage. Incorrect splitting of words will be counted as a pronunciation mistake.



### TIP

General confidence, poise, and reciting at a steady, moderate pace increase your general impression score!

# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

What will get a participant disqualified in the competition?



### Answer

If the judges think that you are getting help from anyone in the room or referring a book, you will be disqualified.



### TIP

Look straight into the camera, close your eyes, and/or use headphones while participating so judges do not suspect that you are cheating.

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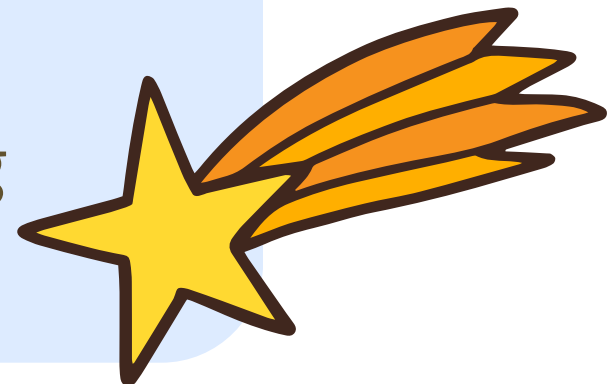


### Question

What is the new prizing system?

### Answer

There are three prize categories this year: Stars, Rockstars, and Superstars. Stars will be chosen across all sections, as well as several Rockstars. A single candidate chosen from the pool of Rock Stars for a standard as the Superstar, chosen by the panel of judges using a voting process.



Please note that the All 18 Chapters category will have a different set of rules for selecting prize winners.

# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

When will I know if I won a prize?

### Answer

Prize winners will be contacted via email by January 28, 2024. The list of prize winners will also be posted on our website. The prize distribution will happen during the Gita Mela on February 4, 2024 in Chennai. If you cannot pick it up, someone else can pick it up on your behalf – we cannot courier prizes. Every participant will receive a participation certificate by email by February 15, 2024.



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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

What will I be asked to recite?

### Answer

The judges will ask you to recite from the middle at random from any pada within your portion. You will not be asked a specific verse number. You will not be asked to recite the entire portion. Do not recite any dhyana sloka.



### TIP

When you are preparing for the competition, have your teacher or parent ask you to recite from random parts in the middle.

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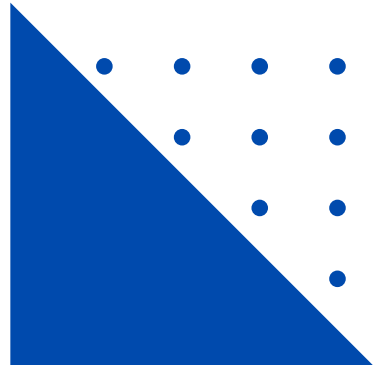


### Question

Where should I recite from?

### Answer

Plan to participate in the competition in a quiet, stable room at your home or in a location where you are not moving. Judges will deduct points if we notice that you are reciting from a moving vehicle.





# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

Can my parents stay in the room while I recite?

### Answer

Parents are asked to help the participant set up and then leave the room when it is time for the participant to recite so that the judges do not suspect cheating.



### TIP

If you have a very young child and cannot leave them alone while participating, sit or stand behind your participant so the judges can see you and see that you are not helping your child.



# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

My child is very young. Can I help them while they recite?

### Answer

Please do not help your kids when they recite, even if they do not recite loudly or clearly do not help them. Judges will take care of them. If you try to help it might lead to your kid being disqualified. We will not be emphasizing as much on pronunciation in these levels as we will do with older kids. We understand that many of them are just getting fluent now to even talk.



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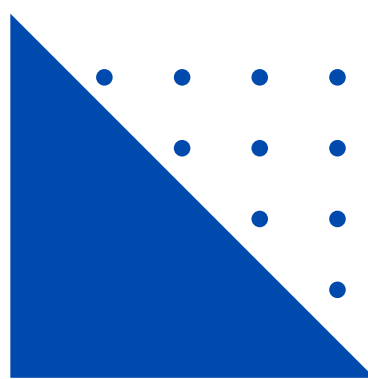
### Question

How should I recite?



### Answer

You can recite sitting or standing. No need to wear your school uniform, but please dress appropriately.



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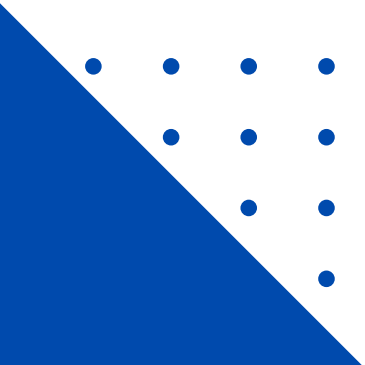
### Question

What language will the judges and volunteer speak?



### Answer

The judges and volunteer will speak in English. Most of them also know Tamil. Please make sure you can speak one of these languages to understand what the judges and volunteers say.



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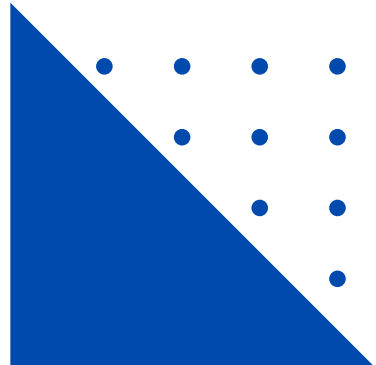


### Question

The judge is asking me to recite from a word that comes several times in my portion. Which one do I recite from?

### Answer

You can ask your judge which one you should recite from.



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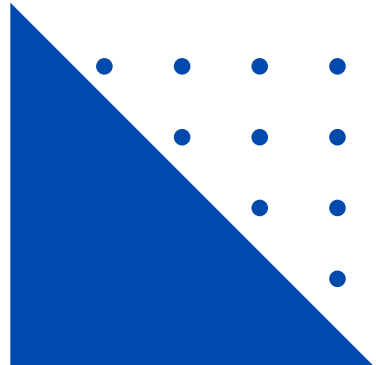
### Question

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I have not studied the entire portion. Can I still participate?

### Answer

Yes, you can participate. However you will not be eligible for a prize.



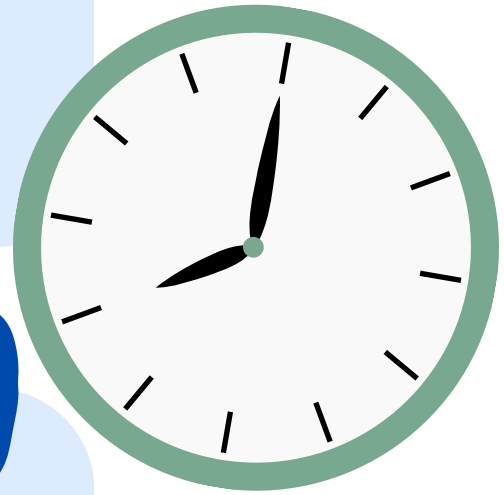
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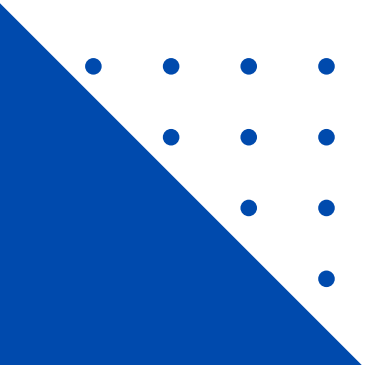
### Question

How long will I be tested for?  
Will there be a break?



### Answer

Most participants will only be tested for a few minutes. 3 and 6 chapter competition participants will be tested for about 10 minutes each. 18 chapters participants will be test for longer. In 3, 6, and 18 chapter competitions, there will be a short break in the middle. For all others, there will be no break.



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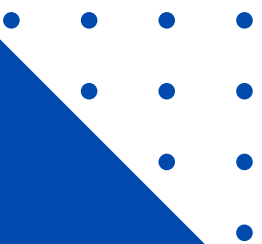
### Question

How long will the competition last? Do I have to stay after I finish reciting?



### Answer

If your competition is on January 28th or January 29th, it will not last more than 2 hours. 3 and 6 chapter competitions on January 22nd will last up to 4 hours. You should stay after you finish reciting out of respect for other participants, and to hear the judges' feedback at the end.





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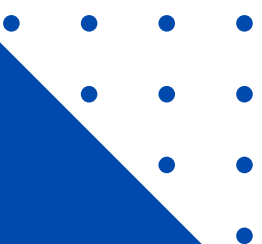
### Question

Do I keep my camera on when I am not participating?



### Answer

Your camera and microphone should both be off for the entire competition except for when you are called to recite. Distracting other participants by turning on your camera or microphone when it is not your turn will reduce your score. All participants can turn on their cameras at the end when the judges give feedback.





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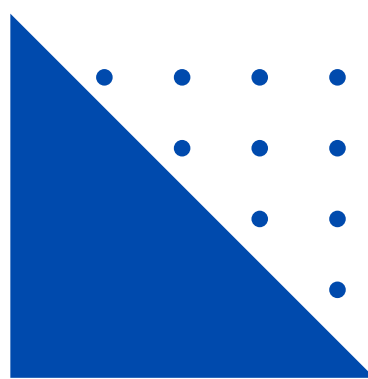


### Question

How many rounds will the competition have?

### Answer

Except for the All 18 chapters competition, all competitions only have one round.



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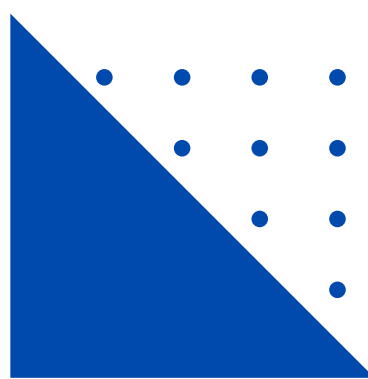


### Question

Will the competition be recorded?

### Answer

Yes, the competition will be recorded for judging purposes. The recording will not be shared with participants.



# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Question

Can other family members join the link separately to listen to me recite?

### Answer

No, the link is for the participant to join alone so that there are no distractions. Others joining the link, even with video off, will affect your score. You may not share the competition link with anyone.