



2004

DIARY DATES

November

Budapest: 'Singlish Folk' - Hauer - Tuesday 23rd Nov.
Starts at 6 pm – **FREE TO ALL**

December

Budapest: **Chatangoljunk** Friday 3rd Dec.
Final at Millenium Park, Budapest

Teamtalk - Chatangoljunk

The 17 Regional Heats and 7 Regional finals are now complete with only the National Final to go (Budapest – Millenium Park, Friday 3rd December).

Congratulations are due to the three partners, BBC Prime, the Ministry of Education and the British Council for providing the resources and inspiration to enable the competition to go ahead.

New Format ...

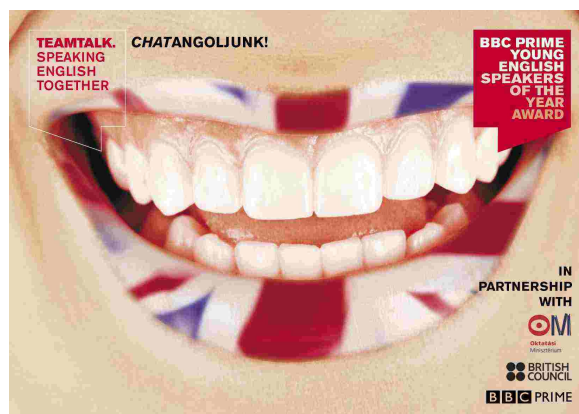
To create a competition with a completely new format was a brave and adventurous thing to attempt. From the comments received from teachers, many of them found it daunting, but the fact that they persisted reflects with great credit on many of the teachers in our schools. Here is a comment from one of the teachers who organised a Regional Heat ...

'First of all I must say that the idea of this competition is really excellent. I am aware of the fact that I must be the 202nd to tell it to you, but this competition is a kind of new phenomenon in the Hungarian English language teaching scene. The Public Speaking competition, which we have not yet participated in, may be the same in terms of atmosphere and organisation, but for our student, my colleagues and me this competition was definitely a new and positive experience. The students did enjoy it (and so did we, teachers). Our students participated only in one national competition called OKTV, which is a rather formal, old-fashioned but long-established 'institution'. This is what made chatangoljunk so refreshing: new organization structure, informal and friendly atmosphere, informative and up-to-date webpage and last but not least witty name (chatangoljunk ☺).

What helped us most from the very beginning was the clearly-set rules and expectations. It was good that the recitation was limited to two minutes. On the other hand made it difficult and challenging for the teachers to find the most suitable texts for our students. The topics for the debate were timely and interesting

requiring comprehensive general knowledge. (I did this part with my students and I enjoyed seeing them struggling with some of the topics, but at the same time the topics made them THINK, which Hungarian students are not always willing to do – at least at our school.) The interview was fun. The teachers could let their imagination fly and make up wild and provoking interview topics ...

... As to the Public Speaking competition we are definitely interested in helping and we would like to compete as well.'



Three Sections ...

Why three sections and why these three?

This is easier to answer than you may think. The aim of the competition was to encourage students to use the language and to foster an interest in language learning. Students in Hungary are familiar with written competitions in many subjects but this was aimed at the widest spectrum of secondary aged students.

Recitation ... is something Hungarian students are used to. For those with lower language ability it is something which can still be done well.

The interviews were popular ...

The Interview was a very popular section, one which most participants really enjoyed doing. This depended heavily on the quality of the person being interviewed and it is thanks to the large group of native speakers who offered assistance here that it was so successful. It was amazing to see the many different styles of interview and the imagination of the students as they tried to demonstrate their competence.

The argument was difficult ...

To make this a fair competition the argument (or discussion) had to be designed so that a single school could complete the task on their own. It also made the training sessions easier without the need for two competing teams. It was not easy to do but the students tackled this very well. Sometimes the two contestants were rather static and inanimate, but often there was a very lively exchange.

To make the debate a positive experience was importance. It was vital that both competitors had a positive point of view to work from, hence the dual statements. In general this appeared to work and students didn't waste time being negative, trying to refute the suggestions of their partner.

If there was a difficult section it was this one, so congratulations to everyone who took part. It was really impressive.

Our Sponsors ...

Once again we could not have completed the competition without the many sponsors who provided prizes and other assistance, as well as the 'partners'.

Providing the main prizes:



And supporting the many Regional Heats and Finals:



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The ESU Public Speaking Competition 2005

The competition, to which the new ESU of Hungary has sent participants for the last two years, will take place in May 2005. The competition is for students between the ages of 16 and 20 who are in full time education.

The task ...

The students are required to speak on a topic (which is given by the ESU) for a period of about 5 minutes. They may use notes but should not 'learn' their speech.

The subject and rules will be published on the ESU website www.esu.org and the topic is generally very broad. You will be able to include your own interests in your presentation. Last year's winner, who travelled to London for the competition, was Bálint Anikó who some of you might have met when she organised one of the Budapest Regional Heats of *Chatangoljunk*.

Dates ...

The local rounds of the competition will begin in early March and the final will be in April in Budapest.

Anyone receiving this newsletter will also receive further information on the competition when it is available.

'Singlish Folk'

Presents an
Evening of Songs in English
at

The HAUER Cukrászda

Rákóczi út 47-49

(near Blaha Lujza tér)

on

Tuesday 23rd Nov.

at 6 pm

ENTRY FREE

Everybody is welcome



Supported by the
New ESU of Hungary