

The Rules

1. The speech writing competition is open to all secondary students aged 14 to 17.
2. All speeches should be typed with the students' name and name of the school at the top of the page and submitted by a teacher on behalf of the student via email to: comms.ireland@actionaid.org or via post to ActionAid Ireland, Ivy Exchange, 172 Granby Place, 1, Parnell St, Dublin.
3. The speech length must be between 850 and 1,000 words, and should take approx. seven minutes to read aloud.
4. References can be submitted as appendices.
5. Due to volume of entries only 10 speeches per teacher can be submitted.
6. Speeches must be unique; plagiarised speeches will be disqualified.
7. Each entrant must sign "a statement of original work" to be submitted with the speech.
8. By submitting a speech the student is giving permission for the speech and the student and school name to be published on the ActionAid website and in third party publications. Only finalist's speeches will be published.
9. Deadline for submission is 20th January 2017.

The Judges Will Be Looking For:

1. Excellent speech writing skills. Entries should be written to be spoken; this is not an essay writing competition.
2. Innovative ideas or viewpoints.
3. Creativity in getting points across, while the topic is serious humour may be used where appropriate.
4. A global outlook on the topic.
5. Case studies, facts and figures to back up ideas.
6. Clear delivery at the final stage, although this is primarily a writing competition.

The Final

- The final will be held in the Royal Irish Academy Dublin in March 2017.
- Eight finalists will be invited to read their speech aloud to a panel of judges.
- The final may be recorded and we may use video and photos for promotional purposes.

Details of Prize

- A visit to see ActionAid's Irish Aid funded programme in Kenya. Accompanied by an ActionAid Ireland staff member.
- Flights, accommodation, transport, insurance and meals included in prize. Spending money in Kenya, vaccines and transport in Ireland not included.
- If a teacher is unable to attend, the student can bring a parent or guardian (must be over 18)
- ActionAid will endeavour to arrange the trip during school holidays (June 2017) but this is not a guarantee.

More information: www.actionaid.ie