

# RYDE EISTEDDFOD 2021 SPEECH SET WORKS

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Section 528 A -VERSE SPEAKING TEST PIECE 6/U

# WHISTLING .....Gordon Winch

---

Oh, I can laugh and I can sing,  
And I can scream and shout.  
But when I try to whistle  
The whistle won't come out.

I shape my lips the proper way,  
I make them small and round.  
But when I blow, just air comes out,  
There is no whistling sound.

But I'll keep trying very hard  
To whistle loud and clear,  
And someday soon I'll whistle tunes  
For everyone to hear.



Section 528B -VERSE SPEAKING TEST PIECE 7YRS

*THE TEACHER TOOK MY TENNIS BALL*

..... *Libby Hathorn*

---

The teacher took my tennis ball,  
She took it for the day.  
Just because it broke some glass  
She said I couldn't play.

I'd like to try the same with her  
When I think she goes too far.  
"Miss Jones" I'd like to say to her,  
"I'm going to take your car"

"No, Miss Jones I am sorry  
you are not allowed to borrow,

But if you're really good  
You'll get it back tomorrow...

Maybe...

Section 528C -VERSE SPEAKING TEST PIECE 8 YRS

# MY DOG ..... Emily Lewis

---

Have you seen a little dog,  
Anywhere about?  
A raggy dog, a shaggy dog  
who is always looking out  
for some fresh mischief  
which he thinks he ought to do,  
He's very likely, at this minute,  
biting someone's shoe.

If you see that little dog,  
his tail up in the air,  
A whirly tail a curly tail,  
a dog who does not care  
For any other dog he meets,  
not even for himself,  
Then hide your mats  
and put your meat upon the shelf.

If you see that little dog,  
barking at the cars,  
A raggy dog, a shaggy dog,  
with eyes like twinkling stars,  
Just let me know  
for though he's bad as bad can be,  
I wouldn't change that dog  
for all the treasures of the sea!

Section 528D -VERSE SPEAKING TEST PIECE 9 YRS

*MY HAND WAS IN THE COOKIE JAR .....*

*..... Dave Crawley*

---

My hand was in the cookie jar  
When Grandma wandered in.  
I knew she'd caught me in the act.  
There was no way I'd win.

"It's not my fault!" I blurted out.  
"There's nothing I could do.  
I heard the cookies calling me  
As cookies often do."

"Oatmeal raisins sang to me.  
The nut bars did the same.  
And chocolate chips may not have lips  
But still they called my name.

"Just take a bite. It's quite all right.  
Just try us, pretty please!  
They pleaded with me, kneeling  
On their little cookie knees!"

But Grandma wasn't angry.  
No, she wasn't mad at all.  
"Kids are not the only ones  
To hear the cookies' call."

Carefully, she took the jar  
And placed it on the shelf.  
"The jar is empty," Grandma said.  
"I ate the last myself!"



Section 528E -VERSE SPEAKING TEST PIECE 10 YRS

# THE CROCODILE ..... Roald Dahl

---

"No animal is half as vile  
As Crocky—Wock, the crocodile.  
On Saturdays he likes to crunch  
Six juicy children for his lunch  
And he especially enjoys  
Just three of each, three girls, three boys.  
He smears the boys (to make them hot)  
With mustard from the mustard pot.  
But mustard doesn't go with girls,  
It tastes all wrong with plaits and curls.  
With them, what goes extremely well  
Is butterscotch and caramel.  
It's such a super marvelous treat  
When boys are hot and girls are sweet.  
At least that's Crocky's point of view  
He ought to know. He's had a few.  
That's all for now. It's time for bed.  
Lie down and rest your sleepy head.  
Ssh. Listen. What is that I hear,  
Galumphing softly up the stair?

Go lock the door and fetch my gun!  
Go on child, hurry! Quickly run!  
No stop! Stand back! He's coming in!  
Oh, look, that greasy greenish skin!  
The shining teeth, the greedy smile!  
It's Crocky—Wock, the Crocodile!"

## Section 528F -VERSE SPEAKING TEST PIECE 11 YRS

# THE BIG GREAT DANE ..... Marco Gliori

---

While on the way to school one day  
We had to go a special way,  
And, as we walked down Pascoe Lane  
We passed a dog - A BIG GREAT DANE.

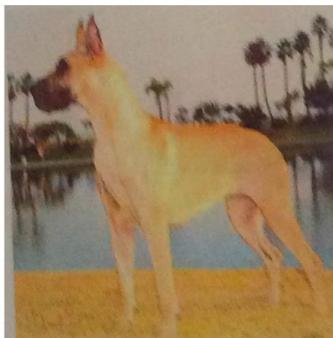
His eyes were black! His head was square!  
Stood four foot tall with bristled hair!  
His ears were pricked! His teeth were white!  
My brother then ran off in fright!

All my friends ran after him!  
'SCAREDY CATS," I calmly grinned,  
'RUN AWAY! YOU'VE GOT NO SENSE!  
THE STUPID DOG'S BEHIND THE FENCE!'

I teased him, and I screw my nose,  
Stuck out my tongue and held that pose,  
Then I saw it with my eye -  
The gate was open! MY, OH MY!

I ran so fast I made no sound  
Because my feet were off the ground!  
I grabbed my brother, kept my cool,  
Then ran like heck towards the school!

GROWLING, HOWLING, JUST BEHIND!  
That Big Great Dane had lost his mind!  
"HOOLEY DOOLEY! OUT THE WAY!"  
We'd be the first at school today!



Section 528G -VERSE SPEAKING TEST PIECE 12 YRS

# THE ROCK POOL ROCK .....

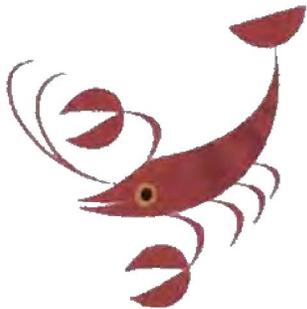
..... Patricia Leighton

---

There's a riot in the rock pool,  
The crabs are linking claws,  
Throwing up their legs and dancing  
Can-cans with the prawns.  
An ancient purple lobster  
Is deejaying the affair  
But no-one takes much notice  
- It's as if he isn't there!

The tentacled anemones  
Are swinging to the beat  
Of all the little winkles  
Stamping all their little feet;  
The cockle shells and limpets  
Pull apart and then collide,  
And a row of flirty seaworms  
*Does the slinky 'Rock Pool Glide'.*

The mussel boys are posing  
In tuxedos, shiny blue,  
A snazzy razor shell pops up  
And yells, "Hi, lads, what's new?"  
Yeh , it's rocking in the rock pool,  
It's a swinging seashore jam.  
Hey, don't take off your shoes  
And put your toes in —  
Cool it, man!



Section 510A -JUNIOR ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP 14 & Under

*DRIFTERS..... Bruce Dawe*

---

One day soon he'll tell her it's time to start packing,  
And the kids will yell "Truly?" and get wildly excited for no reason,  
And the brown kelpie pup will start dashing about,  
    tripping everyone up,  
And she'll go out to the vegetable-patch and pick  
    all the green tomatoes from the vines,  
And notice how the oldest girl is close to tears  
    because she was happy here,  
And how the youngest girl is beaming because she  
    wasn't.  
And the first thing she'll put on the trailer will be  
    the bottling set she never unpacked from  
    Grovedale,  
And when the loaded ute bumps down the drive  
    past the blackberry-canes with their last  
    shrivelled fruit,  
She won't even ask why they're leaving this time,  
    or where they're heading for  
--she'll only remember how, when they came  
    here,  
she held out her hands bright with berries,  
the first of the season, and said.  
'Make a wish, Tom, make a wish.'

Section 510B -SENIOR ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP 15 yrs & over

## THE BROOK ..... Alfred Lord Tennyson

---

I come from haunts of coot and hern

I make a sudden sally  
And sparkle out among the fern,  
To bicker down a valley.

By thirty hills I hurry down,  
Or slip between the ridges,  
By twenty thorpes, a little town,  
And half a hundred bridges.

Till last by Philip's farm I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on for ever

I chatter over stony ways,  
In little sharps and trebles,  
I bubble into eddying bays,  
I babble on the pebbles.

With many a curve my banks I fret  
By many a field and fallow,  
And many a fairy foreland set  
With willow-weed and mallow.

I chatter, chatter, as I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on for ever.

I wind about, and in and out,  
With here a blossom sailing,  
And here and there a lusty trout,  
And here and there a grayling,

And here and there a foamy flake  
Upon me, as I travel  
With many a silvery waterbreak  
Above the golden gravel.

And draw them all along, and flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on for ever.

steal by lawn', and grassy plots,  
I slide by hazel covers;  
have the sweet forget-me nots  
That grow for happy lovers.

slip, I slide, I gloom, I glance,  
Among my skimming swallows;  
make the netted sunbeam dance  
Against my sandy shallows.

murmur under moon and stars,  
In brambly wildernesses;  
linger by my shingly bars;  
I loiter round my cresses

And out again I curve and flow  
to join the brimming river,  
For men may mine and men may go,  
But I go on for ever

Section 529A ... Restricted Verse Speaking Test Piece 8/u

CONCERT NIGHT .....

..... Katherine Blowen

---

It's all so exciting, I just can't wait!  
Our Drama Concert starts at eight!  
Everyone's ready, the house lights are low —  
The curtain's opening; it's "On with the Show!"

It's my turn now, time to go on.  
My heart's thumping! My MEMORY'S GONE!  
My legs are shaking, it's scary out there,  
The stage is so big —will everyone stare?

The spotlights are glaring, the footlights are bright:  
Now I know what they mean by STAGE FRIGHT!  
I'll take a deep breath before I start...  
Ahhhh! That's better... I've remembered my part!

I'm on the stage...  
    I know every line...  
        Wow! This is great!  
            I feel  
                FINE!

## Section 529B ... Restricted Verse Speaking Test Piece 9-10 Yrs

# DAD MEETS THE MARTIANS ..... Stephen Whiteside

---

A flying saucer came last night  
It landed in the drive.  
I warned the crew, "My dad parks there,  
He'll eat you all alive!"

Dad pulled up bad tempered  
But his frown became a smile  
When he saw the flying saucer.  
And he said, "I like their style."

He then addressed the martians,  
"Will you take me for a spin?"  
They replied, "It's new. Imported  
Straight from Venus. Come on in!"

They flew 'round earth a dozen times,  
And visited a star.  
Then they asked my dad if he  
Would drive them in his car.

I simply can't explain it.  
I'd have thought that they'd be bored  
But Dad now drives a saucer  
The Martians drive a Ford.



Section 529C ... Restricted Verse Speaking Test Piece 11-12 yrs

*THE CROCODILE ..... Dulcie Meddows*

---

*Take care. Watch out!  
There are crocodiles about.  
I can see one over there!  
Don't be fooled by that docile sleepy eye,  
it's up to its old tricks lying there among the sticks  
like a log resting on the boggy banks along the river.  
Can you see that toothy smile?  
It's so big it fairly makes me shiver.*

*The crocodile is sly.  
If there's nothing on its dinner plate  
it lies in wait until a meal comes passing by.  
It's a hostile reptile who doesn't mind in the least  
if you are skin and bone -it'll have you for its own  
quick as a flash! A rush, a roar and from the shore  
this crocodile will dash, and opening its jaws... SNAP!  
It'll trap you, pull you down, roll you over  
and then those teeth will really go to town!  
It's true! What this crocodile can do  
I'm telling you, is no good for your health!*

*My goodness, I think I've scared myself?*



Section 501A -VERSE SPEAKING JUNIOR (Infants)

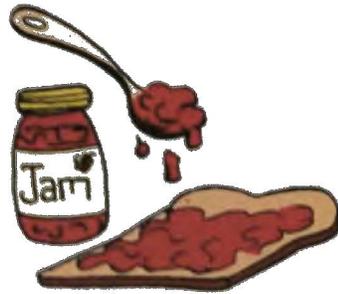
MAGIC WORD ..... Martin Gardner

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"More jam," said Rosie to her Mum.  
"I want more jam," said she.  
But no one heard  
The Magic Word.  
Mum took a sip of tea.

"The jam! The jam! The jam!" she cried.  
Her voice rang loud and clear.  
"I'd like to spread it on my bread."  
But no one seemed to hear.

"Please pass the jam," Rose said at last.  
Now that's the thing to say.  
When mother heard  
The Magic Word  
She passed it right away.



Section 501B -VERSE SPEAKING CHOIRS -PRIMARY

**THE CLOCK-MAKER'S SHOP .....**

..... **Katherine Blowen**

---

*Tick-tock! Tick-tock!*

*Listen to the clocks in the clock-makers shop.*

*Clocks with faces round and bright*

*Illuminated hands show the time at night.*

*Tick-tock! Tick-tock!*

*Listen to the clocks in the clock-maker's shop.*

*Grandfather clock has pride of place,*

*He has such a fat jolly face!*

*Grandfather clock is big and strong,*

*He strikes on the hour - Dong! Dong! Dong!*

*Tick-tock! Tick-tock!*

*Listen to the clocks in the clock-maker's shop.*

*Tiny watches, tick-tick-tick,*

*Telling the time, quick be quick!*

*Tick-tick! Tick-tick-tick!*

*Clocks on the wall, look at them do,*

*Hear them all say -Cuckoo! Cuckoo!*

*Pendulums swing as hands go round,*

*The clock-maker works to the syncopated sound.*

*Tick-tick-tick!*

*Tick-tock! Tick-tock!*

*Dong! Dong! Dong!*

*Clocks! Clocks! CLOCKS!*

*Cuckoo! Cuckoo! Cuckoo!*

*Tick-tock! Tick-tock! Tick-tock*

## Section 501C/D -VERSE SPEAKING CHOIRS -SECONDARY/MIXED

# THE STORM ..... Walter de la Mare

---

First there were two of us, then there were three of us,  
Then there was one bird more,  
Four of us--wild white sea-birds,  
Treading the ocean floor;  
And the wind rose, and the sea rose,  
To the angry billows' roar -  
With one of us -two of us -three of us -four of us  
Sea-birds on the shore.

Soon there were five of us, soon there were nine of us,  
And lo! in a trice sixteen!  
And the yeasty surf curdled over the sands,  
The gaunt grey rocks between;  
And the tempest raved, and the lightning's fire  
Struck blue on the spindrift hoar--  
And on four of us - ay, and on four times four of us  
Sea-birds on the shore.

And our sixteen waxed to thirty-two,  
And they to past three score -  
A wild, white welter of winnowing wings,  
And ever more and more;  
And the winds lulled, and the sea went down,  
And the sun streamed out on high,  
Gilding the pools and the spume and the spars  
'Neath the vast blue deeps of the sky;

And the isles and the bright green headlands shone,  
As they'd never shone before,  
Mountains and valleys of silver cloud,  
Wherein to swing, sweep, soar -  
A host of screeching, scolding, scrabbling  
Sea-birds on the shore -  
A snowy, silent, sun-washed drift  
Of sea-birds on the shore.

**SECTION 522 - PREPARED READINGS:**

**522A - 8/U**

The Lion King GINA INGOGLIA	OR	The Fairy's Wings GILLIAN RUBINSTEIN
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**522B - 10/U**

Matilda ROALD DAHL	OR	The 13-Storey Treehouse ANDY GRIFFITH
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**522C - 12/U**

<i>The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe</i> C.S.LEWIS	OR	<i>Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief</i> RICK RIORDAN
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**522D - 14/U**

<i>Jessica</i> BRYCE COURTENAY	OR	<i>The Coming of the Iron Man</i> TED HUGHES
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**522E - 15/O**

<i>Looking for Alibrandi</i> MELINA MARCHETTA	OR	<i>Lord of the Flies</i> WILLIAM GOLDING
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