

# Best Student Research Idea Awards

Award 1:  
**The New Directions East Asia Best Student Research Idea 2021 (People's Choice)**

Award 2:  
**The Experts' Choice Award for Best Student Research Idea 2021**

Do you have a research idea to share? Whether you are in the initial stages of formulating your thoughts, or have put pen to paper and the research is about to hit the printing press, we'd like to hear from you! Send us a short video outlining your idea and attendees and experts at New Directions East Asia 2021 will cast their votes for the Best Student Research Idea award.

Videos will be shared through the conference platform and conference attendees will be able to vote for their favourite video ideas. A live question and answer session with an expert panel and questions from the online audience will precede the awarding of the Experts' Choice and People's Choice Awards. We encourage clarity and creativity with video presentations.

## What are our "Best Student Research Idea" awards?

Recent events have driven changes in the modes available to communicate ideas in our academic communities. The move to online conferences and online classes has meant fewer opportunities for students to share their research. This year we invite students enrolled in Master's or Doctoral level language assessment or linguistics programmes to experiment with a new style of communication, a video presentation of their research idea.

## What are the British Council objectives of the "Best Student Research Idea" awards?

- Provide a platform for students to present and share their ideas in a clear and simple way
- Develop skills for students and teachers in schools and universities worldwide
- Further the research language assessment research field and encourage academics setting out in their career
- Inspire potential students to embark on a career in language assessment

## Why participate?

The Best Student Research Idea awards are a great opportunity to not only get feedback from experts and the language assessment community, but also to challenge yourself to communicate your ideas clearly using technical skills like video creation that are becoming more and more important in the 21st century. Creating a video, communicating your ideas, and sharing knowledge with your peers can all contribute to professional growth.

Benefits of participation include:

- Learning why public engagement is important
- Enhancing your presentation skills
- Receiving feedback from experts and peers
- Networking with like-minded individuals and pooling knowledge
- Floating research ideas for future development

And how about adding the British Council's Best Student Research Idea award to your resume? It's certain to get admiring glances from recruiters and academics alike!

## Who should participate?

Any student of any age enrolled in a Master's or Doctoral level language assessment programme or in a related field, e.g. Applied Linguistics. University students from East Asia, the UK or further afield are all welcome to submit their ideas.

## What is the application process?

Submission guidelines:

1. Minimum 1 minute / maximum 3 minutes long video
2. Videos must be less than 5GB in size and in .mp4 or .mov format.
3. Submit the videos via email using a recognised file sharing site, e.g. Google Drive or Dropbox – make sure the file is set to “downloadable / editable” etc. so we can download the file. We will send you a notification of receipt.
4. Submit to [newdirectionseastasia@britishcouncil.org](mailto:newdirectionseastasia@britishcouncil.org)
5. If you have any questions, please also contact us at the above email address
6. Submissions must be received by midnight SGT October 31st, 2021

## What are the contest rules?

The submission should outline what your research idea is and how you plan to approach it. Include details of how the idea will add to the language assessment body of knowledge. You can include visual aids, or just audio and slides for the video. You may use ppt slides or other communication tools to convey your idea. Creativity is encouraged. Try to include the following points:

- Clear outline of the research area
- Motivation for selecting this topic
- Research Questions
- Approach / methodology
- How this will add to the body of knowledge in language assessment

Submitted videos will be checked for relevance to the language assessment community and uploaded to our conference platform in November. Conference attendees can view the videos and vote for their favourites. Our panel of experts will also decide on their favourite for the Expert's Choice award. Uploaded videos will be eligible for both awards. All attendees including complimentary pass (free pass) holders will be able to vote. Video participants will receive a voucher and can register for the Standard Pass. Ideas related to our themes are welcome, but it is not compulsory to align with the conference themes.

## Some tips on creating a good video:

YouTube has advice for all levels of video creation experience and knowledge. Suggested keyword search terms are “shooting video”, “video editing”, “video lighting”, “video sound quality” etc. It is possible to create a video without the need to purchase any equipment, using a smart device or PC to record and readily available software for any editing.

Here are some suggested videos covering basics and free software:

Recording video on Windows 10

<https://youtu.be/rszcBS0jSBA>

Shooting video on an iPhone:

<https://youtu.be/09LrsWbe04s>

Total Beginner's Guide to Video Editing:

[https://youtu.be/oC3gXr1s\\_aU](https://youtu.be/oC3gXr1s_aU)

Top 5 Best FREE VIDEO EDITING Software (2021): <https://youtu.be/UtrlyHDgk-8>

## Questions?

Contact: [newdirectionseastasia@britishcouncil.org](mailto:newdirectionseastasia@britishcouncil.org). Or visit our website info: [www.britishcouncil.sg/new-directions-2021](http://www.britishcouncil.sg/new-directions-2021)