

Speech Notes for Competitors

Please be on time to your room. When it is your time you will enter the room where you will stay for approximately eight minutes. The judges will greet you. Please tell the judges your name and ID number and give them a moment or two to verify their scoring sheet.

Prepared

You will be presenting a 4-minute prepared speech that meets the following rules and guidelines:

1. You may use note cards (3 by 5 inch cards)
2. The speech may not be read
3. You must deliver the speech from a standing position (without a lectern)
4. The speech must be your original work and may have only been used this year
5. No props may be used in your presentation
6. Your speech must be no less than three and a half minutes nor more than four minutes in length.

The time will say BEGIN. To help you gauge your time during the prepared speech, the judges will help you by holding signs with one minute remaining, a half a minute remaining, and a zero time remaining. If you get to four minutes and you have not finished, the judge will not say STOP but hold up the zero card. If the speech is over or under time you will be penalized 70 points on your overall score.

Impromptu

You will be presenting a two-minute impromptu speech immediately following the prepared speech. You will be given a minute of mental preparation. The following are the rules and guidelines for the impromptu speech:

1. The speech must be given while standing
2. Notes may be used on 3 by 5 cards only
3. The speech should no less than a minute and a half nor more than two minutes.

The judge will hand you the page with three topics for you to choose from. The timer will say BEGIN and you will have one minute to prepare yourself. After the minute is up, the timer will say STOP, then will signal you to begin speaking by saying BEGIN. To help you gauge your time during the prepared speech, the judges will help you by holding signs with one minute remaining, a half a minute remaining, and a zero time remaining. If you get to two minutes and you have not finished, the judge will not say STOP but hold up the zero card. If the speech is over or under time you will be penalized 30 points on your overall score.

At the conclusion of your impromptu you will leave the speech room and return to your team's meeting area or your testing room.