

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING BALLOT

Section _____

Round _____ Room _____ Total Time _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Name _____ Code _____

Topic _____

CRITERIA

COMMENTS

Thesis

Did the speaker create a thesis that was suitable/relevant and practical to the topic?

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 topic?

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 impromptu 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 judge.

CIRCLE THE NUMBER BELOW THAT INDICATES THE RATING OF THIS SPEAKER

RANK _____

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

JUDGE SIGNATURE _____

DO NOT GIVE STUDENTS ORAL CRITIQUES

Event Description

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 judge 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 judge.
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. Use a stopwatch to indicate the total time in the appropriate space on each ballot. If speaker does not speak for the minimum three (3) minutes speaker must be put last in the round.
6. Judges 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.