

NATIONAL EXTEMPORANEOUS 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

NATIONAL EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

The best extemporaneous speech combines clear thinking, good speaking, and then the use of interesting material to establish a definite viewpoint about the subject selected. It should be an original synthesis by the speaker of current fact and opinion on the designated topic from numerous sources rather than a memory test of the material contained in any one magazine article. The speaker should be held accountable for strict adherence to the precise statement of the topic drawn. The critic should lower the valuation if the participant shifts to some other phase of the topic on which he might prefer to speak.

The information presented should be well-chosen, pertinent, and sufficient to support the central thought of the speech. Material should be organized according to some logical plan to produce a complete speech within the time allowed. Supporting material should be documented and specific sources should be cited.

The topic area is: NATIONAL EVENTS OF CURRENT SIGNIFICANCE

TIMING:

The critic must keep time. The critic may not appoint his/her own timer. Timing should begin with the first audible or nonverbal cue. Time cards must be used to indicate the lapse of each minute, down from the maximum time permitted to 1 minute, ½ minute and TIME. If the contestant continues beyond the maximum time, the STOP card must be shown and an audible "STOP" provided at the end of the 15 second grace period. If the contestant continues beyond the verbal STOP signal, the contestant will be ranked fourth in the preliminary and semi rounds or last in final rounds. Total elapsed time must be indicated on the ballot.

RULES:

- A. The speaker shall present his/her topic slip to the judge. Failure to speak on the topic chosen will result in the speaker's disqualification.
- B. Extempers may not confer with others during their preparation. A competitor who confers with others prior to delivering the speech may be disqualified.
- C. Speakers are not to leave the prep area until 5 minutes prior to speaking or until released by an official.
- D. One note card is allowed. (It may be 3 x 5, 4 x 6, or 5 x 7.)
- E. There is no minimum time but the speaker may not exceed 7 minutes. After a 15-second grace period and an audible STOP, the judge will rank the speaker last if the timing rules listed above were followed.
- F. Electronic retrieval devices are allowed in rounds of competition where scripts and files are permitted. No one will be allowed to video or photograph or create audio recordings of students in rounds of competition. No student shall send or receive information during a round, nor shall a host school provide plug ins or internet access. Please see the rules regarding laptop usage for further information and clarification.

PROCEDURES:

1. Schedules and room assignments are furnished the students. Speakers are required to follow the assigned schedule and speaking order.
2. Notes used while speaking should be confined to one card (3 x 5, 4 x 6, or 5 x 7).
3. Critics will rate and rank speakers and give constructive written criticisms. The total score automatically provides a rating by use of the rating scale on all ballots.
4. Completed ballots, plus the summary sheet, should be turned in at meet headquarters promptly. After the tournament, each ballot is given to the participant via the coach.
5. In all non-debate events, speaker ranks and points must correspond. No ties are allowed.