

‘Chinese Bridge’ UK Regional Final Competition 2023 - Preliminary Round now open!

Current students of the University of Glasgow who would like to participate are welcomed to register their interest by contacting confucius-enquiries@glasgow.ac.uk for further details by the deadline of **Friday the 5th April 2023 at 12:00pm midday**. Candidates will receive free training to prepare them for this competition from the Confucius Institute at the University of Glasgow.

Introduction:

The Confucius Institute at the University of Glasgow are pleased to announce that the preliminary round for the ‘Chinese Bridge’ UK Regional Final Competition 2023 is now open.

The ‘Chinese Bridge’ Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign University/College Students is a large-scale international contest organised by Centre for Language Education and Cooperation of the Chinese Ministry of Education. Since its launch in 2002, this annual event has attracted more than 800,000 students from over 126 countries to participate, of which more than 4,200 have been invited to China to attend the semi-finals and finals. The ‘Chinese Bridge’ has become an important platform for international students to learn more about the Chinese language and culture. It is also a bridge of understanding that links China to young people worldwide.

The ‘Chinese Bridge’ competition tests the contestants of their Chinese language proficiency, knowledge of China, Chinese cultural skills and comprehensive abilities in the format of Mandarin speeches, quizzes, Chinese cultural artistic performances and video submissions.

Following the successful hybrid format of the 2022 UK competition where the contestants competed live in person in London and audience members watched the competition online, the 2023 UK competition will adopt the same format. The semi-finals and finals are due to take place on Saturday the 24th June 2023 and have been organised by the Centre for Language Education and Cooperation UK Office. All are invited to join the competition on the day in different ways to enjoy the spectacular and exciting presentations by the UK contestants.

Eligibility:

Applicants must be:

- Students registered at a UK University
- 18 – 30 years old
- Non-Chinese nationals
- Those who have not grown up in China, and do not have parents/guardians who are native Chinese speakers

Finalists who entered the global finals in the previous 2022 session are not eligible to apply.

Preliminary Round:

The preliminary rounds for the 2023 competition are now open, and we encourage current students of the University of Glasgow who would like to participate to register their interest by contacting confucius-enquiries@glasgow.ac.uk by deadline **Friday the 5th April 2023 at 12:00pm midday**.

If successful, we can then help you to prepare for the competition by supporting you to:

- Complete the 'Registration Form for Participation in the Semi-finals' application online for submission no later than **Friday the 5th May 2023**
- Submit 2 x essays to be presented orally no more than three minutes long on the topic of Chinese Learning for submission no later than **Friday the 26th May 2023**
- Submit a short video no more than two minutes long on topic of Chinese language and culture (which will be used as scoring content in semi-finals/finals) for submission no later than **Friday the 26th May 2023**

Semi-Final Round:

The semi-final round will take place **Saturday the 24th June 2023** in the morning session, and will consist of four parts:

1. Three-minute introductory speech in Chinese
2. Two-minute Q&A with 6 questions on Chinese cultural and language knowledge
3. Three-minute talent presentation, which may include Chinese songs, music, dance, folk art, acrobatics, calligraphy, painting, paper cutting, martial arts, etc
4. Presentation of the short self-made video submitted in the preliminary round

The semi-finals will be divided into professional player and non-professional player categories, however the format above will be the same for both categories. Professional players are those currently studying Chinese language at undergraduate/postgraduate or those who have lived/studied in China for more than one year.

Final Round:

The final round will take place on **Saturday the 24th June 2023** in the afternoon session, and will consist of a final Q&A with the judging panel. Two questions will be asked by two judges, with 1 minute provided to answer each question.

Awards & Prizes:

For the finalists, the prizes are as follows:

Grand Prize	£400
1 st Prize	£300
2 nd Prize	£200
3 rd Prize	£100

The winners of the final round Grand Prize and First Prize will represent the British division to participate in the competition in China in July-August 2023.

In addition to the Grand, First, Second and Third Prizes, individual awards of £100 for Best Performance, Most Eloquent, Most Creative and Most Knowledgeable will be awarded to contestants across the semi-final and final rounds.

Semi-finalists who did not progress to the final round or receive an award will receive a semi-final participation certificate.

Additional Information:

During the last 21 years, 21 preliminary competitions have been held in the UK and the prominent winners of the UK competitions have been invited to compete at the worldwide semi-final and final competitions in China, each with the chance of winning a scholarship to further their studies of Chinese in China. Apart from the competition itself, this annual event also brings unforgettable experiences to the participants. They gain friendship, broaden horizons, and share the joy and achievements of Chinese learning.

From 2010 to 2022, more than 50 UK contestants have entered the semi-final and final competitions in China and achieved excellent results. Some of them have also been received and praised by the Chinese state leaders including President XI Jinping, former Premier LI Keqiang and WEN Jiabao for their excellent Chinese language proficiencies and understanding of China. All the contestants have greatly inspired young Chinese learners in the UK.

Contact Us:

For more information on the competition, or to register your interest for the preliminary round, please contact the University of Glasgow Confucius Institute team.

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