

Harmony Tree International Speech Festival (HTISF)

2026-2027 Set Pieces for Asia Division

Monologue

Born in 2015-2016

CHOICE A
Time Limit:
4 minutes

The Wild Robot

by Peter Brown (Adapted version)

(ROZ stands still, observing the island quietly.)

ROZ: At first, I did not understand this place. Everything was unpredictable. The wind changed without warning. The animals did not follow instructions. Nothing behaved the way it was supposed to. I tried to calculate every outcome. I tried to stay efficient. But the island does not work like a system.

It changes.

And so... I began to change as well.

I learned that survival is not only about strength or logic. It is also about observation.

Adaptation. And sometimes, something I cannot fully explain.

Care.

Brightbill is small. He is not like me. He is fragile, and he depends on things I was never designed to give. Yet every day, I find myself watching over him. Guiding him. Protecting him. I did not program this behaviour. It is something I learned from the world around me. From the wind. From the forest. From the creatures that survive together, even when they are different.

If I want Brightbill to survive, I must become more than I was built to be.

Not just a machine observing life.

But something that is part of it.

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CHOICE B

Time Limit:

4 minutes

Matilda

by Roald Dahl (Adapted version)

(Stands tall, feet steady. Arms loosely folded. Calm, focused expression. Voice controlled but firm.)

MATILDA: Miss Honey... It's not fair. Just because someone is bigger... or older... or holds a stick... it doesn't mean they can treat people badly. My father laughs at me just because I like books more than television. And Miss Trunchbull... she thinks fear is a kind of rule.

She locks children away. She throws them across the playground. And everyone is expected to stay silent.

(Takes one small step forward. Voice slightly stronger.)

But I don't think that's right. If you let someone keep bullying, they will never stop.

And if you accept unfairness as normal... then nothing ever changes.

Sometimes people say you should just behave and stay quiet. But staying quiet doesn't fix anything.

(Pause. Expression softens slightly but becomes more determined.)

Miss Honey... I think sometimes you have to be a little bit brave.

Not to hurt anyone. But to put things right. To say... this is not okay.

And mean it.