



Quiz Bowl 2024 Rules

Quiz Bowl questions will include a mixture of science, math, history, general knowledge, and trivia questions. Approximately 20% of questions at both the preliminary and finals levels will be about African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian and Indigenous scientists and engineers. Study guides to learn about these famous innovators will be posted online at www.pacific-mesa.edu.

Preliminary Online Competition

The preliminaries for the Quiz Bowl competition will be held via Quizizz.com.

All Quiz Bowl related information will be posted on the Quiz Bowl page on the pacific-mesa.com website. Students will be able to navigate to this page via the website homepage (look for the Quiz Bowl button).

Links to the preliminary competitions will be shared with MESA advisors and there will be a separate game for the Middle School competition and the High School competition. For ease of scoring, each school will have their own, separate link to the quiz, but the questions will be the same. **All students from the same school must take the quiz at the same time.** Your MESA advisor or liaison will proctor your school's game by sharing the entry code and link with you at the same time. Students are welcome to take the preliminary quiz at a later time from the rest of their school, but their points will not be counted towards the final score.

Before starting the quiz, you will be asked to enter/confirm your name. Please write your name as follows: **First Name Last Name Grade** (i.e. Elana Peach-Fine 12th).

Preliminaries will take place the week of October 21st-25th. Students will only be allowed to attempt the quiz **once**. If they try to do the quiz again, they will be disqualified.

Quizizz scores players based on whether they got the correct answer **and** how fast the answer was given – they will get more points for answering faster (600 points for a correct answer, an additional 0-400 points based on how fast you answer, 0 points for an incorrect answer).

Placement in the semi-finals will be based solely on points. Once the quiz is closed at the end of the week, we will determine the schools and students that will be going on to Quiz Bowl Finals.

Points

Points will be calculated by first averaging the highest four scores from each group. Next, up to an additional 10% bonus can be earned through the participation of the group's next top 10 players. The bonus percentage will be determined by multiplying the entire game's highest score by 10 and then dividing the cumulative score of the next 10 players by that number and multiplying by 10 to get the bonus percentage.



Total Score for Group = (Sum of top 4 scores/4) + (Average top 4 scores*Bonus Percentage)
 Bonus Percentage = (Cumulative score of next highest 10 scores/(whole game top score*10))*10

Example:

Sample set (We will be calculating the Total Score for XYZ School)

XYZ School	
Player	Score
1	90,000
2	70,000
3	60,000
4	80,000
5	55,000
6	55,000
7	55,000
8	55,000
9	55,000
10	55,000
11	55,000
12	55,000
13	55,000
14	55,000
15	20,000
16	30,000
17	25,000

Top 4 Players of Group
 Total Score = 300,000
 Average Score = $300,000/4$
 = 75,000

Next Top 10 Scoring Players of Group
 Cumulative Score = 550,000

ABC School	
Player	Score
1	100,000
2	20,000
3	30,000
4	35,000
5	20,000
6	25,000
7	18,000
8	10,000
9	11,000
10	20,000
11	19,000
12	20,000
13	9,000
14	11,000
15	1,000
16	2,000
17	3,000

Top scoring individual of entire game

Whole game top score * 10
 = 100,000 * 10
 = 1,000,000

$$\text{Bonus Percentage} = \left(\frac{\text{Cumulative score of next 10 highest scores}}{550,000} \div \frac{\text{Top score of entire game multiplied by 10}}{1,000,000} \right) * \frac{\text{Conversion to percentage multiplier}}{10} = 5.5\%$$

$$\text{Total Score for XYZ School} = \frac{\text{Average score of top 4 players}}{75,000} + \left(\frac{\text{Average score of top 4 players}}{75,000} * \frac{\text{Bonus percentage}}{.055} \right) = 79,125$$



Please note that if you have less than 10 additional players the cumulative score will just be the remainder of additional players beyond the top 4 scores. This means that if a team has less than 14 players total they will not be able to maximize their cumulative bonus score percent.

Advancement to finals:

The highest scoring **four schools** will move on to the semi-finals. The highest scoring **four students** in each winning school group will be chosen to represent the school for semi-finals. These schools and students will be announced on Monday, October 28th via the pacific-mesa.com website and Instagram. We will also notify MESA advisors. The fifth place student from the advancing schools should also plan on attending semi-finals and finals as an alternate.

Semi-Finals and Finals In-Person Competition

Logistics

Quiz Bowl semi-finals will take place in person on Thursday, November 7th at University of the Pacific in the Alumni House. Middle school finals will be from 4:00pm-5:15 pm and High School Finals will be from 5:30-6:45 pm. These times are subject to change depending on what time the finalist schools get out of class. Each finalist is welcome to bring a parent or guardian to watch them play.

Team numbers will be randomly assigned to compete against each other for the semi-finals and each team will play 2 semifinal matches. The two teams with the greatest number of points will go on to the final round. The third place team will be determined by points earned in the semifinals Please see the table below for reference.

Match Number	Teams
Semifinal 1	Team 1 vs Team 2
Semifinal 2	Team 3 vs Team 4
Semifinal 3	Team 1 vs Team 4
Semifinal 4	Team 2 vs Team 3
Finals	Two teams with highest number of points

Quiz Bowl trophy and medals will be awarded directly following the matches.

Points

Each semifinal match will consist of two rounds. The first round will be the “Traditional Round”, which is five minutes in length. During this round, the teams will be presented with questions. To answer the question, the team must activate their buzzing mechanism. Once the buzzer is activated, the Emcee stops reading the question and the team who buzzed in first will be given three seconds to provide an answer. If the buzzing team fails to provide an answer after three seconds, that team will be deducted a point. The question will be repeated in order to give the other team a chance to answer. If the other team does not answer in five seconds, the question



will be discarded. If the other team cannot answer, the question will be discarded five seconds after the second reading.

The Emcee presenting the question may discard a question if he/she deems the question unfit or inappropriate.

Each correct answer to a question in the "Traditional Round" is worth one point. Each incorrect answer will lead to the deduction of one point. If no team has activated their buzzing mechanism during the allotted time, a point will neither be rewarded nor deducted. It is at the discretion of the Emcee to award a point, deduct a point, or discard the question. If a team challenges the listed correct response the Emcee may consult his/her panel of assistant judges.

After the "Traditional Round" is the "Lightning Round". The "Lightning Round" is two minutes in length. During this round, only questions in multiple choice or "true or false" questions will be presented. The process to answer questions will be the same as in the Traditional Round with one adjustment: if a team provides an incorrect answer, the question will be discarded, even if the Emcee has not finished reading the question. Correct answers in the Lightning Round are worth one point. Incorrect answers will lead to the deduction of a point. If no answer is provided, a point will neither be rewarded nor deducted.

The points after each match will be tallied and announced. If there is any disagreement about points from advisors or student participants these must be addressed before the next match begins.