

Salvete Omnes!

Yesterday all three of our teams competed in the Semi-Finals. Here are the results.

ADVANCED

(2) Massachusetts vs. (5) Washington D.C. vs. (8) Georgia

Once again we squared off with D.C. in Semi-Finals, with an up and coming Georgia team joining the mix. After the first question went unanswered, Lena was able to get her D.C. team on the board first when she scored a question about the author Fronto's letters. Dante quickly responded on a culture question about "amurca", which was able to get our team rolling. We then went on to score ten of the next twelve questions and punched our ticket to finals. Both Georgia and D.C. showed true resolve, and played the round down to the very last question which Jonas was able to grab to finish on a positive note for D.C.

Final Score: Massachusetts (235) vs. Washington D.C. (65) vs. Georgia (15)

Dante led all scorers with 11 tossups, and Danny added a myth question about the Nereid Amphitrite. For D.C. Jonas led the way with 2 grammar questions. Lena added a literature question, and Alazar scored on the history visual question.

INTERMEDIATE

(2) Massachusetts vs. (5) Virginia vs. (8) California

Any time Mass and Virginia match up you can expect a thriller, and California would ensure that was absolutely the case this time around. Despite a prolonged and chaotic opening quarter which saw a series of challenges, all teams got themselves on the board, with California taking the slight edge 30-15-10. Things would pick up during the next five questions, as all three teams continued to jockey for position. At the halfway point the score stood at 45-45-30, with Mass and California tied at the top. As we had seen in earlier rounds, something clicked for James as he took over the game and scored 3 of the next six questions. Though Virginia would slowly inch their way back, James and Kyler were able to overwhelm the competition with the inspired play on language and myth.

Final Score: Massachusetts (130) vs. Virginia (65) vs. California (60)

James' 4 tossups and Kyler's 4 grammar questions led the way for our team.

NOVICE

(3) Massachusetts vs. (4) Texas Purple vs. (9) California Gold

Something about the water in Texas produces amazing history/culture players, and Madeleine would prove that immediately as she got her team on the board, scoring the first question about the schoolteacher called a “grammaticus”. Creighton, deciding it was his turn to join the action, scored the next two grammar questions to give our team an early lead. Enter Madeleine again to stop his run, with a clean buzz on a question about the emperor Aurelian. Then Biya, relying on airport WiFi during a layover, was able to knock down the first myth question about Clytie staring at the sun. To close the first quarter. After taking a 75-35-0 lead early in the second, Texas came roaring back scoring three of the next five questions. However Mass was able to pick up the other two to maintain our lead. The round went back and forth this way until Joanna scored on a derivative question about the word “register”. After this the momentum completely turned in our favor as we opened up a larger lead and rode it to the finish.

Final Score: Massachusetts (215), Texas (115), California Gold (0)

Biya and Creighton led all scorers with 5 tossups each. Joanna added a derivative question for our team. Madeleine’s impressive 4 out of 5 history/culture questions led the way for Texas, and Noel added 3 grammar questions.

FINALS

The teams for Finals on Wednesday are set.

ADVANCED: (1) Virginia vs. (2) Massachusetts vs. (3) Wisconsin

INTERMEDIATE: (1) Texas vs. (2) Massachusetts vs. (4) Florida

NOVICE: (1) Illinois Purple vs. (3) Massachusetts vs. (5) New Hampshire

It is once again nice to see that of the 9 teams, there will be 7 different states represented in the finals. For the first time since 2017 our state has a team in all three Finals rounds. We would like to thank all our Semi-Finals opponents for providing great competition and being great sports. You all truly embody what the JCL spirit is all about. We would also like to wish the best of luck to all competitors in the Finals. No matter what happens we are incredibly proud of our own students’ accomplishments and look forward to seeing how it all unfolds. Stay tuned!

On to Finals!!!

Michael Howard
Massachusetts Advanced Certamen Co-Coach

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