

A team representing Bowditch Middle School achieved Highest Honors in the recent **WordMasters Challenge**[™]—a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students annually. The sixth grade team scored an impressive 183 points out of a possible 200 in the second of three meets this year, placing second in the nation. (actually tied for first)

Competing in the difficult Blue Division of the **WordMasters Challenge**[™], students from Bowditch Middle School who achieved outstanding results in the meet include sixth graders Shifan (Ryan) He, Andrew Khau and Ethan Wheeler . The students were coached in preparation for the **WordMasters Challenge**[™] by Mrs. Bravo, Mrs. Markham & Mr. Webb.

The **WordMasters Challenge**[™] is an exercise in critical thinking that first encourages students to become familiar with a set of interesting new words (considerably harder than grade level), and then challenges them to use those words to complete analogies expressing various kinds of logical relationships. Working to solve the analogies helps students learn to think both analytically and metaphorically. Although most vocabulary enrichment and analogy-solving programs are designed for use by high school students, **WordMasters Challenge**[™] materials have been specifically created for younger students in grades three through eight. They are particularly well suited for children who are motivated by the challenge of learning new words and enjoy the logical puzzles posed by analogies.

The **WordMasters Challenge**[™] program is administered by a company based in Indianapolis, Indiana, which is dedicated to inspiring high achievement in American schools. Further information is available at the company's website: <http://www.wordmasterschallenge.com>.