

**The Jewish Agency for Israel  
The Department for Jewish Zionist Education**

***Yom Ha'Atzmaut Musical Challenge***

**Goal:** Engage a community in an active and entertaining manner, and address focal Israeli themes

**Objective:** A series of competitive team tasks / challenges, with a group activity to wrap up, related to Israel through popular song.

**Time:** 1 hour, flexible

**Who:** Communities, families, groups  
4 to 6 teams, recommended 5 – 10 per team

*There should be at least one leader to conduct and oversee the activities*

**Preparation:** A chart to keep count of the points for all teams, see example below.

Two envelopes per team: one white and one blue.

[The contents should be kept secret.]

White: Name of place in Israel, below.

Blue: Title of Israel Eurovision song, below.

*Example score chart:*

	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5	Team 6
Charades						
Songs I						
Shiriah						
Trivia I & II						
Songs II						
Total						

**Introduction**

Teams are formed and given provisional titles – Aleph, Bet, Gimmel, etc. and they receive both envelopes with instructions to not to open them until requested to do so and not to reveal the contents to other groups.

**(1) Charades (30 mins)**

Each team opens their white envelope and finds their team name. They have 5 minutes to rehearse before they present the name to the rest of the participants in a charade (no talking!)

5 points to the team that first guesses the name of the presenting team. Points are awarded from 1-10 by the judges for the quality of the charade.

**(2) Songs I (5 min)**

Each group must think of two songs that include their team name, in two minutes. 5 points per song.

*An Optional Activity for this point can be found below.*

**(3) Shiriah - Optional Activity (10-15 min)**

If participants are familiar with a classic Israeli song (Yerushalayim shel Zahav, Lach Yerushalayim, BaShanah Haba'ah etc.) a fun and challenging game can be played.

Two teams compete, each one singing words of a song alternately and word by word, until one team gets stuck. The remaining team is declared winner. Winning teams compete against each other for the final winner (round robin). Each win is worth 10 points, and the final winning team scores another 25.

Alternately, have all the groups compete together, going around in a circle until teams fall out.

If the group is not familiar with the songs, but would like to try this activity, sheets with the words on them can be handed out, and each team may practice before the competition.

**(4) Trivia [Two sets of 10 questions] (20 min)**

A representative from each team goes to the middle, and a question is asked. The first one to answer correctly scores 2 points for his team. Quickly, they sit down, and new representatives replace them. A scorekeeper should keep track of the points. A tie may be split. A list of questions follows..

**(4) Songs II (20 min)**

In the blue envelope, each team will find the name of 2 popular Israeli Eurovision songs. Each group has 10 minutes to create an altered version of either song. They can change up the song by switching the musical style (eg. classical to rap) or create their own related song / poem, or anything else. Allow 10 minutes for all the teams to present. Each presentation should be 1-2 minutes long.

The observing teams will award points from 5-25. The sum of those marks will be awarded to the team. (Be nice to the other teams so they will be nice to you!)

***Add up the points and award prizes!***

**(5) Sing-along**

Once the points are added up, and a winning team has been declared, everybody sits down together for some non-competitive singing. Songs can be chosen from the Israeli Song Finder.

