

High School Judge Cheat Sheet

DIRECTIONS: 1. Sign-in to live.speechwire.com 2. Click ballot & enter phone number, select YES. 3. When in room, **press "Start Round" in Speechwire.** 4. Type comments while competitors perform. 5. First, save 30 characters of comments minimum for all competitors. SAVE 6. Then enter ranks (1st being best) & points 90-100 (no ties). SAVE. *Ballots are open all night to edit comments.

Extemporaneous (EX)	Original Oratory (OO)	Declamation (DEC)	Impromptu (IMP)	Interpretation (HI, DI, DUO)	Program Oral Interpretation (POI)	Informative (INFO)
<p>Draw: In a prep room (not your room), competitors are presented with a choice of three current event questions related to national/international current events. The competitor has 30 minutes to prepare a speech answering the selected question. Judges will receive competitors one at a time, in 10-minute increments. Don't wait for all competitors to arrive.</p> <p>Judging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time: 5-7 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) Time violations (30 second grace period- 7:30 can place first, 7:35 cannot), (deduct points for any significant deviation from optimal time frame). Students may use the provided index card (they may not use their own or paper) during their speech, but should not be reading directly from it. It must be memorized. Factually accurate Organized, focused on topic, research referenced. 	<p>Competitors write, memorize, and deliver a problem/solution speech with the intent to persuade the audience on a topic of significance. It usually has a problem, with causes, effects, and solutions. Competitors should remain in the room for the remaining competitors' speeches.</p> <p>Judging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time: 8:30- 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) Time violations (30 second grace period- 10:30 can place first, 10:35 cannot), (deduct points for any significant deviation from optimal time frame). NO NOTES (Paper or Digital) Those using notes should not rank first Organized, flows, easy-to-follow. Clear message Relatable to any audience Cited evidence to support the cause, problem, and a solution that could mitigate the problem. 	<p>Competitors memorize and deliver a portion or portions of a printed, published, & publicly delivered speech previously performed by someone else (commencement addresses, historical speeches, political speeches, celebrity speeches, etc.). There will be a brief introduction to the piece near the beginning of the speech.</p> <p>Judging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time: 8:30- 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) Time violations (30 second grace period- 10:30 can place first, 10:35 cannot), (deduct points for any significant deviation from optimal time frame). NO NOTES (Paper or Digital) Those using notes should not rank first Entertaining, relatable, & flows Speech choice appropriate for competition 	<p>Students have 7 minutes to prepare and give an improvised speech without notes.</p> <p>Draw: (One speaker at a time) The judge has the speaker draw three prompts from an envelope. The speaker will choose one. The 7 minutes will start once the speaker chooses the topic (that topic is no longer valid for any other competitor). Competitors should remain in the room for all speeches.</p> <p>Judging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time: up to 7 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) 7 minutes includes preparation time and giving the speech. Students can use paper to help plan. No phones. Time violations (30 second grace period- 10:30 can place first, 10:35 cannot), (deduct points for any significant deviation from optimal time frame). Students may use the provided index card (they may not use their own or paper) during their speech but should not be reading directly from it. Organized, focused on topic, and supported using examples. 	<p>Competitors cut, memorize and perform their interpretation of a printed published, publicly accessible piece (script, movie, story, novel, etc.) including either single or multiple characters. PROPS ARE NOT PERMITTED (any item is considered a prop: chair, floor, table, etc.). In DUO, competitors may not make eye contact, nor touch. There will be a brief introduction to the piece near the beginning of the piece.</p> <p>Judging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time: 8:30-10 minutes Time violations (30 second grace period- 10:30 can place first, 10:35 cannot), (deduct points for any significant deviation from optimal time frame). No scripts/notes Time violations shouldn't rank first DUO – Students do not touch or have eye contact except during the introduction. <p>Content/Delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entertaining Piece should be challenging & appropriate for competition. Not mimicking the original, but an interpreted message using original wording. Characters clearly defined and differentiated. 	<p>Students deliver interpretative readings of published prose, poetry, or drama (plays) thematically linked from two or three genres. The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional may be memorized.</p> <p>Judging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time: 8:30-10 minutes Time violations (30 second grace period- 10:30 can place first, 10:35 cannot), (deduct points for any significant deviation from optimal time frame). Maintains impression of reading from script in black binder Different types of literature should be cut into one cohesive, themed performance. Characters should be distinguished and unique from each other. Manuscript book can be used as a prop. Blocking movements should enhance not distract and convey emotions, motivations, and physical factors. <p>Content & Delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piece choice challenging and appropriate for competition. Eye contact & Confident Volume & speaking rate 	<p>A self-written speech on a topic of their choice, using logic and evidence to inform not advocate. Visual aids are allowed. All research should be cited verbally.</p> <p>Judging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time: 8:30-10 minutes Time violations (30 second grace period- 10:30 can place first, 10:35 cannot), (deduct points for any significant deviation from optimal time frame). Focused on topic Organized and factual information with support of sources. Should educate and entertain Visual aids are engaging and have smooth delivery <p>Delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye contact Organized, knowledgeable, and informative Confidence Smooth delivery

In ALL Speech Events:

- Please look for the following: eye contact, confidence, articulation, poise, tone, speed, body language)
- Please make detailed comments on each ballot (positive & areas of improvement).
- Rank:** 1st to last place, no ties.
- Speaker Points:** 90 to 100 (highest points to 1st)

DISCLOSURE of RESULTS ANY round is PROHIBITED.

***TYPE IN THE BALLOT FEEDBACK WHILE COMPETITORS ARE SPEAKING TO SAVE TIME.** We cannot start the next round or finish the tournament until all ballots are submitted. You will have time to edit/add additional feedback after the ranks, points, and decision is submitted. *Other than school dress-code violations, attire should not be considered in scoring/ranking.

High School Judge Cheat Sheet

DIRECTIONS: 1. Sign-in to live.speechwire.com 2. Click ballot & enter phone number, select YES. 3. In room, **press "Start Round"**. 4. Type comments while debaters speak. 5. First, save 30 characters of comments min & RFD. SAVE 6. Then select a winner/loser (Aff/Neg) & points 25-30 (no ties) No low point wins. SAVE. *Ballots are open all night to edit comments.

Student Congress (CON)	Public Forum (PF)	Lincoln/Douglas Debate (LD)	Big Questions Debate (BQ)																																																																																													
<p>Contestants in Student Congress become legislators charged with the task of fulfilling the responsibilities of the US legislative branch of the federal government. There is a chamber of 15-25 competitors, as well as a PO (Presiding Officer- will run the room using Parliamentary Procedure)</p> <p>Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student speeches are up to 3 minutes (PO will announce speech times)• Legislation authors have 2 minutes mandatory questioning period• All other questioning periods are 1 minute.• Students may not have visual aids• Speech should be on appropriate topic/side• Focused on topic, organized, factual accuracy, good composition, references• Eye Contact, confidence, appropriate/professional tone <p>Score every speech – points range from 1 (poor) to 6 (excellent).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speech Scores: 1 (poor) – 6 (excellent). Competitors can tie speech scores.• Rank Competitors: 1 (best) - 8 (look at how many speeches they made, how many points you gave for each speech, their decorum towards the chamber, participation, questioning, etc.)• Please make detailed positive and constructive comments on each student ballot.• Competitors should not receive extra points for questioning, however it should help determine ranking if the speech points are tied.• Your opinion on the topic should not influence the ranking.	<p>2 vs 2 event that advocates or rejects a position posed by the resolution. Teams are assigned Aff/Neg prior to the round, indicated on the ballot. The burden of proof is on the affirmative.</p> <table><tr><th>Argument</th><th>Time Limit</th><th>Purpose</th></tr><tr><td>Aff: Speaker 1 Constructive Argument</td><td>4min</td><td>Present Team’s Affirmative Case</td></tr><tr><td>Neg: Speaker 1 Constructive Argument</td><td>4min</td><td>Present Team’s Negative Case</td></tr><tr><td>Crossfire Questioning</td><td>3min</td><td>Speaker 1 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions</td></tr><tr><td>Aff: Speaker 2 Rebuttal</td><td>4min</td><td>Refute the opposing side’s arguments</td></tr><tr><td>Neg: Speaker 2 Rebuttal</td><td>4min</td><td>Refute the opposing side’s arguments</td></tr><tr><td>Crossfire Questioning</td><td>3min</td><td>Speaker 2 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions</td></tr><tr><td>Aff: Speaker 1 Summary</td><td>3min</td><td>Crystallize the round and zero-in on the most important points</td></tr><tr><td>Neg: Speaker 1 Summary</td><td>3min</td><td>Crystallize the round and zero-in on the most important points</td></tr><tr><td>Grand Crossfire Questioning</td><td>3min</td><td>All 4 debaters involved in asking and answering questions at once</td></tr><tr><td>Aff: Speaker 2 Final Focus</td><td>2min</td><td>Explain reasons they should win the round</td></tr><tr><td>Neg: Speaker 2 Final Focus</td><td>2min</td><td>Explain reasons they should win the round</td></tr></table> <p>(3 minutes of prep time given for each team)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focused on topic, organized arguments, factual accuracy, cited evidence to support points, countered arguments presented by opposing team• Confident, respectful of other team• Your opinion on the topic should not influence the ranking.• 10sec. grace period for each argument. Judge stops time. <p>Each team receives speaker points ranging from 25-30 points (highest total points goes to winning team) and should reflect your win/loss decision. Please justify your decision and provide constructive feedback to each team.</p>	Argument	Time Limit	Purpose	Aff: Speaker 1 Constructive Argument	4min	Present Team’s Affirmative Case	Neg: Speaker 1 Constructive Argument	4min	Present Team’s Negative Case	Crossfire Questioning	3min	Speaker 1 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions	Aff: Speaker 2 Rebuttal	4min	Refute the opposing side’s arguments	Neg: Speaker 2 Rebuttal	4min	Refute the opposing side’s arguments	Crossfire Questioning	3min	Speaker 2 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions	Aff: Speaker 1 Summary	3min	Crystallize the round and zero-in on the most important points	Neg: Speaker 1 Summary	3min	Crystallize the round and zero-in on the most important points	Grand Crossfire Questioning	3min	All 4 debaters involved in asking and answering questions at once	Aff: Speaker 2 Final Focus	2min	Explain reasons they should win the round	Neg: Speaker 2 Final Focus	2min	Explain reasons they should win the round	<p>Each debater will try to show why their position supports the more important principles inherent in their position and why that position is superior to the opponent’s. Debaters are assigned Aff/Neg prior to the round, indicated on the ballot. The burden of proof is on the affirmative.</p> <table><tr><th>Argument</th><th>Time Limit</th><th>Purpose</th></tr><tr><td>Aff Constructive</td><td>6min</td><td>Present the Affirmative case</td></tr><tr><td>Neg Cross-Examination</td><td>3min</td><td>Negative asks questions of the aff</td></tr><tr><td>Neg Constructive</td><td>7min</td><td>Present Neg case and refute Aff case</td></tr><tr><td>Aff Cross-Examination</td><td>3min</td><td>Affirmative asks questions of the Neg</td></tr><tr><td>1st Aff Rebuttal</td><td>4min</td><td>Refute the Neg case, rebuild Aff case</td></tr><tr><td>Neg Rebuttal</td><td>6min</td><td>Refute the Aff case, rebuild the Neg case, offer reasons Neg should win</td></tr><tr><td>2nd Aff Rebuttal</td><td>3min</td><td>Address Neg reasons, offer why Aff should win</td></tr></table> <p>(4 minutes of prep time given per debater)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focused on topic, organized arguments, factual accuracy, cited evidence to support points, countered arguments presented by opposing debater• Confidence, respectful of each other, appropriate/professional tone• Your opinion on the topic should not influence the ranking.• 10sec. grace period for each argument. Judge stops time. <p>Each debater receives speaker points ranging from 25-30 points (highest total points goes to winner) and should reflect your win/loss decision. Please justify your decision and provide positive, but constructive feedback to each debater.</p>	Argument	Time Limit	Purpose	Aff Constructive	6min	Present the Affirmative case	Neg Cross-Examination	3min	Negative asks questions of the aff	Neg Constructive	7min	Present Neg case and refute Aff case	Aff Cross-Examination	3min	Affirmative asks questions of the Neg	1st Aff Rebuttal	4min	Refute the Neg case, rebuild Aff case	Neg Rebuttal	6min	Refute the Aff case, rebuild the Neg case, offer reasons Neg should win	2nd Aff Rebuttal	3min	Address Neg reasons, offer why Aff should win	<p>Opposing views debate a topic concerning the intersection of science, philosophy, and religion. Debaters are assigned Aff/Neg prior to the round, indicated on the ballot. The burden of proof is on each side.</p> <table><tr><th>Argument</th><th>Time Limit</th><th>Purpose</th></tr><tr><td>Aff Constructive</td><td>5min</td><td>Affirmative case</td></tr><tr><td>Neg Constructive</td><td>5min</td><td>Negative case</td></tr><tr><td>Question Segment</td><td>3min</td><td>Crossfire question/answer, Aff ask first question</td></tr><tr><td>Aff Rebuttal</td><td>4min</td><td>Address key claims and weaknesses of opponent’s case</td></tr><tr><td>Neg Rebuttal</td><td>4min</td><td>Address key claims and weaknesses of opponent’s case</td></tr><tr><td>Question Segment</td><td>3min</td><td>Crossfire question/answer, Aff ask first question</td></tr><tr><td>Aff Consolidation</td><td>3min</td><td>Reduce to core elements, strengthen</td></tr><tr><td>Neg Consolidation</td><td>3min</td><td>Reduce to core elements, strengthen</td></tr><tr><td>Aff Rationale</td><td>3min</td><td>Summation of central argument and prove why they should win</td></tr><tr><td>Neg Rationale</td><td>3min</td><td>Summation of central argument and prove why they should win</td></tr></table> <p>(3 minutes of prep time given per debater)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focused on topic, organized arguments, factual accuracy, cited evidence to support points, countered arguments presented by opposing debater• Confident, respectful of each other• Your opinion on the topic should not influence the ranking.• 10sec. grace period for each argument. 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<p>PF Debate Sept/Oct 2025: Resolved: The United Kingdom should rejoin the European Union.</p> <p>LD Debate Sept/Oct 2025 (Novice): Resolved: In the United States, national service ought to be mandatory.</p> <p>BQ 2025-2026 Topic: Resolved: Religious belief is a prerequisite for morality.</p> <p>https://www.speechanddebate.org/topics/</p>																																																																																																

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