



Odyssey of the Mind[®]

2017 REGIONAL SPONTANEOUS TOURNAMENT

Verbal Spontaneous Problem: The Sky is the Limit

- A. *When the team members enter the room, tell them, “This is a verbal problem. The five team members who will compete please step over to the competition area (indicate area). The others must sit quietly in these seats (indicate seats) and watch or leave the room. They cannot participate in any way.”*
- B. **JUDGE READS TO TEAMS:** (Do not read material in parentheses.)
- (1) You have 1 minute to think and 5 minutes to respond. You may ask the judges questions; however, time will continue. **You are not allowed to talk to each other at any time.**
 - (2) You will receive 1 point for each common response and 5 points for each creative response.
 - (3) Each of you has 7 cards. **You will take turns in order. When it is your turn you will roll a die, give a response, then place one of your cards in the container (point to container).**
 - (4) Speak loudly and clearly. Once time begins, it will not be stopped.
 - (5) You should not repeat a response that has already been given, and you are not allowed to skip your turn. If one member of the team is stuck, the team is stuck.
 - (6) You will be finished when response time ends or when you have used all of your cards.
 - (7) **There are pictures with numbers on the table (point). Your problem is to roll the die and say something about the picture with the number that matches the die. If you roll a six it is a “Free Choice” and you can say something about any picture.** For example, you might roll a one, respond to the first picture (point) by saying, “I’ve never seen a green sky before.”

(After reading the entire problem to the team, say, “I repeat” and read the items in boldface. When you finish reading #7 say, “Team Begin Think Time” and start the timer.)

1. Judges should discuss and practice solving the problem before the first team competes. Make any necessary decisions and or notes. All decisions must be applied uniformly to all teams.
2. Practice reading the problem out loud before the first team competes. When reading to the teams, illustrate the problem by indicating items and portraying actions.
3. Place two copies of the Team's Copy of the problem and color copies of the pictures in full view of all team members before you read the problem to them. They may use the copies for reference during the competition. Place a die on the table to use for responding to a picture.
4. Give each team member a set of seven unnumbered cards. Each set should be different from the others, such as different colors, or marked with different shapes, etc. Make sure team members surrender a card after each response.
5. Place a container within reach of all team members. Make sure it has an opening large enough and that it can hold all 35 cards.
6. If there are fewer than five team members competing, record the number of team members on the scoresheet. For each successful round of responses the unassigned card will be worth 1 point. For example: There are 4 team members; one set is unassigned; the team gives all of its response in 5 rounds. The unused set of cards will be worth 5 points (1 point per round). If time ends before all team members respond the team will receive 1 point for each round completed by ALL team members for the unassigned set.
7. Be sure to give exactly 1 minute to think and 5 minutes to respond. Timing is critical. Team members responding as time ends may finish and be scored.
8. Score: 1 point for each common response, 5 points for each creative response.

9. **Examples of Common Responses:**

Basic descriptions of the picture/basic comments: "It's very green"; "I don't like purple"; "There's a lot of circles"; "Who lives there?"; "There's a rainbow"; "It's blue"; "There are a lot of trees"; "I want to visit that place"; "Who took that picture?"

10. **Examples of Creative Responses:**

Unusual/funny responses involving the picture: "Someone up above dropped a lot of green paint!"; "The artist was supposed to color the trees green, not the clouds!" "I think this is a different planet, where skies are green and trees are blue"; "Who needs fireworks when you can just look at the sky"; "It's the jolly green giant's dream cloud"; "The volcano is exploding marshmallow instead of lava"; "Someone is sending smoke signals from inside that mountain"; "It looks like nature's ice cream sundae"; "The mountain is wearing a funny looking hat"; "That house is getting sucked down the drain!"; "I think whoever took that picture is very dizzy"; "Those shooting stars are going in weird directions"; "Watch out, that boat might hit the moon"; "Does a purple sky mean a storm is coming?" "It's a grape-flavored sky"; "My sister would like purple sky"; "Is the boat riding into the moon-set?"; "Is there a song called somewhere under the rainbow?" "Maybe there's gold under that rainbow instead of the end"; "Someone put a great decoration in the sky for that house"; "Maybe someone in that house had a great idea."

#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



Team's Copy

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