



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region II – Cagayan Valley
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NUEVA VIZCAYA

February 20, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 96, s. 2025

**2025 DIVISION SNED ABILYMPICS – STORY INTERPRETATION IN FILIPINO
SIGN LANGUAGE AND UNIFIED ENGLISH BRAILLE**

TO: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
CID Chief Education Supervisor
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors/District-In-Charge
All Others Concerned

1. The Schools Division of Nueva Vizcaya through the Curriculum Implementation Division announces the conduct of the 2025 Division Festival of Talents – Special Needs Education (SNED) Abilympics on March 4, 2025 at Solano East Central School & Integrated SPED Center.
2. The SNED Abilympics will feature two exciting competitions:
 - a. Story Interpretation in Filipino Sign Language (FSL). This competition provides a platform for learners with disabilities (LWDs) to showcase their skills in interpreting stories using FSL, effectively conveying the author's intended message and perspective.
 - b. Story Interpretation in Braille Reading, using Unified English Braille. This competition allows learners with visual impairments (LVI) to demonstrate their abilities in interpreting stories through Braille.
3. The participants in this activity are as follows :
 - Key Stage 2 learners (Grade 4 to 6) for Story Interpretation in Filipino Sign Language
 - Key Stage 3 learners (Grade 7 to 10) for Story Interpretation in Unified English Braille.
4. Detailed guidelines for both activities are attached.
5. The Technical Working Group (TWG) and coaches are requested attend the Staff Orientation Workshop at Solano East Central School & Integrated SPED Center on February 28, 2025 at 1:00 PM.



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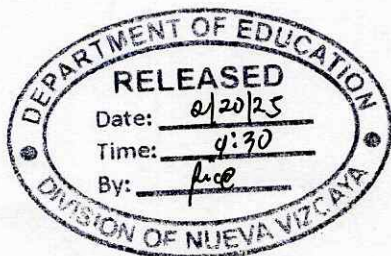


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Story Interpretation in FSL & Braille Reading			
Hilda D. Aragon	Overall Chairperson	EPS	SDO-Nueva Vizcaya
Kevin Marf B. Saquing	Chairperson, Braille Reading	MT2/AP	Bayombong CS & SC
Ma. Carmina H. Maniquis	Chairperson, FSL	MT2/TIC	Magsaysay Hill ES
Sally C. Viernes	Secretariat	HT3	Quezon CS
Fides May M. Valido	Chairperson, Venue Preparation	SPET 1	Solano East CS-ISC
Gloria P. Arzadon	Co-Chairperson, Venue Preparation	T3	Solano East CS-ISC
Cromoel G. Pariñas	Chairperson, Technical Committee	T3	Bayombong CS & SC
Jienela H. Gamponia	Member	T1	Bambang CS-ISC
Rickdenson M. Vadil	Member	SPET 1	Bambang CS-ISC
Christine C. Apigo	Member	SPET 1	Solano East CS-ISC
Jovelyn C. Ampat	Member	SPET 2	Bayombong CS & SC
Marierose S. Labuanan	Member	SPET 1	Bagabag Central School
Mary Emilyn A. Angob	Member	SPET 1	Aritao CS

6. Meal expenses of the members of the TWG shall be charged against the PSEF for DFOT while their travel and other incidental expenses shall be charged to their School MOOE or other local funds or PSF-SNED subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



ORLANDO E. MANUEL PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



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SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION

SNED Abilympics

(Uncovering the Unique Talents of LWDs!)



COMPONENT AREA	SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
KEY STAGE	Key Stage 2 (Grades 4-6)
EVENT TITLE	Story Interpretation in Filipino Sign Language
NO. OF PARTICIPANT/S	1 Deaf learner-participant per Region
TIME ALLOTMENT	Following the standard number of hours in LWDs maximum of ten (10) minutes
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	1. Identifying author's/speaker's point of view (EN4LR-I-1) 2. applying the important story elements to one's schema: relating story to one's experiences (EN4LR-I-1.12)
21ST CENTURY SKILL/S	Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking (4Cs)
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES DOMAIN	Creative services (creative research, development, and real-time artistic performances)
DESCRIPTION	Story Interpretation in Filipino Sign Language is an NFOT event category of Special Needs Education (SNED) that allows learners with disabilities (LWDs) to perform Filipino Sign Language in story reading and interpretation of the point of view of the writer.
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS	
A. MATERIALS, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT	To be provided by the participants: N/A
	To be provided by the organizers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of the story from the Gawad Teodora Alonzo Story Book (English – KS2) • tripod • 2 projectors or SMART TV (at least 60 inches) • 2 laptops • 5 extension wires • 1 long table for judges with chairs • 1 adjustable bookstand • sound system • stage • flaglets (red, yellow, green) • Live Streaming Equipment
B. VENUE	1. Contest area which can hold 50 pax (at least) 2. Holding Area which can hold 20 pax

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	Criteria	Percentage
	1. Space Referents-	(20%)
	2. Grammar - Use of NMS-	(30%)
	3. Sign Production & Formation-	(30%)
	4. Fluency/Accuracy	(10%)
	5. Contextual Understanding	(10%)
See also the attached Criteria for Story Interpretation in Filipino Sign Language		

<p>MECHANICS:</p> <p>A. Each region shall have 1 participant (Deaf – Key Stage 2) for Filipino Sign Language. <i>*The participant with the highest score shall automatically represent the region in the NFOT. In case of tie, the panel of judges shall decide on this matter.</i></p> <p>B. Published Story to be interpreted shall be provided by the NTWG of the said event aligned with the 2025 NFOT theme. The Published Story should not have more than 550 words. <i>*The contest piece shall be given to the contestants in the actual event. *Order of performance shall be identified through draw lots.</i></p> <p>C. The contest is open for Grades 4 to 6 Deaf learners who are officially enrolled.</p> <p>D. An orientation of the guidelines, process flow and house rules shall be conducted before the contest proper.</p> <p>E. Each contestant is given 10-minute Story Interpretation which includes the following sequence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scanning, skimming and familiarizing the content of the story piece; • Story Interpretation proper: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The contestant shall interpret the printed story piece (placed on the bookstand) from Gawad Teodora Alonzo Story Books (English – KS2) using FSL. ➤ The story shall be projected in a wide screen (situated at the side of the contestant) for the judges and audience. The bookstand shall be placed at middle of the stage. • Creative presentation of the Moral Lesson of the story. <p><i>N.B. *The contestant shall not introduce herself/himself.</i></p> <p>F. The judges shall be provided with the printed story piece during the contest proper.</p> <p>G. Only participants shall be allowed in the designated holding area one hour before the event.</p>
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- H. Judging of winners shall be based on DO 36, 2016 (Awards and Recognition).
The following awards shall be given:

Story Interpretation in Filipino Sign Language (FSL)	
Categories	Range of Scores
1. Exceptional	76-100%
2. Proficient	51-75%
3. Developing	26-50%
4. Certificate of Participation	1-25%
<p>A. The top three (3) contestants with the highest scores shall receive the following awards medals: First – Gold Medal Second – Silver Medal Third – Bronze Medal</p> <p>B. All contestants who have reached the three different categories (Developing, Proficient, Exceptional) shall receive the Certificate of Recognition.</p>	

**The RFOT shall follow the same criteria, however, the participant with the highest score shall automatically represent the region in the NFOT. In case of tie, the Judges shall decide on this matter.*

- I. Coaches shall also receive Certificates of Recognition and Participation.
J. Participants shall observe health and safety protocol.
K. Participants and coaches are expected to practice utmost honesty and camaraderie. Any form of dishonesty shall be ground for disqualification.
L. Final scores of the contestants shall be presented to the Regional Focal Persons after the consolidation of results.

Contestants	Space Referents		Grammar – Use of NMS		Sign Production & Formation		Fluency/ Accuracy		Contextual Understanding		Total
	Score	20%	Score	30%	Score	30%	Score	10%	Score	10%	
Juan dela Cruz	75	15 (75x0.2)	25	7.5 (25x0.3)	50	15 (50x0.3)	75	7.5 (75x0.1)	100	10 (100x0.1)	55

NFOT 2025 Criteria for Story Interpretation in Filipino Sign Language (FSL)				
Requirements/ Task Completion	Limited	Developing	Proficient	Exceptional
	25	50	75	100
Space Referents (20%)	Does not attempt to use space in collaboration with messages.	Difficulty with setting up points in space to refer to objects and people; Difficulty with maintaining eye contact; Lacks expressive behaviors when signing	Limited use of setting up points in space to refer to objects and people: sometimes makes errors; Limited eye contact; Limited use of expressive behaviors	Frequently sets up points in space to refer to objects and people: make no errors; Maintains some eye contact; Some use of expressive behaviors
Grammar - Use of NMS (30%) Location Negation Contrastive Structure (listing and ordering, time, etc.)	Lacks facial expressions when signing; Difficulty using non-manual signals; Difficulty using listing and ordering	Some appropriate use of facial expressions; Limited use of non-manual signals; Limited use of listing and ordering	Appropriate use of facial expressions when signing; Inconsistent use of non-manual signals; Inconsistent use of listing and ordering	Uses good facial expressions correctly and consistently; Appropriate use of non-manual signals; Appropriate use of listing and ordering
Sign Production & Formation (30%)	Frequent incorrect formations of signs; Very difficult to	Some errors, but is understandable; Errors are	Self-corrects: few mistakes made; Easily	Consistent use of correct signs; Clear, easily

Handshape Palm Orientation Movement Location	understand signs	usually not corrected	understood	understood
Fluency/Accuracy (10%) Smoothness and Fluency of Signs Conceptually Accurate Ideas/Messages	Irregular hand movements and choppy use of signs; Unable to sign conceptually accurate ideas/messages	Hesitates and self-corrects when signing; Signs conceptually accurate ideas/messages on a limited basis	Smooth flow of signs with confidence most of the time; Signs conceptually accurate ideas/messages the majority of the time	Communicates with fluency and confidence; Signs conceptually accurate ideas/messages consistently
Contextual Understanding (10%)	Limited understanding of text in context.	Struggles with context, some understanding.	Understands text context fairly well.	Demonstrates a deep understanding of the text in context.
Total (100%)				



SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION

SNED Abilympics



(Uncovering the Unique Talents of LWDs!)

COMPONENT AREA	SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
KEY STAGE	Key Stage 3 (Grades 7 to 10)
EVENT TITLE	Story Interpretation in Braille Reading using Unified English Braille
NO. OF PARTICIPANT/S	1 learner-participant (Blind) per region
TIME ALLOTMENT	Following the standard number of hours in LWDs maximum of ten (10) minutes
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use the appropriate reading style (scanning, skimming, speed reading, intensive reading, etc.) one's purpose (EN7RC-IV-b-10) 2. Analyze literature as a means of understanding unchanging values in the VUCA world (G9_Q2_MELC)
21ST CENTURY SKILL/S	Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking (4Cs)
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES DOMAIN	Creative services (creative research, development, and real-time artistic performances)
DESCRIPTION	Story Interpretation in Braille Reading using Unified English Braille is an NFOT event category of Special Needs Education (SNED) Expo that allows learners with visual impairment (LVI) to interpret story in Braille Reading.
A. MATERIALS, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT	To be provided by the participants: N/A
B. VENUE	To be provided by the organizers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of the Story for the contestant and judges • Braille Copy of the Story (Hard Copy to be provided the NTWG) produced by the BLR • The number of materials should be equivalent to the number of contestants (1:1) • 3 lapels (to be provided by the host region) • 1 laptop • 5 extension wire • 1 long table for judges and NTWG with chairs • 1 table and chair for the contestant • sound system • stage • 1 buzzer/timer/bell • Live Streaming Equipment <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contest area which can hold at least 50 pax

B. VENUE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contest area which can hold at least 50 pax 2. Holding area which can hold at least 20 pax 																		
CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	<table border="1" data-bbox="486 387 1382 936"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="491 387 1118 421">Criteria</th> <th data-bbox="1118 387 1377 421">Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 421 1118 488">1. Accurate Reading of Words or Contractions</td> <td data-bbox="1118 421 1377 488">15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 488 1118 544">2. Reading Speed</td> <td data-bbox="1118 488 1377 544">25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 544 1118 600">3. Fluency</td> <td data-bbox="1118 544 1377 600">5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 600 1118 656">4. Consistency</td> <td data-bbox="1118 600 1377 656">5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 656 1118 712">5. Contextual Understanding</td> <td data-bbox="1118 656 1377 712">5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 712 1118 801">6. Quality of Voice (Pronunciation, Enunciation of words/Intonation)</td> <td data-bbox="1118 712 1377 801">30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 801 1118 869">7. Voice Expressions</td> <td data-bbox="1118 801 1377 869">15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 869 1118 936">TOTAL SCORE</td> <td data-bbox="1118 869 1377 936">100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="470 969 1382 1034">See attached Rubrics for Story Interpretation in Braille Reading using Unified English Braille</p>	Criteria	Percentage	1. Accurate Reading of Words or Contractions	15%	2. Reading Speed	25%	3. Fluency	5%	4. Consistency	5%	5. Contextual Understanding	5%	6. Quality of Voice (Pronunciation, Enunciation of words/Intonation)	30%	7. Voice Expressions	15%	TOTAL SCORE	100%
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MECHANICS

- A. *Each region shall have 1 participant (Blind- Key Stage 3) for Story Interpretation in Braille Reading using Unified English Braille*
**The participant with the highest score shall automatically represent the region in the NFOT. In case of tie, the panel of judges shall decide on this matter.*
- B. *Published Story to be interpreted shall be provided by the NTWG of the said event aligned with the 2025 NFOT theme. The Published Story should have not more than 450 - 500 words.*
**The contest piece shall be given to the contestants in the actual event.*
**Order of performance shall be identified through draw lots.*
- C. *The contest is open from Grades 7 to 10 Learners with Visual Impairment who are officially enrolled.*
- D. *An orientation of the guidelines, process flow and house rules shall be conducted before the contest proper.*
- E. *Each contestant is given 10-minute Story Interpretation which includes the following sequence:*
 - *scanning, skimming and familiarizing the content of the story piece;*
 - **Story Interpretation proper:**
 - *The contestant shall interpret the printed story piece (placed on the table)*
- F. *Creative Moral/Lesson of the story should be creatively done.*

*N.B. *The contestant shall not introduce herself/himself.*

- G. The judges shall also be provided with the printed story piece during the contest proper.
- H. Only participants shall be allowed in the designated holding area one hour before the event.
- I. Judging of winners shall be based on DO 36, 2016 (Awards and Recognition). The following awards shall be given:

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RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

- Copy of the Story for the contestant and judges
- Braille Copy of the Story (Hard Copy to be provided the NTWG) produced by the BLR
- The number of materials should be equivalent to the number of contestants (1:1)
- 3 lapels (to be provided by the host region)
- 1 laptop
- 5 extension wire
- 1 long table for judges and NTWG with chairs
- 1 table and chair for the contestant
- sound system
- stage
- 1 buzzer/timer/bell
- Live Streaming Equipment

N.B. See FSL computation sample table

NFOT 2024 Rubric for Storytelling in Braille Reading

Requirements/ Task Completion	Limited	Developing	Proficient	Exceptional
	1	2	3	4
Accurate Reading of Words or Contractions 4 points (15%)	More than 15 errors in reading words	11 – 15 errors in reading words	6-10 errors in reading words	5 below errors in reading words
Reading Speed 4 points (25%)	Reads very slowly with extended pauses	Reads slowly with frequent pauses	Reads at a moderate pace with minimal hesitations	Reads braille fluently at a fast pace
Fluency 4 points (5%)	Difficulty tracking, substantial skipping	Struggles with tracking, frequent skipping	Follows lines adequately, occasional skipping	Follows lines smoothly, rarely skips or jumps
Consistency 4 points (5%)	Highly inconsistent with frequent errors	Inconsistent with noticeable errors	Generally consistent but with some errors	Reads braille consistently, rarely making errors
Contextual Understanding 4 points (5%)	Limited understanding of text in context	Struggles with context, some understanding	Understands text context fairly well	Demonstrates a deep understanding of the text in context
Quality of Voice (Pronunciation, Enunciation of words/Intonation) 8 points (30%)	The quality of voice is monotonous. Mispronounced words can be heard	Demonstrate considerable variations of voice. There are few mispronounced words that can be heard.	Demonstrate good and appropriate variations of voice. Most words are properly pronounced.	Demonstrate very clear and appropriate variations of voice. All words are correctly pronounced.
Voice Expressions 4 points (15%)	The emotions in the voice expression are still lacking and demonstrates little internalization of the piece.	Some emotions in the voice expressions are present and demonstrates considerable internalization of the piece.	Most emotions in the voice expressions are present and demonstrates powerful internalization of the piece.	The emotions are flowing freely and can be felt by the audience and demonstrates powerful internalization of the piece.
TOTAL SCORE 32 POINTS (100%)				