

TPO CHALLENGER – FORMAT AND INDICATIVE SYLLABUS

Overall format – timing 3:00 to 6:45 PM

- 3 to 5 P.M.: Same test as the regular TPO in that subject track
- 5 to 5.15 P.M.: Break
- **5.15 to 6.45 P.M.: In-depth test for Challenger participants ('challenger round')**
- **TPO Challenger is currently available in 3 subject tracks:** Middle School English Challenger, Middle School Maths Challenger, Middle School Science Challenger
- TPO Challenger participants are **automatically eligible for all ranks and prizes** of the main TPO also in the corresponding subject track, for which only the first 2 hours, i.e. the main test, will be counted.
- TPO Challenger participants who score about a certain cut-off will automatically receive a **Subject Expertise micro-credential**, which is part of the full CENTA Certificate.

Details of the 'challenger section' (additional to the main TPO)

- 1.5 hours (90 minutes)
- **Maximum marks: 50**
(therefore TPO Challenger is for a total of 150 marks: 100 in the main TPO and 50 in the challenger round)
- **Number of questions: approximately 36**
(therefore Challenger participants will get a total of approximately 100 questions: 64 in the main TPO and 36 in the challenger round)
- Most questions are multiple-choice with 4 choices, though there will be a mix of single-answer and multi-answer questions (i.e. where more than one choice is correct)
- Each correct selection (single or multi) gets 1 mark, which means a two-answer question can get you two marks. There will be selective negative marking with the details announced later.
- Challenger will have about 3 subjective questions where candidates will have to type short answers.

Syllabus for the 'challenger section' (this is in addition to the TPO Syllabus)

- **Topics covered** will be independent of board and largely aligned with themes in the NCERT syllabus (similar to the main TPO). A few questions may go beyond the middle school level to primary and high levels also.
- **Coverage within Subject Expertise:**
 - **In-depth** knowledge and conceptual understanding of the chosen subject, mainly at middle school level and to some extent at primary and high school levels also.
 - **Knowledge of common developments** related to the subject, which are beyond the textbook.
 - **Understanding of the relationship** among different topics and subjects.
 - Ability to relate relevant topics of the subject to **real-life examples and uses**.
 - Knowledge and understanding of the **purpose** of content in the chosen subject.
- **Coverage within Pedagogical content knowledge:**
 - Understanding of content-specific **pedagogical methods and resources at an in-depth level**.
 - Ability to **derive insights or misconceptions** from student assessments on specific topics.
 - Knowledge and understanding of **different student assessment methods** including appropriateness for different topics.
 - In-depth understanding of the **relationship among different topics, in terms of order of teaching and concept linkages**.

TPO Challenger is based on CENTA Standards T1 and T2, covering Subject Expertise and Pedagogical Content Knowledge, including Levels 1, 2 and 3. CENTA Standards can be seen on http://www.centa.org/assets/CENTA_Standards_v2.pdf.