Paired Work – Rules and Guidelines

For this competition, two partners from the same school and same level work together to recreate a picture. One partner will do the describing while the other draws what is said for a total time depending on the level (see below). Their view of each others’ work is to be obstructed using a trifold (or other provided materials). Judges circulate the room throughout the duration of the competition to listen for language, keeping the following in mind:

1. Students are to speak German ONLY. Any use of another language is an immediate disqualification. There is no need to tell students, just pull their drawing at the end and put it to the side.
2. Hands are not to be used as a means of communication. This too is an immediate disqualification.
3. Students are not to view each other’s pictures while the competition is ongoing.
4. Grammar and language use is not part of the points given to each partnership, but can, had more variety in vocabulary, etc.).
5. Artistic ability is NOT to be held for or against students.
6. After all the students are seated for the round, the student who is drawing puts both students’ names and the school(s) on the paper provided. (The students do not need to come from the same school.)
7. The judges will review the rules and key words both in German and in English at the start of each round (links-rechts-oben-unten-in der Mitte, etc.). The folders with the pictures are given out, but students must keep them closed until told to start. After starting, the judges set a timer. Judges circulate. A one-minute warning is given.

Materials required: One partition, two pencils, one eraser, one blank sheet of white paper for each pair. Maximum of twelve groups with three judges.

The following rubric can be used as a guide, but alterations to how points are counted can be altered at the judges’ discretion:

* For every correct item = 1 point (i.e. there is a table in the original and student work has a table)
* For every correctly placed item = 1 point (i.e., the table is in the middle of the page in both the original and the student work)
* Where applicable, the correct shape, size, and/or position of items can be awarded another point (i.e. the table is round; or as another example, if an animal or person is in a seated position in the original and that is conveyed in the student work, another point can be awarded).
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The pair with the most points whose drawing matches the original the closest will be awarded 1st place, followed by the 2nd and 3rd place in that level.

The suggested time to be allotted to each level are as follows:

Level 1: 6-7 minutes
Level 2: 7-8 minutes
Level 3+: 8-10 minutes

If judges allow for a time different than the ones suggested, they need to be consistent with every group that has the same picture and/or is the same level.