**Audition #1:**

**OLIVE:** I’m Olive.

**RONA:** Miss Ostrovsky, it seems we haven’t received your entrance fee.

**OLIVE:** Entrance fee?

**RONA:** Did the school not tell you about the $25 entrance fee? Is your mom here maybe? Or your dad?

**OLIVE:** My dad had to go into work. He’s gonna try to come later.

**RONA:** Who brought you to the bee, dear?

**OLIVE:** The bus.

**RONA:** All right. We’ll talk about the entrance fee later. Take your seat.

**CHIP:** Hey, Marcy? Don’t be nervous. Just watch what I do.

**MARCY:** Don’t worry. I’m not nervous.

**LOGAINNE:** Have you ever been in an auditorium this big before?

**CONEYBEAR:** I’ve never been in an auditorium before!

**OLIVE:** What school do you go to?

**BARFEE:** Shut up.

**RONA:** Ladies and Gentlemen, all the children you see on stage are here because of their extraordinary ability and love of language – but only one of them can go on to compete in the National Spelling Bee! And this year, to celebrate our silver anniversary, our local sponsors, the Putnam Optometrists, are offering today’s winner a two hundred dollar savings bond toward his or her future education. (Kids respond) But remember, to get here each child had to win -

**CONEYBEAR:** Oh but I -

**RONA:** Or place- in their own district bee – so each of them is already a winner.

**BARFEE:** Already a winner!

**RONA:** Hello, I’m Rona Lisa Peretti, and I’m pleased to be back for my 9th consecutive year as your host. Unfortunately, our usual word pronouncer, Superintendent Spriggs has fallen ill, so please join me in welcoming back Vice Principal Douglas Panch from Lake Hemingway – Dos Passos Junior High. Vice Principal Panch is returning to us after a five year hiatus – so thank you Douglas for stepping in on such short notice. (Have audience applaud)

**PANCH:** Thank you Rona, and I would like to say about the incident 5 years ago, I’m in a much better place now. It’s amazing what a change of diet can do for a man. Thank you.