Mathematical Literacy Results

Grades 10 – 12 • 2026 Olympiad

SA Olympiads, in conjunction with FEMSSISA, produced its fourth Mathematical Literacy Olympiads for grades 10 – 12 in 2026.

An Olympiad asks a learner to do more than recall what has been taught. It sets unfamiliar problems in a familiar subject, and rewards the learner who reads carefully, reasons clearly and is willing to attempt a question whose method is not obvious.

That is a different skill from writing a school test, and it is one that grows with practice. Learners who sit Olympiads tend to approach their own examinations more confidently, because they have met questions that cannot be answered by memory alone. The habits it builds – structured reasoning, persistence, checking your own work – carry well beyond the subject itself.

Our thanks to every school that entered this year, and to the teachers who prepared learners and ran the sittings.

A. Overall Results

The total number which entered this Olympiad was approximately 4 040 learners. Performance climbs steadily with each grade. Grade 12 was again the strongest year group, with 14% of learners achieving gold, 42% silver and only 10% in the participation band. Grade 11 improved on 2025, lifting gold from 9% to 14%. Grade 10 was the one grade to go backwards: the silver band fell from 20% to 8% and the participation band rose from 45% to 54%, which points to a gap in the foundation years of the phase. However, where your school has performed better than below, these educators must be applauded for their outstanding work.

A summary of the performance in terms of the gold, silver, bronze and participation categories is detailed below:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Participation
Grade 10	4%	8%	34%	54%
Grade 11	14%	32%	34%	20%
Grade 12	14%	42%	34%	10%
Overall	**11%**	**28%**	**34%**	**27%**

Table 1

B. Top Learners per Grade

The top 10 learners per grade are listed below, being the learners with the highest marks for that grade-specific Olympiad. Where several learners from one school placed in the leading positions, a maximum of three learners per school is listed, so that the table reflects the spread of performance across schools. These learners will receive medals and discounted fees on the digital courses at www.saolympiads.co.za, and those shaded in gold will receive cash prizes.

Grade 10

Position	Name	School
1	Mkhize Siyanda	Durban Sec & FET
1	Micayla Coetzee	Elandspark
2	Katlego Moropane	Hoërskool Silverton
2	Sibiya Sifundo	Hoërskool Silverton
3	Mthimkhulu Andile	Durban Sec & FET
3	Surya Naicker	SBCS
3	Daniella Alves	St Mary's DSG Kloof
4	Olwethu Vuso	Elandspark
4	Zachary Callaghan	Harvest Christian School
4	Michaela du Plessis	Hoërskool Silverton

Grade 11

Position	Name	School
1	Biggar Jared	Newcastle HS
2	Nomhle-Kacey Mulumba	Brescia House School
2	Olivia Lawson	Durban Girls' College
3	Amy Lotter	Felixton College
3	Awongwa Magopeni	Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls
3	Rendani Mulaudzi	S A Colleges
4	Khadijah Ismail	Al Asr Educational Institute
4	Naledi Masia	CBC St Joseph Bloemfontein
5	Daniel Hellestoe	Curro Hillcrest
5	Sharisma Kriel	Hoerskool Kempton Park

Grade 12

Position	Name	School
1	William Glenday	Bishops Diocesan College
1	Buhlebenkosi Mavayi	Brylin Independent Learning Centre
1	Sibonisile Nyembe	Springs Girls' High School
2	Alessandro Esposito	Bishops Diocesan College
2	Mnqobi Hlatshwayp	Felixton College
2	Sondaba Kuhle	Khanyisa Mthatha
3	Lihle Mnisi	Hoerskool Menlopark
4	Husain Carrim	Al Asr Educational Institute
4	Bontle-ba-letsatsi Rikhotso	Brescia House School
5	Treya Jitesh Govind	Edenvale

C. Concluding Remarks

An Olympiad exists to find the learners who think well under an unfamiliar question, and to give schools a measure of where their learners stand against the country rather than against one another.

The performance in the 2026 Olympiads has shown encouraging results and holds the ground gained in 2025 across Grades 11 and 12. Schools should not be disappointed if the results did not meet their expectations. They should rather see this as an opportunity to improve learners in the gaps identified, particularly in Grade 10.

Past papers and guides are available on **www.saolympiads.co.za** which should help you prepare for the Olympiads.

Digital courses for learners are now available on **www.saolympiads.co.za** as well, provided by our partner the Virtual School of Africa.

D. Important Dates to Diarise

Registration:	Open now at saolympiads.co.za
2026 prices held until:	31 March 2027
Written – 3-term schools:	Last school week before Term 2 closes
Written – 4-term schools:	August 2027, on the published subject dates

Register and pay before 31 March 2027 to hold 2026 prices – from R35 per learner per subject; every price rises by R5 from 1 April 2027. Papers are emailed to your school one week before the write date.