TouchTutor™

MathSci Competition
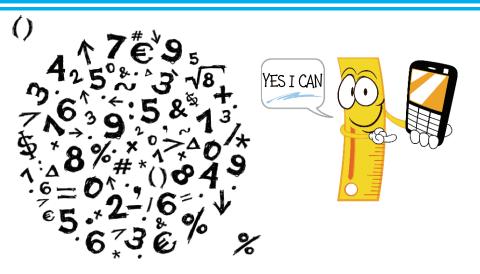
An innovative mobile system to facilitate a problem solving competition for grades 9 and 11 mathematics and science learners across the Eastern Cape

ORGANISED BY

Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Unit (GMMDU) and the FRF Chair in Maths Education at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University

in collaboration with

Department of Basic Education - Eastern Cape and Mxit Reach.

BACKGROUND

For more than 10 years Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Unit (GMMDU) at NMMU, in collaboration with AMESA Eastern Cape, successfully implemented a mathematics competition over two rounds for school learners of various grades in the Eastern Cape Province.

After a break of one year and with recent developments in the GMMDU linked to modern mobile systems to assist with teaching and learning of mathematics, the competition was revived in 2013 with a successful pilot project run exclusively on Mxit for grade 9 and 11 mathematics learners in the Eastern Cape Province.

COMPETITION 2014:

Structured syllabus–aligned multiple choice maths and physical science questions to be completed on a cell phone via Mxit over three rounds. The competition will be open to grade 9 and 11 learners in the Eastern Cape Province. Tests for each round will be completed during consecutive 1-hour sessions (mathematics, then science) on the same, pre-determined day. Test questions and distractors will be presented to learners in a scrambled format to ensure integrity of individual efforts. Test scores and solutions will be available to learners immediately after submission of a completed test. All competition data will be tracked centrally by GMMDU and FRF Chair research teams.

ROUND 1

- Open to all grade 9 and 11 learners.
- Twenty level 1 and 2, syllabus-aligned, multiple-choice questions.
- Download Mxit app and select TouchTutor™ maths and science competition app **TouchTutor™ MathSci Comp** on cell phone and complete registration form as required.
- Once registered for the competition, learners can do practice tests to familiarise themselves with the format of the tests.
- A **TouchTutor™ MathSci Comp** test window will be active on 13 August. Learners will have one chance to complete the test(s) of their choice.
- Tests to be submitted **only once all test questions are answered**.
- Test(s) to be completed under supervision, at a venue of choice eg. School hall, home.
- An *e-badge* of participation will be sent to learners via cell phones.

ROUND 2

- First round learners will be selected on merit to take part in round two.

- Learners are to ensure that they are supervised in round two at their respective schools.

- Twenty syllabus-aligned multiple choice questions at a higher level.

- A **TouchTutor™ MathSci Comp** test window will again be active for a pre-determined period on 10 September.

- Learners will again have one chance to complete the test/s.

- E-badges to be sent to learners via cell phone.

ROUND 3

- Top second round learners per grade from the ECP will be selected to take part in a third and final round.

- The twenty multiple-choice questions will be at provincial Olympiad level.

- The round 3 **TouchTutor™ MathSci Comp** test window will be active on 1 **October 2014**.

- Learners will complete the test on their cell phones under supervision at a central venue.

- Each of the final round learners will receive a special certificate for each test.

- Top achievers will receive prizes for excellent performance.

PRACTICE SESSION

A practice period will be open for learners to familiarise themselves with the multiple-choice Mxit tests from end June - 20 July 2014.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

To access additional, curriculum-aligned self tests and feedback for maths and science, add TouchTutor^{TM} MathSci Support application to your contacts and access valuable syllabus support for independent learning.

HOW TO REGISTER

- Download Mxit
- Add TouchTutor^{TM} MathSci Comp app to your contacts
- Register per instructions

CONTACT

competition queries:
mathmxit@gmail.com

technical support queries:
support@mxit.com