

2020 Spelling Bee Rules

1. Before the bee begins, contestants will choose a number through a lottery which will determine the order of spellers.
2. The speller may pronounce the word before spelling, after spelling or not at all.
3. The speller has one minute to complete spelling the word.
4. Once started spelling the word, the speller may repeat the letters already said, but may not change any letter or order of letters.
5. The speller should face the judges and speak clearly.
6. The speller may ask for the word to be repeated and/or for a definition of the word.
7. No proper nouns will be included. Capitalization will not be considered.
8. Upon misspelling a word, the speller leaves the contest.
9. When the spellers are reduced to two, some rules change. When one of the two remaining spellers misspells a word, the same word is given to the other speller. If the second speller misspells the same word, the bee will continue with the next word on the list. If the second speller correctly spells that word, he/she is given the next word on the list. If he/she correctly spells the next word, he/she shall be declared the champion. If both spellers misspell the same word, both shall remain in the bee.
10. Any questions are to be referred to the judges and their decision is final.