

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

1. The resolution is a proposition of value, not policy. Debaters are to develop argumentation on the resolution in its entirety, based on conflicting underlying principles and values to support their positions. To that end, they are not responsible for practical applications. No plan or counterplan shall be offered by either debater.
2. In making the decision, the judges should ask the following questions:
 - Which debater was more persuasive?
 - Did the debater support his or her position appropriately, using logical argumentation throughout and evidence when necessary?
 - Which debater communicated more effectively? Speed, word choice, and delivery all count.
3. Since this is a debate, clash is necessary. It may be direct clash or clash by opposing principles. Thus, the debate does not have to match point for point.
4. Good judges make decisions only on what was debated by the contestants. If the judges consider an argument to be flawed, but the opponent does not refute it, the original argument must stand. If, however, there is a clash, then the judges decide which argument is more persuasive.
5. Judges may not discuss the progress of the debate either with each other or with the debaters.
6. The judges should distance themselves from the content of the debate. Personal values of the judges should not influence the decision.

The points you award must correlate with your decision (no low point wins). Remember, this is a debate and not “dueling oratories.” Questions about rules or misconduct should be brought to the Tab Room **before you submit your ballot**, NOT to the students.

Speech Times

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Aff Constructive | 6 min |
| CX by Neg | 3 min |
| Neg Constructive | 7 min |
| CX by Aff | 3 min |
| 1st Aff Rebuttal | 4 min |
| Neg Rebuttal..... | 6 min |
| 2nd Aff Rebuttal | 3 min |
| Prep Time (per debater) | 4 min |

Speaker Point Scale

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 29.5-30.0 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 27.5-29.0 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 25.5-27.0 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 23.5-25.0 | Developing [B-/C+] |
| 22.0-23.0 | Emerging [C or below] |
| < 22.0 | Justify to Tab |

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Public Forum Debate

1. Public Forum Debate is a team event that advocates or rejects a position posed by the resolution. Each team shall be comprised of two debaters, each representing the same member school. The focus of the debate is a clash of ideas in a persuasive manner that can be understood by a “lay” judge. Good debaters should display logic and analysis. They should use evidence when needed. They should win their case and refute that of their opponents. They should communicate effectively, using the fundamentals of good speaking. There are no burdens on either side.
2. In making the decision, the judges should ask the following questions:
 - Which team is more persuasive?
 - Did the debaters back up their assertions with logical thinking and evidence when needed?
 - Were the debaters fair in their interpretation of the resolution and one another’s statements?
 - Were the arguments intelligent? Did the debaters try to use many weak arguments instead of a few solid ones?
 - Did the debaters speak in such a way that their ideas were understandable?
 - Were the debaters courteous and professional?
3. Judges may not discuss the debate either with each other or with the debaters.
4. The judges should distance themselves from the content of the debate. Personal values should not influence the decision.

SIDES AND SPEAKING ORDER ARE SET IN CFL PUBLIC FORUM. Questions about rules or misconduct should be brought to the Tab Room **before you submit your ballot**, NOT to the students.

Speech Times

| | |
|---|-------|
| 1st Pro | 4 min |
| 1st Con..... | 4 min |
| Crossfire (Con asks first Q)..... | 3 min |
| 2nd Pro..... | 4 min |
| 2nd Con..... | 4 min |
| Crossfire (Pro asks first Q) | 3 min |
| 1st Pro Summary..... | 3 min |
| 1st Con Summary | 3 min |
| Grand Crossfire (Pro asks first Q)..... | 3 min |
| 2nd Pro Final Focus..... | 2 min |
| 2nd Con Final Focus | 2 min |
| Prep Time (per team) | 3 min |

Speaker Point Scale

Award points **per team**, not per speaker.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 29.5-30.0 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 27.5-29.0 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 25.5-27.0 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 23.5-25.0 | Developing [B-/C+] |
| 22.0-23.0 | Emerging [C or below] |
| < 22.0 | Justify to Tab |

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Policy Debate

Please score each debater on a point scale from 20 to 30 (half points are permitted). Scores below 23.5 should be given only for offensive, rude, or truly inferior performances and must be justified on the ballot. Additionally, please rank each debater in the round from 1 to 4. Points and ranks must coincide; NO ties are permitted.

Speech Times

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1st Aff Constructive | 8 min |
| CX by 2nd Neg..... | 3 min |
| 1st Neg Constructive..... | 8 min |
| CX by 1st Aff | 3 min |
| 2nd Aff Constructive | 8 min |
| CX by 1st Neg..... | 3 min |
| 2nd Neg Constructive..... | 8 min |
| CX by 2nd Aff | 3 min |
| 1st Neg Rebuttal | 5 min |
| 1st Aff Rebuttal | 5 min |
| 2nd Neg Rebuttal | 5 min |
| 2nd Aff Rebuttal | 5 min |
| Prep Time (per team) | 8 min |

Speaker Point Scale

Award points **per debater**. Points and ranks must coincide (no ties), and the winning team must have the higher total.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 29.5-30.0 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 27.5-29.0 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 25.5-27.0 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 23.5-25.0 | Developing [B-/C+] |
| 22.0-23.0 | Emerging [C or below] |
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Student Congress

BALLOTS: Write **one** ballot for each speech (not for questions or motions). Write **two** ballots for the Presiding Officer; each should cover half the session. You should write comments that identify what each student did well and where they need to improve. **Please write your comments while the students are speaking and save frequently.** You will be able to edit your comments after the session is over.

POINT SCALE FOR ALL BALLOTS -- Use whole number points only. You **may** give the same score to multiple speakers/speeches:

- 6... Exemplary [A+]
- 5... Accomplished [A/A-]
- 4... Competent [B+/B]
- 3... Developing [B-/C+]
- 2... Emerging [C or below] (justify with comments)
- 1... Unacceptable (justify with explanation)

SCORER'S RANKINGS: At the end of the session, rank your **top eight** legislators (1=best), which MAY include the Presiding Officer. Remember that the PO gave up the opportunity to speak in order to lead the chamber and plays a substantial role in making the session productive or unproductive. The rankings should be based on your **overall impression** of the students' contributions to a successful session. Do NOT simply rank the students with the most points!

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Dramatic Performance

Judging Criteria

- **INTRODUCTION:** The introduction should name the work and author, provide necessary background information, and establish the mood. If using a teaser or if lines from the selection are used in the introduction, the speaker must adhere to the rules of the event.
- **MATERIAL:** Single or multiple character cuttings should be considered equally. The student should be able to capture and convey the emotional and intellectual depths of the characters, as well as the development of both the characterization and plot. Consideration should be given to the literary merit of the selection.
- **CHARACTERIZATION:** Each character should be interesting, engaging, and lifelike. The performer should create a physical, vocal, and temperamental existence suited for each character. The performer should keep these choices consistent. The performer should use his or her face, eyes, and body to create the characters effectively. Each character should show the intent of what he/she is wanting, thinking, feeling, and remembering when speaking and reacting. Characters should appropriately develop and/or deepen as the plot or story line progresses.
- **MULTIPLE CHARACTERIZATIONS (if used):** The transitions when moving from one character to another should be clean and crisp. The pacing of transition should reflect the tempo of the interaction.
- **ENVIRONMENT:** Each character should create a world around him or her. Movement should be used to create a three-dimensional environment in which the characters exist. Pantomime, if used, should be accurate and realistic. Gestures should be fully realized, creating in just the right way what the performer intends the audience to see. When doing a multiple character selection, the performer should create effective interaction between the characters.
- **OVERALL EFFECT:** The overall performance should build to various moments and have a climax. The story should be complete and easy to follow. The performance should display another world outside of the performance space.

Rules of Procedure

- The speaker must offer a memorized dramatic presentation. If the speaker refers to prepared notes of any kind or a script during the presentation, the speaker must be ranked last.
- The presentation must be from a single published play, single published script, or single fictional or non-fictional work (not poetry). It is the affirmative obligation of all FGCCFL coaches to ensure that all materials presented in interpretation events must be available and readily accessible to all members of the League. Lines which are attributed to one character in a published play or script must not be attributed to another character in the performance. The author's words as published in the literature must not be altered for the presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted.
- While singing is permitted, it should not be excessive or dominate the performance. Judges' ranks may reflect if singing has dominated the performance.
- No properties or costumes of any kind may be used. Using "properties" means manipulating articles of clothing or objects to enhance the performance. Speakers using properties and/or wearing costumes must be ranked last.
- Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.
- **TIME LIMIT:** Maximum 10 minutes, including introductory and transitional material other than the author's words. Material thus used should be limited to one minute. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period, that speaker may not be awarded first place. No minimum time.

SPEAKER POINT SCALE

(whole number points only)

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 99-100 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 96-98 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 94-95 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 92-93 | Developing [B-/C+] |
| 90-91 | Emerging [C or below] |
| < 90 | Justify to Tab |

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Oratorical Declamation

Judging Criteria

- **INTRODUCTION:** The introduction should name the work and author, provide necessary background information and establish the mood. If using a teaser or if lines from the selection are used in the introduction, the speaker must adhere to the rules of the event.
- **PRESENTATION STYLE:** The speaker should convey the message in a sincere, honest, and realistic attempt to recreate the spirit of the original presentation. Although the style of delivery chosen by the speaker should be judged in light of the purpose of the speech, artificiality is to be discredited. The message should be conveyed credibly and convincingly as if the words were the speaker’s own. This event is an interpretation, not an impersonation.
- **VOCAL DELIVERY:** The speaker should be articulate and fluent. The speaker should make use of contrast, making use of the elements of vocal variety: pitch, volume, rate, pausing, phrasing, stress, and tone. The speaker should be conversational and concerned, passionate and pleasing. The speaker should be in control of the words and the emotions. The speaker should sound confident and self-assured, and seem eager to enlighten the audience. The speaker should convey the message in a sincere, honest, and realistic style in an attempt to recreate the spirit of the original presentation.
- **PHYSICAL DELIVERY:** The speaker should be physically open to the audience and use body language that invites the audience into the world of the declaimer. The speaker should vary facial expression to accentuate the natural flow of thoughts and feelings. The speaker should make eye contact with the audience. The speaker’s stance should be erect and controlled without distracting movements. Movement, if used, should be motivated by transitions in thought or mood. Gestures should be visible, effectively used for emphasis, and varied.
- **OVERALL EFFECT:** The speaker should project an understanding of the speech’s message. The speaker should instill in the audience a concern for the speech’s content. The original speaker’s message should not be overshadowed by the delivery. Consideration should be given to the oratorical merit of the selection.

Rules of Procedure

- A selection used in Oratorical Declamation must have been originally delivered in the form a speech by its author, a person other than the present speaker. The speaker must have an introduction which is at most one minute and names the work, author, and describes the circumstances under which the speech was originally presented. The original speaker’s words must not be altered for the presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted. Selections may include professional speeches, public orations, eulogies, and sermons. Stand-up comedy routines are prohibited.
- The selection must be memorized. If the speaker refers to prepared notes of any kind or a script during the presentation, the speaker must be ranked last.
- No particular style should be demanded of the speaker; rather, the contestant should be free to select and to develop a personal style and be judged according to the degree of perfection attained and the effectiveness in influencing the listeners. While the specifics of the speech and any style of delivery which the speaker adopts should be judged in light of the purpose of the speech, artificiality is to be discredited. This event is an interpretation, not an impersonation.
- This event is limited to freshman and sophomore students.
- Any non-speaking expressions such as singing or dancing should not be excessive or dominate the performance. Judges’ ranks may reflect if nonspeaking expressions have dominated the performance.
- No properties or costumes of any kind may be used. Using “properties” means manipulating articles of clothing or objects to enhance the performance. Speakers using properties and/or wearing costumes must be ranked last.
- Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.
- **TIME LIMIT:** Maximum 10 minutes, including at most a 60 second introduction to the selection. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period, that contestant must not be awarded first place. No minimum time.

SPEAKER POINT SCALE

(whole number points only)

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 99-100 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 96-98 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 94-95 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 92-93 | Developing [B-/C+] |
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Duo Interpretation

Judging Criteria

- **INTRODUCTION:** The introduction should name the work and author, provide necessary background information, and establish the mood. If using a teaser or if lines from the selection are used in the introduction, the speakers must adhere to the rules of the event.
- **MATERIAL:** The material being presented should allow for interesting character choices and reasonable plot structure. The material should be appropriate for the students. Consideration should be given to the literary merit of the selection.
- **INTERACTION AND ENVIRONMENT:** The performers should convince you that they truly see the other character(s). Each character should listen and react with face and body especially as the other is talking. What one character says or does should provoke a fitting vocal, physical and emotional response from the other character. The characters should see and respond to what is around them. They should take the audience into the physical world of their story. The interpreters will vocally and physically respond to each other’s verbal and non-verbal cues while maintaining an offstage focus.
- **CHARACTERIZATION:** Each character should convey a distinct, consistent personality, stance, and manner of gesturing. Each character should be sufficiently developed and should interact meaningfully with the other characters.
- **PHYSICALITY:** The physical movement and portrayal should contribute to the overall aesthetics of the presentation. A realistic environment should be established by the performers. Pantomime, if used, should be accurate and realistic.
- **VOCAL QUALITY:** The interpreters, within character, should appropriately vary pitch, volume, rate, emphasis, quality, phrasing, and intensity to convey the various moods and messages in the story.
- **OVERALL EFFECT:** The overall performance should build to various moments and have a climax. The performance should be complete and easy to follow. The performance should display another world outside of the performance space.

Rules of Procedure

- The selection, delivered by two students each representing the same member school, must be from a single play, fictional, or non-fictional work. A series of poems is permitted. The poetry may be taken from a variety of published sources united by a single poet. It is the affirmative obligation of all FGCCFL coaches to ensure that all materials presented in interpretation events must be available and readily accessible to all members of the League. Performing the author’s exact words from the published original work is a core value of interpretation in FGCCFL. Cutting, the removal and rearrangement of the author’s words to shape a 10 minute performance, is permitted.
- The selection must be memorized. If the speaker(s) refers to prepared notes of any kind or a script during the presentation, the team must be ranked last.
- The selection should begin from the center stage area. Except during introduction and transition, eye contact is aimed only in the audience’s direction; focal points are to be employed during dialogue; eye contact with specific audience members during narration is permitted.
- While singing is permitted, it should not be excessive or dominate the performance. Judges’ ranks may reflect if singing has dominated the performance.
- No properties or costumes of any kind may be used. Using “properties” means manipulating articles of clothing or objects to enhance the performance. Speakers using properties and/or wearing costumes must be ranked last.
- Performers are not allowed to make deliberate physical contact with each other during the performance, except during the introduction. Physical movement is restricted to performers moving around one another, switching position, pivoting from side to side, or turning around completely. Should the performers make deliberate physical contact with each other during the performance, except during the introduction, or make deliberate physical movements other than those permitted herein, the performers must be ranked last. Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.
- **TIME LIMIT:** Maximum 10 minutes, including introductory and transitional material other than the author’s words. Material thus used should be limited to one minute. If the speakers go over a 30 second grace period, those contestants must not be awarded first place. No minimum time.

SPEAKER POINT SCALE

(whole number points only)

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 99-100 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 96-98 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 94-95 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 92-93 | Developing [B-/C+] |
| 90-91 | Emerging [C or below] |
| < 90 | Justify to Tab |

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Extemporaneous Speaking

Judging Criteria

- **TOPICALITY:** The speaker should state and answer the question accurately. The speech should be organized so that all content contained therein is relevant to the question’s answer. The speaker should be held accountable to the strict adherence to the precise statement of the topic selected and should be penalized for any obvious shifting to a different topic. The speaker is permitted a personal opinion or interpretation of the subject.
- **STRUCTURE:** The introduction should gain attention, lead to the question, provide an answer to the question and/or justify the importance of the topic, and give some direction as to how the speech will unfold or develop. The body should be organized to best answer the question. Transitional words/devices should help to move the speech from point to point. The conclusion should restate the question and answer, succinctly summarize the speech’s main points highlighting how they led to the question’s answer, and end interestingly.
- **CONTENT:** This presentation should be an original speech developing the issue(s) raised by the selected topic. It should be a synthesis of current facts and opinions on the subject, not a mere listing of current data. The information presented in the speech should be accurate and timely. Sources consulted by the speaker during the preparation time should be cited effectively in the speech. These sources should be varied and credible. The speaker should make clear and reasonable use of the research and provide explanation of the issues that is easy to follow.
- **LANGUAGE:** The word choice should be clear and precise, interesting and easy to understand. If employed, creative devices, analogies, metaphors, alliteration, word plays, and the like should be effectively used and advance the purpose of the speech.
- **VOCAL DELIVERY:** The speaker should be audible, articulate, and fluent. The speaker should make use of contrast, making use of the elements of vocal variety: pitch, volume, rate, pausing, phrasing, stress, and tone. The speaker should stress words to enhance meaning. The speaker should be conversational and concerned, passionate and pleasing. The speaker should be in control of the words and the emotions. The speaker should sound confident throughout the presentation.
- **PHYSICAL DELIVERY:** The speaker should vary facial expressions to accentuate the natural flow of thoughts and feelings. The speaker should make eye contact with the audience. The speaker’s stance should be erect and controlled, without distracting movements. Movement, if used, should be motivated by transitions in thought or mood. Gestures should be visible, effectively used for emphasis, and varied.

Rules of Procedure

- The speech must be an original synthesis by the contestant of the current fact and opinion on the designated topic as presented by numerous sources. Source materials must be represented with relative accuracy in the speech. The speaker is responsible for the ethical use of source information.
- The speech must be extemporaneous and delivered without notes. If the speaker refers to prepared notes of any kind or a script during the presentation, the speaker must be ranked last.
- During the competition round, students must not access any research materials--oral, written, or electronic--outside of the preparation room.
- Speakers must not be penalized for expressing views with which the judge happens to disagree.
- Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.
- **TIME LIMIT:** Maximum 7 minutes. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period, that speaker may not be awarded first place. No minimum time.

SPEAKER POINT SCALE

(whole number points only)

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 99-100 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 96-98 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 94-95 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 92-93 | Developing [B-/C+] |
| 90-91 | Emerging [C or below] |
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Oral Interpretation of Literature

Judging Criteria

- **INTRODUCTION:** The introduction should name the work and author, provide necessary background information, and establish the mood. If using a teaser or if lines from the selection are used in the introduction, the speakers must adhere to the rules of the event.
- **PROJECTION OF LITERATURE:** The interpreter should demonstrate a clear understanding of the literature and project its meaning, message, and tone. The speaker should capture and convey the plot and/or development. Imagery should be carefully colored so as to promote audience understanding and appreciation. In a presentation of a collection, there should be a unity to the program as a whole, made clear by the introduction and transitional material. Consideration should be given to the literary merit of the selection(s).
- **NARRATOR/CHARACTER CREATION:** The narrator should be believable and conversational. The narrator should be able to lead the audience through the details of the literature, keeping a consistent and clear attitude toward people, objects, and events within the literature. In collections, the interpreter should develop and maintain unique and distinct narrative voices for each selection within the program. If they are utilized, character voices should be distinctive, consistent, and appropriate to the character. The interpreter should be able to demonstrate the characters’ feelings and thoughts through the use of vocal inflections, facial expressions including visualization, and appropriate intensity.
- **VISUALIZATION:** The interpreter should help the audience to see the particular world of the narrator. The interpreter should establish a strong sense of environment. The interpreter should be able to see and replay the events described or recalled in the literature.
- **VOCAL VARIETY:** The interpreter should appropriately vary pitch, volume, rate, and intensity to convey the various moods and messages in the literature. Appropriate words should be stressed for clarity and understanding. The interpreter should appropriately play with sound devices such as alliteration and attend to the sound and meaning of every word. For poetry, the interpreter should capture and effectively vary existing poetic rhythm, making use of rhyme when necessary and avoiding it when not.
- **AUDIENCE AND SCRIPT CONTACT:** The interpreter should invite the audience into the presentation, directing eye contact and expressing his or her feelings to individual audience members when appropriate and necessary and consulting the script when it is not. The interpreter should focus away from the audience and the script effectively during moments of internal and private thoughts. There should be a natural balance between the audience and script where one does not take precedence over the other. The interpreter should stay in the moment, with facial expression and emotional consistency when making contact with the manuscript.
- **OVERALL EFFECT:** The overall performance should build to various moments and have a climax. The performance should be easy to follow and complete. The performance should display another world outside of the performance space.

(continued on next page)

| SPEAKER POINT SCALE | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| (whole number points only) | |
| 99-100 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 96-98 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 94-95 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 92-93 | Developing [B-/C+] |
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Oral Interpretation of Literature (continued)

Rules of Procedure

- The speaker shall prepare two programs of manuscript-based literature substantially different in content, author, and/or original source. Each program shall consist of a single piece, a cutting, or a series of short pieces united by author or theme. One program shall be published prose; the other, published poetry. If using a series of pieces, all titles and authors must be cited. It is the affirmative obligation of all FGCCFL coaches to ensure that all materials presented in interpretation events must be available and readily accessible to all members of the League.
- Each program must contain an introduction for purposes of explication, setting, or selection transitions. The performer has the burden to be clear at all times which piece is being used. Lines attributed to one character in the published source must not be attributed to another character in the performance. The author's words as published in the literature must not be altered for the presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted.
- The literature chosen may include any form of prose or poetry, fiction or non-fiction. Drama, including theatrical monologues, is prohibited. Speeches written to be delivered in real-life are prohibited.
- Speakers may use a persona and/or character voices, but it is not necessary.
- While singing is permitted, it should not be excessive or dominate the performance. Judges' ranks may reflect if singing has dominated the performance.
- No properties except a manuscript or binder may be used. Using "properties" means manipulating articles of clothing or objects to enhance the performance. Speakers using properties and/or wearing costumes must be ranked last.
- Speakers should keep eye contact between audience and manuscript in reasonable balance. Speakers who fail to maintain the illusion of reading from the manuscript must not be ranked first.
- Speakers should keep gesture and bodily movement to a minimum. The selection should be delivered from center stage. Movement and gestures, if used, should be appropriate to the selection. Speakers should not walk during performances. They should emphasize vocal variety and facial expression to enhance the literary interpretation. Only the performer's feet may touch the ground.
- **TIME LIMIT:** Maximum 10 minutes. This includes at most 1 minute of introductory and transition material other than the author's words. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period, that contestant must not be awarded first place. No minimum time.

| SPEAKER POINT SCALE | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| (whole number points only) | |
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Original Oratory

Judging Criteria

- **TOPIC:** The topic should be interesting, stimulating, and of some importance. The purpose of the oration may be to inspire, to persuade, to eulogize, or to inform. These purposes may overlap in the same oration.
- **STRUCTURE:** The introduction should gain attention, specify a clear thesis, and give some direction as to how the speech will unfold or develop. The body should be organized for easy understanding. Transitional words/devices should help to move the speech from point to point. The conclusion should recap, make you want to think more about the topic, and end interestingly.
- **DEVELOPMENT:** The speaker should be held accountable for substantiating and supporting main positions. There should be a variety of effective supporting material from qualified sources. There should be clear explanation that helps the listener follow the speech’s flow and appreciate the use of supporting material.
- **LANGUAGE:** The word choice should be clear and potent. Figures of speech and rhetorical devices should be used effectively.
- **VOCAL DELIVERY:** The speaker should be articulate and fluent. The speaker should make use of contrast, and make use of the elements of vocal variety: pitch, volume, rate, pausing, phrasing, stress, and tone. The speaker should stress words to enhance meaning. The speaker should be conversational and concerned, passionate and pleasing. The speaker should be in control of the words and the emotions.
- **PHYSICAL DELIVERY:** The speaker should vary facial expression to accentuate the natural flow of thoughts and feelings. The speaker should make eye contact with the audience. The speaker’s stance should be erect and controlled, without distracting movements. Movement, if used, should be motivated by transitions in thought or mood. Gestures should be visible, effectively used for emphasis, and varied.
- Delivery and content should be evaluated equally.

Rules of Procedure

- The speaker should be expected to discuss with a degree of originality, and in an interesting manner, the topic chosen.
- The speakers should be given wide latitude in the ideas they express, but they should be held closely accountable for the manner in which they are expressed.
- Speakers must not be penalized for expressing views with which the judge happens to disagree.
- It is suggested, but not obligatory, that the topic be a subject of contemporary significance.
- The speech must be one that has been composed by the student delivering it.
- Original orations shall be composed from the standpoint of the present speaker. However, the use of a persona for a maximum length of 1 minute shall be permitted.
- The speech must be memorized. If the speaker refers to prepared notes of any kind or a script during the presentation, the speaker must be ranked last.
- The number of words quoted from authors other than the contestant must not exceed 150. Extensive paraphrasing of other sources is prohibited.
- Visual and audio-visual aids are not permitted. No properties or costumes of any kind may be used. Using “properties” means manipulating articles of clothing or objects to enhance the performance. Speakers using properties and/or wearing costumes must be ranked last.
- While singing is permitted it should not be excessive or dominate the performance. Judges' ranks may reflect if singing has dominated the performance.
- Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.
- **TIME LIMIT:** Maximum 10 minutes. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period, that contestant must not be awarded first place. No minimum time.

SPEAKER POINT SCALE

(whole number points only)

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 99-100 | Exemplary [A+] |
| 96-98 | Accomplished [A/A-] |
| 94-95 | Competent [B+/B] |
| 92-93 | Developing [B-/C+] |
| 90-91 | Emerging [C or below] |
| < 90 | Justify to Tab |

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