Philippines' Carmelle wins Eurovision Asia debut

LEVEL A2/B1


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I. WARM-UP

1. Have you watched a music contest on TV? Which one?
2. What makes a live show fun to watch?
3. How do people usually vote in TV shows in your country?

II. KEY VOCABULARY

contest
a competition where people try to win a prize

entry
the song or act a country sends to a contest

vote
to choose someone by giving them your support

jury
a small group who judge and give points in a contest

trophy
a special object given to the winner

stage
the raised area where performers stand

perform
to sing, play or act in front of people

instrument
a tool for making music, like a guitar or drum

III. READING

Carmelle Collado has won the first Eurovision Song Contest Asia for the Philippines. The grand final took place in Bangkok, where 11 countries competed, and the show lasted two and a half hours.

Performing under the single name Carmelle, the 19-year-old finished on 211 points, 41 ahead of hosts Thailand, with Vietnam third. She received the most votes from both national juries and the public. Carmelle's entry, Sobra-Sobra, mixes pop and rap.

It is sung in Tagalog and English and uses traditional Philippine instruments, the kubing and kulintang. She said the song celebrates strong Filipino women. If you vote online, you cannot vote for your own country.

Carmelle received a trophy on stage from Dara, the Bulgarian singer who won the European contest this year. She will also perform at Eurovision 2027 in Burgas.

Reading text adapted from reporting by **The Guardian***: "Philippines' Carmelle wins first Eurovision...". Original article linked at theenglishwire.com.*

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Where was the grand final held?
2. How many countries took part in the contest?
3. How many points did Carmelle score?
4. Which places did Thailand and Vietnam finish in?
5. What two languages are used in Sobra-Sobra?

V. DISCUSSION

1. Do you enjoy music contests? Why or why not?
2. What makes a performance exciting to watch live?
3. What voting rules help make a contest feel fair?
4. Which traditional instruments from your country sound special?

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Zero conditional

Use zero conditional for general facts and rules. Form: If/When + present simple, result in present simple.

"If a song gets the most votes, **it wins the contest**.*"*
"When fans vote for strong entries, **judges often agree**.*"*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Complete the zero conditional: use the present simple in both clauses.

1. If you (vote) ___ online, your own country is excluded. _____
2. If a song (mix) ___ pop and rap, it stands out. _____
3. When a singer (use) ___ Tagalog, Filipino fans feel proud. _____
4. If juries (give) ___ high points, a performer scores well. _____
5. When a show (last) ___ over two hours, people get tired. _____

Teacher's Notes

TEACHERS ONLY

These notes are designed to help you get the most out of this lesson. Please do not share this page with students.


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I. LESSON GUIDE

- Timing: 8–10 minutes warm-up, 8–10 minutes vocabulary, 10–12 minutes reading, 8–10 minutes comprehension, 10 minutes discussion. If needed, fold grammar into reading time.
- Pre-teach names and terms that may be new: Carmelle, Bangkok, Tagalog, kubing, kulintang, Eurovision. Drill pronunciation briefly on the board.
- Run a first reading for gist, then a second for details (points, places, languages). Pair students for the comprehension check before brief whole-class feedback.
- Start the discussion in pairs, then open to the room. Keep the focus on show formats and voting rules so all students can join in.

II. DISCUSSION FACILITATION TIPS

1. If answers are short, ask for one reason and an example from their own viewing.
2. List ideas on the board (song, dance, costumes, staging) and ask students to rank them.
3. Elicit simple rules first, then ask how each rule changes the result or the mood.
4. Play or hum a simple rhythm to prompt examples before students describe instruments.

III. EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Writing: In pairs, write a 60-word news update about Carmelle's win for a school website.

Role-play: In groups, run a short press conference: one student is Carmelle, others are reporters asking questions.

IV. ANSWER KEY OVERVIEW

Comprehension questions: short factual answers from the text.

Grammar exercise: Zero conditional

Discussion: open-ended. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

Answer Key

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IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Where was the grand final held?
   In Bangkok, Thailand.
2. How many countries took part in the contest?
   Eleven countries.
3. How many points did Carmelle score?
   211 points.
4. Which places did Thailand and Vietnam finish in?
   Thailand was second; Vietnam was third.
5. What two languages are used in Sobra-Sobra?
   Tagalog and English.

V. DISCUSSION

Open answers. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Complete the zero conditional: use the present simple in both clauses.

1. If you ___ online, your own country is excluded. **vote**
2. If a song ___ pop and rap, it stands out. **mixes**
3. When a singer ___ Tagalog, Filipino fans feel proud. **uses**
4. If juries ___ high points, a performer scores well. **give**
5. When a show ___ over two hours, people get tired. **lasts**

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Key point: Use zero conditional for general facts and rules. Form: If/When + present simple, result in present simple. (Examples constructed.)

> *"If a song gets the most votes,* **it wins the contest***."*
>
> *"When fans vote for strong entries,* **judges often agree***."*