

LICEO SCIENTIFICO e LINGUISTICO
STATALE“FEDERICO II DI SVEVIA”



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Liceo Linguistico e Scientifico “ Federico II di Svevia” of Altamura (Bari)

announces

The competition of creative writing “Brevity as a writing strategy. Creativity in 140 characters: Twitter”. Fifth edition.

This year’s theme is “Metamorphosis”.

The competition is part of the activities planned for the ‘International Youth Week’, which is an annual event organized by Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico Federico II of Altamura and an occasion when the Institute becomes a reference point for various European schools.

This year’s participation is allowed to both Italian Secondary School students and European Secondary School students. Regardless of the participants’ nationality and of the school’s location, be it in Italy or in Europe, each student can choose to compete for the Italian language section or for the English language section in accordance with the conditions laid out below. The students of the organizing school (Liceo Federico II of Altamura) compete against each other for a special prize and they cannot take part in the two ordinary sections mentioned above (art. 1 and art.3 of this announcement).

Metamorphosis is the theme of the 5th edition, meaning “mutation”, “transformation” in every aspect. This interesting, appealing theme has been chosen to arouse the reflection on the individual and on collective change from different points of view. Life itself is made up of change throughout its different phases: birth, childhood, adolescence, maturity, old age, even death. Also psychological changes characterizing man’s life represent a metamorphosis.

Other interpretations can be given to this theme. Political, social, economic and scientific changes are actually a metamorphosis; for example the changes in the perception of the self and of society, or in relationships among people due to technological development (such as robotics or the social networks). These can all be defined as metamorphoses.

Countless metamorphoses can also be found in the field of science, if we think about innovations and discoveries in medicine and biotechnology.

In addition, there are several references in the literary field; we have only to think of Ovidio's *Metamorphosis* or Kafka's renowned work, and also theatrical literature in general. The stage itself is, in fact, the place where metamorphosis takes place in its clearest and most suggestive form, with the meaning of the passage from the self to the other, the transformation of the actor into a character, the identification of the spectators with the drama unfolding before them.

Participants must express their reflections on this subject in a maximum length of 140 characters, bearing in mind the core requirement of the competition, which is to unite fullness of meaning to a form as literary and effective as possible. The limit of 140 characters will remain valid for the competition even if Twitter decides to change the layout with regards to the maximum number of characters allowed for the posts. As previously mentioned, the main feature of this competition is "brevitas", that is meaningful, significant synthesis.

The theme chosen is well suited to social, economic, scientific, literary and poetic reflections. Each participant, in accordance with the restrictions and the objectives of the competition, can interpret the theme freely, according to his/her personal inspiration.

Art. 1

Addressees

The competition is open to students of Italian Secondary Schools and to students of European Secondary Schools, who are interested in reading, in creative writing and in the potential offered to the latter by technology and social networks, especially by Twitter. Students wishing to participate in the competition can do so only as an individual, not as classes or as schools. The students of Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico" Federico II di Svevia cannot take part in the two ordinary sections, the

Italian and the English ones with their prizes, but they can compete hors concours for a special prize (Art. 3 and art. 4 of this announcement).

Art. 2

Subject

It is possible to express oneself in an appropriate style by reducing the thought to the essential. It is well known that length does not always ensure the beauty of a text, indeed, the opposite is often true. Brevity, which impresses and goes directly to our hearts or minds, has been one of the most appreciated writing techniques and qualities since ancient times. Just think of the fables of Phaedrus or the epigrams of Martial, witty sayings, apologues, 'exempla' and even 'micro-novels' (Giorgio Manganelli, for example, has collected a hundred of them in a book entitled 'Centuria'). Nowadays, technology has changed the way of transmitting knowledge and of communication, but this does not necessarily mean that creativity is neglected.

The challenge here, is using technology in order to write a text that has brevity as its main feature and at the same time high literary style as its goal .Therefore, participants in this competition are required to write a literary text (a 'micro-story' or a 'micro-poem') that does not exceed 140 characters on the topic "Metamorphosis" chosen as the theme of this fifth edition of the competition, and to send it through the social network Twitter, which will be the exclusive means through which texts can be sent.

Art.3

Conditions of participation

1. Each participant can send the text through **Twitter** to the following account:
@in_breve
2. Each participant, regardless of the position of their school, be they in Italy or in another European country, can compete freely for only one of the two ordinary sections of the competition, that is :
 - The Italian section (in Italian)
 - The International section (in English)

For the Italian Section the *Tweet* must be written in Italian; for the International Section the *Tweet* must be written in English.

3. The students of Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico Federico II di Svevia of Altamura cannot compete for the two ordinary sections of the competition (either the Italian Section or the International Section) but they can compete for the assignment of a special prize hors concours (next art.4). The students are free to choose to send the *Tweet* in Italian or in English. They must send the membership card.
4. Each participant can send only one *Tweet* , in Italian or in English according to the section chosen. The students of the same school can take part in different sections.
5. Each participants must indicate the section chosen on the membership card (attachment A) , at the risk of disqualification from the competition.
6. Each participant, for all the sections of the competition, including the special prize addressed to the students of the coordinating school, engages in writing (attachment A) as a guarantee that the text sent for the competition is unpublished and true (next art. 5)
7. The text must not exceed 140 characters, including the account @in_breve and a possible nickname (next n.11)
8. It is not necessary for each participant to have a twitter account, in particular for under-age students. Submissions can be sent by email using the teacher's account or a new account set up by the school (next n.11)
9. The text will be sent via email , as an attachment and in PDF or JPEG format, along with the membership card (attachment A) to this email address: concorsotwitter@gmail.com
10. A membership card must be sent for each student, even if the teacher (or the school) decides to send a number of tweets from the same account.
11. If the teacher (or the school) decides to send the tweets on behalf of more than one participant using only one account, each Tweet must be clearly recognizable from the membership card as well as from the different nickname for each student taking part in the competition. The nickname must be added in brackets at the beginning or at the end of the Tweet (as the nickname is included within 140 characters, along with the account @in_breve, it is advisable to choose a short one).
12. Texts sent without the membership card duly completed (attachment A), without the signatures required at the end of the above mentioned card or without the nickname (if a number of tweets are sent using only one account), or with a card sent after the expiry date , or an unclear card will

be excluded from the competition.

13. The deadline by which texts and membership cards must be sent is Monday, 26th March 2018. Any texts sent after this date will be excluded from the competition.

Art.4

Selection of texts

The best texts of the Italian section in Italian and of the International section in English will be selected by a Committee comprised of the Principal of *Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico F. II di Svevia*, a number of school teachers and/or local professionals pertaining to the field of culture and communication and by the students of “Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico Federico II di Svevia” of Altamura.

The best text sent by the students of “Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico Federico II di Svevia”, for the purposes of the Special Prize, will be selected by a Committee comprised of the Principal of *Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico F. II di Svevia*, a number of school teachers and/or local professionals pertaining to the field of culture and communication .

The judgment of the Committee is unquestionable.

The following criteria will be considered in the selection of the best texts: 1. conformity to the selected theme; 2. grammatical and orthographic accuracy; 3. appropriate form and style; 4. conformity to the distinguishing principles of *brevitas* (maximum meaningfulness along with expressive effectiveness and stylistic accuracy).

There will be **three winners, a winner placed in first place , a winner placed in second place and a winner placed in third place for the Italian section (in Italian) and only one winner for the International section (in English).**

A special prize, hors concours, will be given to the best *Tweet* sent by the students of the coordinating school, *Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico F. II di Svevia* of Altamura, regardless of the language used in the text (Italian or English).

“Schools of Europe” and three winners, placed first, second and third, for the section “Schools of Italy”.

Along with the certificates of attendance, the participants will be given the following prizes:

Italian Section (in Italian)

1. A tablet for the student placed first
2. A smartphone for the student placed second
3. Books for the student placed third

International Section (in English)

1. A tablet for the student placed first

Special Prize hors concours

(The students of Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico F. II di Svevia of Altamura

1. A smartphone

Furthermore, **the School** can express *Honourable Mentions* for those texts which, although not included among the best ones, will be praised for their formal accuracy and the value of their content. The authors of these texts will receive a certificate of attendance the Competition.

The names of the winners who receive Honourable Mentions will be communicated during the prize-giving Ceremony, which will be held in Altamura(Bari) at “Liceo Federico II di Svevia”, on Thursday 19th April 2018, during the “International Youth Week”. The exact date of the ceremony will be communicated through the Twitter account of the Competition @in_breve, and via fax or email, directly to the schools of the winners. The names of the winners and students who receive Honorable Mentions will be communicated after the Ceremony also through the previously mentioned Twitter account and through the mass media, in order to highlight the best texts and their authors. Further information and press releases will be given through the twitteraccount @in_breve and also through the web-site www.concorsotwitter.wordpress.com and on the Facebook page www.facebook.com/InBreve

Art. 5
Quittance and privacy

Each participant engages in writing to guarantee (attachment A) that the text sent for the competition is unpublished and original , relieving this school from any responsibility in the event of royalty violation and/or plagiarism.

The texts sent will be at the disposal of the school organizing the Competition, (the Liceo), which reserves the right to use the contribution (for educational purposes without any reward or payment to the authors. The texts will be posted on the school website and may also be used for didactic and educational initiatives .

On submitting the text, the applicant implies possession of the royalties of the same text relieving the school from any responsibility, costs and charges, which may be incurred due to the content of the text. The texts produced will be sent, including consent to the processing of personal data according to Law 30 of June 2003, no.196 (attachment A).

The compilation of Attachment A allows the use and the distribution of any images taken and recordings made during the prize-giving Ceremony

Art. 6

Participation in the Competition is free. Travel expenses and accommodation for the participation of the prize-giving Ceremony, both for students and for their chaperons, will be at the discretion of the same students.

Expenses will not be reimbursed. Participation in the Competition implies that participants accept the Regulations outlined in this announcement.

The idea for the competition was conceived by Sabina Piscopo, the referent of the project. The staff of the organization includes the referent of the project, Arcangela Capobianco (International Section), Margherita Susca, Alessandra Montemurro and Lidia Oliviero.

Altamura, 12th December 2017

The Principal

Ms. Giovanna Cancellara

Signature substituted through printing
In accordance with art. 3, comma 2, of the law 39/93

Attachment A

COMPETITION MEMBERSHIP CARD

**To the Principal
of Liceo Scientifico e Linguistico "Federico II di Svevia"
ALTAMURA (BA)**

"Brevity as a writing strategy. Creativity in 140 characters: Twitter". Fifth edition. Theme: **"Metamorphosis"**.

To be sent as attachment to: concorsotwitter@gmail.com

Last name and first name of the participant	
Birthplace and date of birth	
Class/schoolyear:	
Membership School: name, town, province, postal code, address	
School address: tel. number, Fax, e-mail	
Teacher	
Twitter account from which the text/tweet has been sent	
<i>Nickname</i> (for a number of Tweets sent from the school or teacher's account)	
Section chosen by the candidate (specify only one option)	<input type="checkbox"/> Section in Italian <input type="checkbox"/> International Section in English <input type="checkbox"/> Special Prize hors concours (only for the students of Liceo Scientifico e linguistico "Federico II di Svevia" di Altamura)
Text sent:	

I declare the text sent to be unpublished and original and that it does not violate copyright and nor is it the result of plagiarism. I relieve the school from any responsibility, costs and charges which may be incurred due to the content of the text. The participation in the competition implies the membership school possesses the copyrights of the same text, and it reserves the right to produce educational material with the contributions sent, without reward or payment to authors. The texts may be published on the school website, and may also be used for initiatives and for educational purposes. In accordance with law 675/96 and with reference to DL. 196/2003. I furthermore declare to be informed of the purposes and the terms of the use of personal data, consciously mentioned in this card and I authorize the archiving of the text submitted in the membership school database. In the case of my participation in the prize-giving Ceremony, I also authorize the coordinating school to record and/or take photographs (portraying my son/daughter, if he/she is underage) and to distribute them for all the activities related to the Competition.

In this card, I also declare to have examined the Announcement of the competition **"Brevity as a writing strategy. Creativity in 140 characters: Twitter"**, fifth edition and to accept the regulations.

Date

Participant's Signature

Parent or guardian's signature
(for underage students)

Principal's signature
