

# English-AHS-CONTEST 2023

WIFI Dornbirn  
Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 08:30 – 12:30



## Format

### 1. Conditions of Participation

See application form ("Teilnahmebedingungen").

### 2. Procedure

#### Round 1: PANEL DISCUSSION

- **Preparation time** (15 minutes): Candidates are provided with the discussion topics. In addition, each candidate receives a particular question he /she is supposed to refer to in a one-minute opening statement at the beginning of the panel discussion.
- **Panel discussion** (10 – 15 minutes): Each group consists of 3 - 4 candidates. The discussion is introduced with a short **opening statement** by each candidate (see above) and is moderated by a native speaker.
- The **8 best candidates** move on to round 2.

#### Round 2: SELF-PRESENTATION and SPEECH

- **Preparation time** (10 minutes): For their speech the candidates are offered two topics they can choose from. Together with their topics, they are also given bullet points, which they are supposed to cover in their speeches.
- Round 2 starts with short **self-presentations** (about 1 minute long), in which the candidates talk about the meaning of languages in their lives. After this, they continue with their **speeches** (about 3 minutes).
- The **3 best candidates** move on to the final round.

#### Round 3: ROLE-PLAY

- **Preparation time** (10 minutes)
- **Role-Play** (5 minutes): The remaining three candidates individually take part in a role-play with a native speaker.

### 3. Assessment Criteria

**Contents:**

Variety of ideas and arguments, knowledge of subject, relevance, persuasiveness, coherence, awareness of audience, coverage of bullet points (speech)

**Fluency and interaction:**

social competence, interacting, reacting, taking initiative, identifying with a certain role

**Spectrum of spoken language:**

register, range of vocabulary and constructions, idiomatic expressions

**Accuracy:**

vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, intonation

These criteria are based on the “Analytischer Beobachtungsbogen – B2”.

### 4. Topics

Examples of last year’s topics are attached below (“Topics Contest 2022”).

### 5. Our Team

Moderator: Bronwyn Konrad

Jury: not decided yet

Organizer: Mag. Susanne Dalpra  
[susanne.dalpra@gys.at](mailto:susanne.dalpra@gys.at)

## TOPICS AHS-E-CONTEST 2022:

### Round 1: PANEL DISCUSSION

## Legalizing cannabis

*Input:* [Malta becomes first EU nation to legalise cannabis - BBC News](#)

As you have just seen, Malta has done it already and Germany is on the brink of legalizing it: Cannabis. What's your opinion on this topic? Is Cannabis a harmless substance, not more dangerous than alcohol or tobacco, or is it a gateway drug which can have long-term damaging effects particularly on the young?

Discuss the effects of legalizing cannabis on

- individuals
- society in general
- the economy.

Speculate on why there are so many people either against or in favour of the usage of recreational cannabis.

Debate whether it should also be legalized in Austria, as according to statistics about a fifth of the 15- to 24-year-old ones are using cannabis regularly.

### Opening statements

At the beginning of the panel discussion, you have to state your personal opinion on cannabis and its legalisation (1-2 sentences).

### Info about the procedure in the panel discussion:

All candidates first give their opening statements and then start a discussion on the questions above.

## Round 2: SPEECH

Prepare a short self-presentation (about 1 minute long), in which you talk about **the role of languages in your life**.

After this, continue with your speech (3 - 4 minutes).

For your speech choose **one** of the following topics below.

You may, of course, also add your own ideas in your speech, but you need to cover the following points:

### Topic 1

Mobile phones - a gift or a curse?

- what can mobile phones be used for
- pros and cons in comparison to other ways of communication
- the necessity of being available 24/7
- dangers of mobile phones?
- personal attitudes towards mobile phones

### Topic 2

Sports - recreation or danger?

- positive sides of sports
- negative aspects
- the craziness of extreme sports
- are eSports sport?
- personal attitude towards sports

## Round 3: ROLEPLAY

You have 10 minutes to prepare yourself for a five-minute-roleplay with our moderator.

### **Studying abroad**

It has always been your dream to study English in Oxford one day. You have already passed the first three stages of the admission progress, which were sending in the application form, passing the admission tests and submitting the required essays.

The next step is the interview for which you have travelled to Oxford and are now waiting for in the secretary's office. The secretary is a rather formidable person who seems not to be very easily charmed and is not very talkative.

First you are very nervous and are babbling about your dream of studying at Oxford University. However, she is not very impressed. Then you try your best to get some information out of her, because you would like her to give you a heads-up on the interviewer, what the interview will be about and what you might expect behind that big door at the other end of the room.

Still, she is not very helpful but then you find a topic she is really interested in: you see some tickets for a flight to Austria as well as some travel brochures on her desk. Will you be able to get some information about the interview in exchange for some travel advice for Austria?