

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING
BALLOT

Starting Time _____

Section _____

Ending Time _____

Round _____ Room _____ Total Time _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Name _____ Code _____

CRITERIA

COMMENTS

Thesis

Did the speaker express himself clearly?
Did he provide answers to the question
selected? Were the answers proposed
suitable, practical, advantageous?

Thought Content

Was the content relevant to the stated
thesis? Was there evidence of critical
thinking and sound logic? Was there
evidence of knowledge of questions?

Organization

Were the introduction and conclusion
adequate? Were the main ideas apparent?
Were transitions clear?

Development of Ideas

Were adequate evidence and reasoning
used? Was illustrative material used to
emphasize and clarify?

Use of Language

Did the wording have the simplicity,
accuracy, vividness, and force expected in
an effective extemporaneous speech?

Delivery

Was pronunciation acceptable? Was there
use of vocal variety and emphasis? Was
the speaker direct and communicative?

Total Effectiveness

The total impression of the speech and
speaker upon you, the critic.

CIRCLE THE NUMBER BELOW THAT
INDICATES THE RATING OF THIS SPEAKER

TOTAL SCORE _____

RANK _____

50-49-48-47-46-45

44-43-42-41-40-39-38-37

36-35-34-33-32-31

DO NOT INFORM THE STUDENT OF HIS/HER RANK OR RATING.

CRITIC _____

DO NOT GIVE STUDENTS ORAL CRITIQUES

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

The best impromptu speech is an original synthesis testing the speaker's ability, in a limited time, to convey the elements of clear thinking, good speaking, and the use of interesting material to establish a definitive viewpoint about the subject selected.

The speaker should be held accountable for strict adherence to the precise statement of the topic drawn. The critic should lower the evaluation if the participant shifts to some other phase of the topic on which the speaker might prefer to speak.

The information presented should be well-chosen, pertinent, and sufficient to support central thought of the speech. Material should be organized according to some logical plan to produce a complete speech within the time allowed. The student should keep in mind that direct communicative speech is the goal, not stilted or artificial delivery.

PROCEDURES:

1. Schedules of drawing and speaking time, preparation room assignments and speaking room assignments are furnished the students. Speakers are required to follow the assigned schedule and speaking order.
2. At the time designated on the schedule, the speaker is to be at the assigned speaking room. Before speaking, the list of impromptu topics selected are to be given to the critic.
3. Exactly 5 minutes before each student is scheduled to speak in a round, the speaker will receive a list of three topics in the preparation room. These topics will consist of (1) a sentence, (2) a phrase, (3) a word, on each card. One of the three topics shall be a current event. The student is to choose one of the three topics on which to speak and is to prepare on that topic.
4. No reference to material or notes will be allowed during the preparation time. However, speakers may use one 3 x 5 card for notes to be used while speaking.
5. Time limits are not less than three and not more than five minutes. If using a stop watch indicate the total time in the appropriate space on each ballot. If using a clock or watch indicate the starting and ending and total time on each ballot.
6. Critics will rate and rank speakers and give constructive written criticisms.
7. Completed ballots, plus the summary sheet, should be turned in at meet headquarters promptly. After tabulation, each ballot is given to the participant via his or her coach.