

**ILLINOIS TESOL/BE  
ELL Elementary Poetry Contest**

**Attention all Primary and Intermediate ELL/Bilingual Education Teachers:**

This year, Illinois TESOL-BE is sponsoring its twelfth statewide Elementary Poetry Contest. This is a great opportunity for your students to let their creativity shine, communicate powerfully in the English language, and express the importance of their own culture/cultural experiences. We encourage you to have as many of your students as possible participate. *Sponsoring teachers do NOT need to be a member of ITBE.*

**Awards**

Winning applicants will receive:

- **One poetry book** that is selected by ITBE board members and book coupons from **Scholastic.com**. First place winners receive one poetry book and \$30 worth of coupons & the second place winners will receive one poetry book and \$20 worth of coupons. Students will receive these prizes at the convention and the teachers may assist students in ordering their books after the convention. *(If coupons are not available from Scholastic then students will pick from a limited choice of books after ACCESS testing is done, but before the convention.)*
- **Best of the Best:** The first place winner in each poetry genre will compete against the other first place winners in his/her grade level for the Best of the Best award. The winner will receive pre-selected poetry books that are appropriate for each grade level (Second grade through Fifth grade).

Sponsoring teachers will receive:

- A **one-year complimentary membership** to Illinois TESOL-BE.
- A **\$25 monetary award to spend as they choose.**

**Award Ceremony**

- Winning recipients will also be recognized at our Annual Convention on Friday, February 22, 2019 at the **Sheraton Lisle Naperville Hotel**, 3000 Warrenville Rd, Lisle, IL 60532.
- A group photo will be taken and winners will also have their names & entries published in the ITBE Link.

One essay cover sheet must accompany each entry. All poems must be postmarked or emailed by **Monday, January 7, 2016**. Please visit the Illinois TESOL-BE website ([www.itbe.org](http://www.itbe.org)) for more detailed guidelines, worksheets, and rubrics.

For additional information on the Illinois TESOL-BE Elementary Poetry Contest, please visit our website at [www.itbe.org](http://www.itbe.org), or contact:

Angie Remigio  
Tate Woods Elementary School  
1736 Middleton Ave.  
Lisle, IL 60532  
[elemsig@itbe.org](mailto:elemsig@itbe.org)

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to reading your students' poems.

Sincerely,

Angie Remigio & Asma Qazi  
Illinois TESOL-BE Elementary SIG Chair

# ILLINOIS TESOL/BE ELL Elementary Poetry Contest

## Information you need to know:

### Eligibility:

Contestant must be a student who is:

A full-time student enrolled in grades 2–5 in the state of Illinois.

A non-native speaker of English currently enrolled in a TBE/TPI program.

**The contest is open to all teachers that work in an Illinois school.**

### Form:

Students are to write an original Acrostic, Bio, Diamante, Haiku, or “Open” poem. Font: Any style or size. The poem can be handwritten. It must fit on one 8½” x 11” piece of paper.

**Entries must be submitted with a complete cover sheet.** The cover sheet must include the student’s first and last name, grade level, home language, type of poem, title of the poem, name of the sponsoring teacher, name of the school, school address, and school phone number. *(The only identifying information that may be allowed on the poem is the contestant’s FIRST name –if the student includes this as part of the poem title).* All entries must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN January 7, 2019.

### Type of Poem:

**Acrostic Poem:** Write one acrostic poem using one or 2 words as the title. The content of the poem must be about an aspect of the student’s culture or his/her perspective of American culture.

OR

**Bio Poem** – Students will write a poem using the prompts provided on the website.

OR

**Diamante Poem:** Write one Diamante poem that compares an aspect of American culture to the student’s culture.

OR

**Haiku Poem:** Write one Haiku poem in which the content of the poem describes nature within the student’s first country or his or her perspective of nature in the United States.

OR

**Open Poem:** Write one poem in which the content of the poem discusses an aspect of the student’s culture or his / her perspective of American culture. The poem may NOT be an acrostic poem, a bio poem, a diamante poem, or a haiku poem.

**Conditions:** Failure to abide by any of these rules and conditions will result in the disqualification of the student’s poem from the competition.

- Each student may submit only one poem.
- The sponsoring teacher does NOT need to be a current member of Illinois TESOLBE.
- All poems become the property of Illinois TESOLBE.
- All poems must be original material of the author.
- The poem is based on prior knowledge or experiences.
- No teacher editing.
- Computer editing (grammar check) will not be allowed, except for spell check.
- Sponsoring teacher must be the teacher that works with the student in a TBE/TPI program.
- Teacher may submit 5 entries per poetry genre, per grade level.

## ILLINOIS TESOL/BE ELL Elementary Student Poetry Contest

### Judging:

1. Each category of poetry will have an assessment rubric & scoring sheet the sponsoring teachers will use to pick their top 5 poems (per genre, per grade level) that will represent their class in the contest. (For example, Mrs. Gigous teaches 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. She can submit 10 Acrostic poems (5 for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade & 5 poems for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Mrs. Gigous may also submit 10 Bio poems, 10 Diamante poems, 10 Haiku poems, & 10 open poems.)
2. Entries will be judged based on the criteria listed for each category. See the rubrics on the website for details ([www.itbe.org](http://www.itbe.org)).
3. Teachers will be asked to pick their top 5 entries (per genre, per grade level) for each category and then submit them to ITBE. Teachers do not need to submit the scoring sheet. This tool is available to help rank the students and select the top five of each poetry category.
4. One essay cover sheet must accompany each entry. Please be sure to write the title of the poem on the cover sheet. This will help to identify the poem and avoid confusion. If the current cover sheet is not provided then ITBE has the right to disqualify the student entry.
5. **Deadline:** All entries must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN **January 7, 2019**. **If you are mailing the entries:** Please paper clip each entry sheet on top of the appropriate poem and place in the envelope. You may send multiple entries in one envelope. Be sure to include the title of the poem on the cover sheet to help avoid confusion. *Please do not staple the documents. This year I would like sponsoring teachers to include a personal list of all the entries he/she is entering (see form included on the website link to forms*
6. An acknowledgement will be sent once the poems are received.
7. All sponsoring teachers will be notified of the results of the Illinois TESOL-BE Poetry Contest approximately 4 weeks before the convention.

### Mail Entries to:

Illinois TESOL-BE ELL Poetry Contest  
Angie Remigio  
Tate Woods Elementary School, Lisle S.D # 202  
1736 Middleton Ave.  
Lisle, IL 60532  
[elemsig@itbe.org](mailto:elemsig@itbe.org)