

## Rules for Demonstration Speech

**Time Limit: 4 - 8 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch (**Only time the actual speech, not the set-up or the takedown**)

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills of explaining and demonstrating a useful and practical process using props and visual aids.

### Description of Category:

A Demonstration Speech explains how to do something while demonstrating the process at the same time. The student should choose a topic that is practical or artistic. The speech may teach a specialized skill, show the construction of an item, or demonstrate how an object operates. An individual speaker or a team of two may deliver a presentation in this category. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to the content and the delivery.

### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category requires the participant(s) to demonstrate a practical or artistic skill or process, (ex: playing an instrument or sport), show the construction of an item, (ex: origami, birdhouse or no bake peanut butter bars), and use an object of demonstration or aid in the speech. Material(s) outside the speaker's body must be used to enhance the demonstration. (Frivolous or "tongue in cheek" topics are better suited to Infomercial or Special Events. Ex: How to drive a parent crazy or How to avoid a Zombie Apocalypse.)
  2. Attire appropriate to the presentation is allowed but cannot be considered the object of the demonstration.
  3. The participant should expect a normal-sized classroom with a normal-sized door. The host school will provide a table. The participant must provide any other materials.
  4. No materials dangerous to the health or safety of the participant or the audience may be used. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, firearms, dangerous chemicals, live animals, and laser pointers.
  5. Audio devices are permitted to enhance, but not replace the presentation.
  6. Materials are not to be passed around the room to audience members or to the judge before, during, or after the speech. Attention should always be directed to the speaker's involvement with the materials being used as objects of demonstration.
  7. A presentation in this category may include an individual or a team of two.
    - a. In an **individual** demonstration, one other person may be used as the object of demonstration or as an assistant in setting up or striking down the equipment used in the presentation. When interpreting this rule, consider whether the second person is assisting in the process or is actually carrying out the process. Only one other person may serve as both an object of demonstration and as an assistant. This person must also meet eligibility requirements but will not be considered as a participant. Therefore, this person may participate in another category. Any resulting scheduling problems, however, will not be the responsibility of the host school.
    - b. A **team** demonstration provides the opportunity for two people to share the responsibility of explaining and demonstrating a process. This option requires both participants to share in the speaking, as well as in the demonstrating of the process. Such a presentation shall be judged as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
  8. Each contestant may use 5x7 (or smaller) note cards. Note cards are not required.
  9. The participant(s) may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
- T** A speech in this category shall be from 4 to 8 minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over and under.
- \* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.***

Yes      No

Comments

(A minimum of 3 comments is required. Scores of 3 or below require comments explaining what improvements are needed to qualify for state.)

DEMONSTRATION												
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION												
1	1	2	3	4	5	Opening effectively and creatively captures the audience's attention and sets clear goal.						
2	1	2	3	4	5	Word choice and sentence structure is interesting and appropriate for the audience. Steps in a process are easily followed. Any topic-specific language explained.						
3	1	2	3	4	5	Main point is clear throughout the speech. Transitions connect points and enhance flow.						
4	1	2	3	4	5	Conclusion reviews what was demonstrated, pulls together the main points and wraps up the speech in a positive, interesting way.						
DELIVERY												
5	1	2	3	4	5	Delivery is lively and energetic. Content and procedures are creatively and interestingly demonstrated. Holds audience interest throughout.						
6	1	2	3	4	5	Props and visual aids used effectively to enhance the presentation.						
7	1	2	3	4	5	Eyes connect with the audience. Gestures and facial expressions add interest. They are consistent and effective throughout the piece and don't distract from the main point.						
AUDIBLE MESSAGE												
8	1	2	3	4	5	Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard. Vocal variation provides expression.						
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.						
10	1	2	3	4	5	Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)						
Count	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>							
X value	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>							
= points	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5							
(*List mispronounced or misused words below.)												
						Total Column I						
						Total Column II						
						Total Column III						
						Total Column IV						
						Total Column V						
						Total Score						
						Rank						
						(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)						

## Rules for Farrago

**Time Limit:** 4 - 8 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

### Purpose of the Category

To develop skills in identifying, selecting, combining, and presenting quality literature from a variety of genres which addresses a specific theme or emotion.

### Description of Category

The challenge of Farrago is to select material from a variety of literary genres/non-original texts (poetry, short stories, speeches, essays, drama, novels, etc.), which addresses a central specific theme or emotion, and to interpret the material through oral presentation. This is an interpretive category, not an acting category. This is an individual category.

### Rules

1. The contestant must choose quality material from at least two literary genres/non-original texts, which have a common theme or emotion. If the piece is adapted, credit must be properly given to the authors of the original piece and "adaptations" must be stated in the introduction.
  2. An introduction and transitions must be memorized and must include titles, authors, theme, and genres. The introduction and transitions must be the original work of the speaker. Transitions must include title and author of the upcoming piece.
  3. The selection is to be read from the printed page by using either the original source or a typed manuscript. The material is not to be presented as a memorized selection. The participant may not walk except during transitions. **(Walking is defined as more than one consecutive traveling step.)**
  4. Costumes, props, recorded music, or other audio-visual materials may not be used. (Items found in the room or removable items on the body, such as jewelry, scripts, desks, chairs, etc., are considered props and may **NOT** be used.) Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds total.
  5. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from four to eight minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.
- \*** A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes      No

Round \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_ (4-8 min)  
 You must circle one number in each row. A score of 44 qualifies for State  
 15 second grace period before and after

**Comments**  
 (A minimum of 3 comments is required. Scores of 3 or below require comments explaining what improvements are needed to qualify for state.)

FARRAGO						
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION						
1	1	2	3	4	5	Introduction creates an atmosphere, sets the mood and grasps the attention of the audience. Transitions smoothly connect the theme across genres.
2	1	2	3	4	5	The theme is developed using well chosen pieces that complement and build on each other. Transitions move the audience seamlessly through the selection.
DELIVERY						
3	1	2	3	4	5	Reading is done with expression that enhances the enjoyment of the selection. Rhyming, if present, is not overly emphasized.
4	1	2	3	4	5	Eyes repeatedly connect with the audience, yet return back to the text in order to read. Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.
5	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to enhance the presentation.
6	1	2	3	4	5	Script is referred to consistently but is rarely noticed by the audience.
7	1	2	3	4	5	The mood and emotions of the selection are consistently and effectively interpreted and conveyed to the audience. Meaning is clear throughout.
AUDIBLE MESSAGE						
8	1	2	3	4	5	Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard. Variation in volume adds interest to the presentation and emphasizes important ideas.
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas. Pauses are used effectively to build suspense and emphasize important words and ideas.
10	1	2	3	4	5	Lines spoken clearly throughout. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. No mispronunciations noticed. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)

Count					
X value					
= points	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I \_\_\_\_\_

Total Column II \_\_\_\_\_

Total Column III \_\_\_\_\_

Total Column IV \_\_\_\_\_

Total Column V \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_ (1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

## Rules for Group Acting

**Time Limit: 5 - 8 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

### Purpose of the Category:

To provide a group of students the opportunity to learn and practice basic acting skills by working together to dramatize a literary script.

### Description of Category:

The emphasis of this category is on basic acting skills and character interaction. Other skills include individual character development, dialogue, movement, and emotional expression as characters respond and react to each other and the situations confronting them. The primary focus of the performers should be on each other, although narrators and asides to the audience are permitted. The source material can be prose, radio drama, plays, or screenplays. Students may also adapt published or recorded works or develop their own material.

### Rules:

1. An entry in this category is a presentation by a group of students from **two to four** in number.
2. The presentation must be **memorized** and performed by all participants. No scripts or prompting will be allowed.
3. The use of a table/desk and chairs/stools is permitted and will be provided by the host. Tables may only be used as tables and chairs may only be used as seats. The presentation is to be given without costumes, make-up, or props. (Items found in the room or removable items on the body, such as jewelry, glasses, scripts, etc., are considered props.) The use of walls, doors, windows, lights, pre recorded sound or video, etc, is prohibited. The presentation space is defined as a wall-less area within a room. Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds total.
4. An **introduction**, including author and title, is required and should be given by one or more members of the group. If the piece is adapted, credit must be properly given to the authors of the original piece and a statement that it was adapted must be mentioned in the introduction. The introduction and any transitions needed to establish relationships between parts of the presentation **must be given from memory.**
5. **Movement** appropriate to the character and situation is expected and necessary. The primary focus of performers should be on themselves, or each other. Asides to the audience are permitted.
6. A presentation in this category shall be judged as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
7. In the event one member of the group is unable to appear at a tournament or festival, any other eligible student may be substituted. No special allowance will be made for the substitute.
8. A presentation in this category may not be used by any of the performers for more than one season.

**T** A presentation in this category shall be from five to eight minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.***

Yes      No

Comments

(A minimum of 3 comments is required. Scores of 3 or below require comments explaining what improvements are needed to qualify for state.)

GROUP ACTING						
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION						
1	1	2	3	4	5	Introduction creates an atmosphere, sets the mood, and grasps the attention of the audience.
2	1	2	3	4	5	The selection is cut and organized so it is easily understood and conveys a complete message. Transitions move the audience seamlessly through the selection.
DELIVERY						
3	1	2	3	4	5	Facial expressions add to the visual impact of the presentation.
4	1	2	3	4	5	Movement, gestures, and blocking enhance the presentation.
5	1	2	3	4	5	All actors are lifelike and believable. They stay in character throughout the presentation
6	1	2	3	4	5	Interaction between characters is very realistic and believable.
7	1	2	3	4	5	The meaning and emotions of the selection are consistently and effectively interpreted and conveyed to the audience.
AUDIBLE MESSAGE						
8	1	2	3	4	5	Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Vocal variation (tone, volume, expression) enhances the performance.
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses are used to effectively build suspense and emphasize important ideas and words.
10	1	2	3	4	5	Lines spoken clearly throughout. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)

Count					
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points					

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I

Total Column II

Total Column III

Total Column IV

Total Column V

Total Score

Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

## Rules for Group Interpretation

**Time Limit: 5 - 8 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch.

### Purpose of the Category:

To provide a group of students the opportunity of working together to present a literary script.

### Description of Category:

The goal of this category is to provide a group of students the opportunity of working together to present a literary script by using their voices and/or bodies to **suggest** the intellectual, emotional or sensory experiences inherent in the material they have chosen. The readers should strive to have the audience lose themselves in the ideas that are being presented and make the printed page come alive for them. The source material can be prose, radio drama, plays, or screenplays. Students may also adapt published or recorded works or develop their own material. Emphasis in this category is on vocal and verbal excellence and group dynamics. **Primary focus of the performers is on the audience, not each other.**

### Rules:

1. An entry in this category is a presentation by a group of students from two to four in number.
2. An **introduction** that includes the title and author is required and should be **given from memory** by one or more members of the group. Transitions, if needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation, should also be delivered from memory. If the piece is adapted, credit must be properly given to the authors of the original piece and "adapted" must be stated in the introduction.
3. All participants **must read from a script**. All participants must hold their own script in their hand or hands at all times during the presentation. Scripts must be uniform. They should be mounted on solid-color stock or in plain binders that will be the same color for all participants.
4. The group presentation is to be given without costumes, make-up, or props. (Items found in the room or removable items on the body, such as jewelry, glasses, scripts, etc. are considered props.) The use of walls, doors, windows, lights, etc. is prohibited. No prerecorded sound may be used. Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds total. The presentation space is defined as a wall-less area within a room.
5. **No body or eye contact with other members of the group** is allowed. Focus is on the audience, not each other. (This does not prohibit the brief incidental physical or eye contact of people standing next to each other or in blocking transition.)
6. A presentation in this category shall be judged as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
7. In the event one member of the group is unable to appear at a tournament or festival, any other eligible student may be substituted. No special allowance will be made for the substitute.
8. A presentation in this category may not be used by any of the performers for more than one season.

**T** A presentation in this category shall be from five to eight minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over and under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\*** A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes

No

Comments

(A minimum of 3 comments is required. Scores of 3 or below require comments explaining what improvements are needed to qualify for state.)

GROUP INTERPRETATION					
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION					
1	1	2	3	4	5
Introduction creatively and effectively prepares the audience and captures their attention.					
2	1	2	3	4	5
Selection is cut and organized so it is easily understood and conveys a complete message; if needed, transitions move the audience seamlessly through the selection.					
DELIVERY					
3	1	2	3	4	5
Movement and blocking are used creatively to enhance the piece without interrupting the flow of the presentation. Gestures are creatively and effectively used to enhance the presentation.					
4	1	2	3	4	5
Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.					
5	1	2	3	4	5
Scripts are referred to consistently but are barely noticed. Reading from scripts does not prevent making eye contact with the entire audience.					
6	1	2	3	4	5
Smooth transitions between readers; unison reading (if present), timing, and creative variety enhance presentation.					
7	1	2	3	4	5
Reading is done with expression that enhances the enjoyment or seriousness of the selection. Pauses are used effectively to build suspense and emphasize important words and ideas.					
AUDIBLE MESSAGE					
8	1	2	3	4	5
Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.					
9	1	2	3	4	5
Variation in volume adds interest to the piece.					
10	1	2	3	4	5
Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.					
Lines spoken clearly throughout. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. No mispronunciations noticed.					
(*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)					

Count

X value

points

X 1

X 2

X 3

X 4

X 5

Total Column I

Total Column II

Total Column III

Total Column IV

Total Column V

Total Score

Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

Print Judge Name

Code



## Rules for Humorous Solo Acting

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop skills in the presentation of comedy, using voice, movement, body, hands, and facial expression.

### Description of Category:

This category enables the participant to consider shorter monologues and plays as well as stand-up, dialogue, and multiple-character pieces. The material for Humorous Solo Acting shall be a cutting taken from drama, or other literature adapted to the dramatic format with brief narrative transitions allowed. The material may be original, non-original, or an adaptation by the participant, and may include impersonations. The material may be in the form of a monologue or a selection that includes any number of characters. This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. An entry in this category is to be **memorized**. The source material may be prose, poetry, drama, digital, or essay and may be original, non-original, or an adaptation. Impersonations are allowed.
  2. The participant must prepare and present an **introduction**, including author and title, and any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation. **The introduction and transitions must be given from memory.** If the piece is adapted, credit must be properly given to authors of the original piece and all adaptations must be stated in the introduction.
  3. Movement is limited **only** by what is appropriate to the material and the style of the presentation.
  4. A chair and table or desk may be used and will be provided by the host. Tables may only be used as tables and chairs may only be used as seats. The presentation shall be performed without use of costume, make-up or props. Items found in the room or removable items on the body, such as jewelry, scripts, etc., are considered props and are prohibited. The use of walls, doors, windows, lights, etc., is prohibited. The presentation space is defined as a wall-less area within a room. Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds.
  5. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over and under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.
- \*** A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.***

Yes      No

Round \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_ (3-6 min)  
 You must circle one number in each row. A score of 44 qualifies for State  
 15 second grace period before and after

### Comments

(A minimum of 3 comments is required. Scores of 3 or below require comments explaining what improvements are needed to qualify for state.)

HUMOROUS SOLO ACTING									
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION									
1	1	2	3	4	5	Introduction creates an atmosphere, sets the mood, and grasps the attention of the audience.			
2	1	2	3	4	5	Selection is cut and organized so it is easily understood and conveys a complete message; if needed, transitions move the audience seamlessly through the selection.			
DELIVERY									
3	1	2	3	4	5	Character(s) are lifelike and believable throughout the presentation. If more than one character, each is easily distinguishable.			
4	1	2	3	4	5	Eyes connect with the audience. Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation			
5	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to enhance the presentation and to make character(s) come alive.			
6	1	2	3	4	5	Movement and blocking is purposeful in order to enhance the presentation and add interest without being distracting.			
7	1	2	3	4	5	The humor and emotions of the piece are consistently and effectively interpreted and conveyed to the audience.			
AUDIBLE MESSAGE									
8	1	2	3	4	5	Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.			
9	1	2	3	4	5	Vocal variation (tone, expression) adds interest to the performance.			
10	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses are used effectively to add interest and bring out the humor.			
Lines spoken clearly throughout. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. No mispronunciations noticed.									
(*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)									

Count	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Total Column I \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column II \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column III \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column IV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column V \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Score \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
 (1,2,3,4,5,5,5,...)

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

## Rules for Impromptu Speaking

**Time Limit: 2 - 4 minutes (15 second grace for over 4 minutes only—Time card at 2, 3, 3 ½, and 4 minutes)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skill of speaking extemporaneously on a topic of general knowledge.

### Description of Category:

In the Impromptu Speaking category, the speaker will present an “off the cuff” speech about a common knowledge topic to be drawn immediately before speaking. Topics may be a word, phrase, statement, or non-specific question. The focus will be on the speaker’s ability to think on his/her feet. Sources need not be cited, as topics are within the experience or knowledge of the speaker.

A speech in this category may be informative, persuasive, or entertaining. (e.g. If the topic is puppies, a student might give an informative speech about the care of puppies, a persuasive speech about the need for neutering, or an entertaining speech about his own experiences with puppies.) The speech should include an introduction, body, and conclusion. **In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style.** This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. The speech is to be presented extemporaneously. **Notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card may be used but are not required.** The notes, if used, must be written during the two-minute preparation time on a note card issued by the host school. A student should not be marked lower for using a note card. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech that are adversely affected by using a note card, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
  2. Costumes, props, and visual aids may not be used. (Items found in the room such as desks, chairs, podiums, stands, etc., are considered props and may NOT be used.)
  3. The speech must be clearly related to the topic selected.
  4. The speech must be a minimum of 2 minutes with no grace period. If the speech is under 2 minutes it is considered a rule violation with a penalty as given below \*.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be a maximum of four minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over the maximum time limit.
- \*** A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes      No

\*Must speak at least 2 minutes; no grace period on minimum. 1.5 second grace period at end.

**Comments**

A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING						
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION						
1	1	2	3	4	5	Opening sets a clear direction and captures the audience's interest. Conclusion effectively ties speech together.
2	1	2	3	4	5	Topic drawn is the main point of speech and is clear and consistently developed throughout the presentation without being overly repetitious.
3	1	2	3	4	5	The speech is organized and easy to follow.
4	1	2	3	4	5	Word choice and sentence structure are well-developed.
DELIVERY						
5	1	2	3	4	5	Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.
6	1	2	3	4	5	Eyes consistently connect with the audience drawing them into the subject; everyone is included. Note card if used is not overly the focus of the speaker.
7	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to emphasize important ideas and add interest, without being distracting.
AUDIBLE MESSAGE						
8	1	2	3	4	5	Vocal variation (tone, expression) adds interest to the performance. Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.
10	1	2	3	4	5	Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)

Count					
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points					

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I
Total Column II
Total Column III
Total Column IV
Total Column V
Total Score
Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

## Rules for Infomercial

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch (Only time the actual speech, not the set-up or tear down)

### Purpose of the Category:

To give students the opportunity to use creativity, humor, and imagination in preparing and delivering a brief persuasive speech.

### Description of Category:

The challenge in this category is to create and present a speech that emulates a television infomercial selling a real or imagined product or service. The tone of the speech should be creative, entertaining, imaginative, and emphasize the positive aspects of the product. A presentation in this category may include an individual speaker or a team of two. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style. Singing, if used, must be incidental and be no more than 30 seconds total.

### Rules:

1. A speech in this category may be given by an individual or a team of two. It must be written by the participants who present it.
2. The speech may be presented from memory or with the use of notes.. Each contestant may use 5x7 (or smaller) note cards.  
Note cards are not required.
3. **Properties and/or visual materials are required** in this category. Attire appropriate to the presentation may be worn. A table and chair/desk will be provided by the host.
4. A team infomercial requires **both** people to share the responsibility of giving the presentation. One person's contribution should not appear to be significantly greater than the other.
5. Movement is limited only by what is appropriate to the material and the style of the presentation.
6. The participant(s) may not use the same product or service as a topic for presentation in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over and under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.
- \*** A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes

No

INFOMERCIAL					
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION					
1	1	2	3	4	5
Opening effectively and creatively captures the audience's attention and sets clear goals. Ending effectively ties pieces together.					
2	1	2	3	4	5
Concept is interesting, creative, and imaginative. Focus is on the positive aspects of the product.					
3	1	2	3	4	5
Main point is clear throughout the speech. Speech is well organized with transitions connecting different parts, enhancing the flow of the speech.					
4	1	2	3	4	5
Word choice and sentence structure are interesting and appropriate for audience					
DELIVERY					
5	1	2	3	4	5
Delivery is lively and energetic. Holds audience interest throughout.					
6	1	2	3	4	5
Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the subject. Entire audience is included.					
7	1	2	3	4	5
Props, costumes, and visual aids are used effectively to enhance the presentation.					
8	1	2	3	4	5
Overall visual effect is creative, energetic, and captivating (consider: facial expressions, gestures, movement, etc.).					
AUDIBLE MESSAGE					
9	1	2	3	4	5
Vocal variation (tone, volume, expression) adds interest to the performance. Volume fits the piece, audience, and room.					
10	1	2	3	4	5
Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas. Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)					

Count	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column II \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column III \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column IV \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column V \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Score \_\_\_\_\_  
Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

## Rules for Informative Speech

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes** (15 sec. grace period over and under)

Judges are required to use a stopwatch. (Only time the actual speech, not the set-up or tear down)

### Purpose of the Category:

To give the students the opportunity to prepare and present a brief informative speech.

### Description of Category:

The purpose of an Informative Speech is to expand an audience's knowledge of a specific topic in an interesting and understandable fashion. The speech might be about a person (eg, Abraham Lincoln, Harriet Tubman, or the Speaker of the House), a place (eg, New York City, Antarctica or a national park), or an object (eg, a work of art, a musical instrument, or an exotic animal). Another option is to present a review of an event, movie, book, or game. The review should be factual and informative and include a balance of positive and negative qualities. The speaker's goal is to share information with the audience but NOT to persuade. Direct quotes, statistics, comparisons, and examples **must be used** to develop the speech. Specific information that is not general knowledge **must be cited**. A visual aid **must be used**. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and delivery. This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. A speech in this category must be written by the person who presents it.
  2. A speech in this category must be **informative** in purpose. (When deciding if a speech is informative in purpose, consider whether the speech deals with a solution to the topic. If so, the speech should probably be in the Persuasive category.) A review should be about a topic that is appropriate to people the speaker's age. The review should be factual and informative. It should address a balance of positive and negative qualities of the topic.
  3. Multiple direct quotes, statistics, comparisons, and examples must be used to develop the speech. Specific information that is not general knowledge **must be cited**. More than one source must be used for citations.
  4. The speech may be presented using notes or from memory. Note cards 5x7 or smaller may be used but are not required. A student should not be marked lower for using note cards. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech that are adversely affected by using note cards, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
  5. One **visual supporting item** **must** be used, but the participant may not wear it. Multiple images on one poster or trifold board are considered one item. The visual item must support but not dominate the presentation. No sound equipment, laser pointers, or electronic devices may be used. No costumes or props may be used. *If competing virtually, multiple images may be presented separately to the camera.*
  6. The participant may not use a speech or topic in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over and under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.
- \*** A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a **10 point** penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes      No

Comments

A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

INFORMATIVE SPEECH						
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION						
1	1	2	3	4	5	Opening effectively and creatively sets a clear direction and captures the audience's attention. Conclusion effectively ties speech together.
2	1	2	3	4	5	Topic is interesting and informative. Main point of speech is clear and consistently developed throughout the presentation. The speech is well organized and easy to follow.
3	1	2	3	4	5	Information from more than one source is cited. Citations are well integrated into the speech. <b>Please tally here each citation heard:</b>
4	1	2	3	4	5	Words used are appropriate for the audience and add interest to the speech. Content specific words are clearly explained and used correctly. (*List misused or unclear words in the designated space.)
DELIVERY						
5	1	2	3	4	5	Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation. Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the subject. Entire audience is included.
6	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to emphasize important ideas, refer to the visual material, and add interest, without being distracting.
7	1	2	3	4	5	Visual material effectively supports but does not dominate the presentation.
AUDIBLE MESSAGE						
8	1	2	3	4	5	Vocal variation (tone and expression) adds interest to the performance and helps to emphasize important words and ideas. Volume fits the piece, audience, and room.
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.
10	1	2	3	4	5	Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)

Count

X value

= points

X 1

X 2

X 3

X 4

X 5

Total Column I

Total Column II

Total Column III

Total Column IV

Total Column V

Total Score

Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)



## Rules for Moments in History

**Time Limit:** 3 - 6 minutes (15 sec. grace period over or under)

Judges are required to use a stopwatch. (Only time the actual speech, not the set-up or tear down)

### Purpose of the Category:

To give students the opportunity to prepare a brief informative speech based on a historical topic and to use a visual aid while presenting the speech.

### Description of Category:

In the Moments in History category, the speaker will prepare and present a well-organized, informative speech on a topic drawn from the designated decade or era. The decade or era shall be determined each year by the MLFA of Wisconsin Category Committee and presented at the Fall Meeting. **Sources** other than personal opinion, personal experience, and general knowledge, such as books, magazines, experts, etc. **must be used** to support the ideas presented and **must be cited**. In presenting the speech, the participant **must use one visual aid**. The visual aid should support the speech but not dominate it. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style. This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. A speech in this category must be about a topic pertaining to the chosen time period and should be **informative** in nature.
  2. A speech in this category must be written by the student who presents it.
  3. The speech may be presented from memory, using notes, or extemporaneously. Note cards 5x7 or smaller may be used but are not required. A student should not be marked lower for using note cards. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech that are adversely affected by using a note card, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
  4. Multiple sources other than personal knowledge **must** be used to support the ideas presented. **Sources must be cited**.
  5. One visual supporting item **must** be used, but the participant may not wear it. Multiple images on one poster or trifold board are considered one item. The visual item must support, but not dominate, the presentation. No sound equipment, laser pointers, or electronic devices may be used. No costumes, or additional visual aids, or props may be used. *If competing virtually, multiple images may be presented separately to the camera.*
  6. The participant may not use a speech or topic in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.
- \*** A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

Proceed to the **INFRACTIONS TABLE** with any violations.

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes      No

Comments  
A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY The era is a score: 1900-1919									
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION									
1	1	2	3	4	5	Opening effectively and creatively sets a clear direction and captures the audience's attention. Conclusion effectively ties speech together.			
2	1	2	3	4	5	Topic is interesting and informative. Speech is well organized and easy to follow. Main point is clear and evident throughout the speech.			
3	1	2	3	4	5	Words used are appropriate for the audience and add interest to the speech. Content specific words are clearly explained and used correctly. (*List misused or unclear words in the designated space.)			
4	1	2	3	4	5	Information from more than once source is cited. Citations are well integrated into the speech. Please tally here each citation heard:			
DELIVERY									
5	1	2	3	4	5	Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation. Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the subject. Entire audience is included.			
6	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to emphasize important ideas, refer to the visual material, and add interest, without being distracting.			
7	1	2	3	4	5	Visual material effectively supports but does not dominate the presentation.			
AUDIBLE MESSAGE									
8	1	2	3	4	5	Vocal variation (tone and expression) adds interest to the performance and helps to emphasize important words and ideas. Volume fits the piece, audience, and room.			
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.			
10	1	2	3	4	5	Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)			

Count	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points	—	—	—	—	—

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column II \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column III \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column IV \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Column V \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Score \_\_\_\_\_

Rank  
(1,2,3,4,5,5,5,...)

## Rules for News Reporting

**Time Limit: 5 - 8 minutes** (15 sec. grace period over and under)

Judges are required to use a stopwatch. (Only time the actual speech, not the set-up or tear down)

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills of selecting, editing, organizing, and presenting news for television.

### Description of Category:

The category of News Reporting gives one to three students the opportunity to practice the skills of research, organization, analysis and presentation of information based on current events.

**Option A:** The student(s) will prepare and present a news program including news (local, state, national, or international stories), weather, sports and an original editorial.

**Option B:** The student(s) will prepare and present an all sports news program including sports highlights, coverage of one or more major newsworthy stories, a feature story, and an original editorial.

Material may be edited or rewritten by the student(s). Sources of information for this may include newspapers, magazines, radio, television and the Internet. The primary focus of this category should be hard news. (This should look more like the 6:00 news or *Sports Center* than *Saturday Night Live*.) In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style.

### Rules:

1. An entry in this category is a presentation by one to three students. **Prior to the presentation, the group must announce their Option choice.** This announcement will not be included in the time. The presentation shall be evaluated as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
  2. **Option A:** The presentation must include news, weather, sports, and an editorial. News is defined as hard and/or featured. News must include a combination of local, state, national, and/or international stories. The student(s) must report events that have occurred within two weeks prior to the competition. Material must be updated throughout the season to ensure timeliness.  
**Option B:** The presentation must include sports highlights, news, a feature story, and an original editorial. Each part can (but is not required to) include a combination of local, state, national or international material. See the detail sheet for a description and examples of each required part.  
**No commercial advertisements or public service announcements are to be part of the presentation for either option.**
  3. A separate introduction is not permitted (except for the Option choice); it should be an integral part of the presentation. The participant(s) must prepare any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation.
  4. The news portion of the presentation **requires the use of a manuscript**.
  5. Attire must be appropriate to the presentation. **Props or visual materials must be used** to enhance the presentation. A table or desk and chairs/stools will be provided by the host. No laser pointers or electronic equipment may be used.
  6. Movement is limited to what is appropriate to the material and the style of presentation.
  7. In the event one member of the group is unable to appear at a festival or tournament, any other eligible student may be substituted. No special allowance will be made for the substitute.
- T** A speech in this category shall be from five to eight minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.***

Yes      No

NEWS REPORTING					
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION					
1	1	2	3	4	5
All parts are presented in a balanced and organized manner with smooth but clear transitions.					
2	1	2	3	4	5
Stories are well written, organized, and well edited.					
3	1	2	3	4	5
Content is of interest, accurate, timely, and newsworthy.					
DELIVERY					
4	1	2	3	4	5
Scripts are handled smoothly and effortlessly and are not distracting. Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the subject. Entire audience is included.					
5	1	2	3	4	5
Information is presented in an interesting manner that entertains or informs.					
6	1	2	3	4	5
Facial expression is friendly and inviting but appropriately serious.					
7	1	2	3	4	5
Props and visual materials are used to enhance the presentation. They complement what is being said but do not dominate or distract.					
AUDIBLE MESSAGE					
8	1	2	3	4	5
Vocal variation (tone and expression) adds interest to the performance and helps to emphasize important words and ideas. Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.					
9	1	2	3	4	5
Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.					
10	1	2	3	4	5
Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)					

Count					
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points					

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I
Total Column II
Total Column III
Total Column IV
Total Column V
Total Score
Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

Option A: The student(s) will prepare and present a news program including news (local, state, national, or international stories), weather, sports and an original editorial.
Option B: The student(s) will prepare and present an all sports news program including sports highlights, coverage of one or more major newsworthy stories, a feature story, and an original editorial.

### Comments

A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

Circle one:      Option A      Option B

## Rules for Non-Original Oratory

**Time Limit:** 4 - 8 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)

Judges are required to use a stopwatch.

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills used in presenting a persuasive or inspirational speech.

### Description of Category:

A presentation in this category will consist of one or more persuasive or inspirational speech(es) or cuttings from speeches that have been written and delivered by someone other than the participant. The speech may be presented from memory, and/or read from a manuscript. Whichever method is chosen, the student should be cautioned NOT to attempt to mimic the original speaker. No literary re-interpretations or creations are permitted. For example, a commencement address or recorded TedTalk would be allowed whereas an impromptu YouTube vlog or speech from a movie or play would not qualify.

### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category is to be a persuasive or inspirational speech written and originally presented as a public address by a person other than the participant. The speech is to be given from **memory or read from a manuscript**. The speaker may read from or refer to the manuscript during the speech without penalty. Note cards are not allowed.
  2. Literary re-interpretations or creations are **not** permitted, e.g., speeches written as part of a play, novel, movie or television program. (These types of speeches are better suited for humorous or serious solo.)
  3. A brief **memorized introduction** which identifies the original speaker(s), time(s), place(s), occasion(s) of the original speech(es), the author(s) of the original speech(es) (if available), and any other relevant information helpful to the audience's understanding of the speech **must** be prepared and presented by the participant. **If there are multiple speeches**, an introduction should be given for each selection, and the participant should identify the relationship between the speeches (e.g., author, event, original presenter, etc.)
  4. Costumes, props or visual materials may **not** be used in this category. Items found in the room such as desks, chairs, podiums, and stands are considered props and may NOT be used.
  5. The participant may not use a speech in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from four to eight minutes in length including the introduction. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes

No

Comments

A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

NON-ORIGINAL ORATORY					
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION					
1	1	2	3	4	5
Introduction creatively and effectively grasps the audience's attention while giving the necessary background information and purpose of the speech.					
2	1	2	3	4	5
Selection is cut and organized so it is easily understood and conveys a complete message; all parts are clearly and smoothly connected.					
DELIVERY					
3	1	2	3	4	5
The mood and emotions of the piece are consistently and effectively interpreted and conveyed to the audience.					
4	1	2	3	4	5
Author's purpose is effectively expressed.					
5	1	2	3	4	5
Eyes consistently connect with the audience drawing them into the selection. Entire audience is included.					
6	1	2	3	4	5
Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.					
7	1	2	3	4	5
Gestures are effectively used throughout the piece to enhance the presentation. Movement, if utilized, is appropriate for speech.					
AUDIBLE MESSAGE					
8	1	2	3	4	5
Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.					
9	1	2	3	4	5
Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.					
10	1	2	3	4	5
Lines spoken clearly throughout. No mispronunciations noticed. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.					

Count					
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points					

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I
Total Column II
Total Column III
Total Column IV
Total Column V
Total Score
Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

## Rules for Persuasive Speaking

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes (15 second grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch.

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills of researching an issue, understanding the issue, and composing and presenting a speech which is persuasive in nature.

### Description of Category:

Life situations often result in the need to convince other people to believe differently than they do at present, to offer a solution to a problem common to the group, to take a particular action in response to a current situation, or to reinforce and strengthen current attitudes. The Persuasive Speech category allows participants to practice skills involved in these everyday acts. A good persuasive speech will contain evidence and reasoning, as well as sound emotional appeals. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style. This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. A speech in this category must be **persuasive** in purpose. The speech may (a) alert the audience to the existence of a problem, (b) strengthen devotion to an accepted cause and call the audience to action, (c) affirm the existence of a problem and propose a solution, or (d) present a proposal or idea to better enhance a community. **Examples:** 1) You are a skateboarder asking the city council to finance a skate park. 2) You are a concerned student requesting the faculty look into improving the school climate. 3) You are a concerned young person urging adults in your neighborhood to form a Neighborhood Watch committee.)
  2. The speech is to be original and written by the student who presents it.
  3. Ideas and reasoning need to be supported by more than emotions and opinions. Evidence and facts need to be presented with multiple sources cited.
  4. The speech may be presented from **memory or using note cards**. 5x7 (or smaller) **note cards may be used**, but are not required. A student should not be marked lower for using notes. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech, which are adversely affected by using notes, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which the notes are a distraction to the audience.
  5. Costumes, props or visual materials may not be used in this category. Items found in the room like desks, chairs, podiums, stands, etc., are considered props and may **NOT** be used.
  6. The participant may not use a speech in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10-point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.***

Yes      No

Round \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
 You must circle one number in each row. A score of 44 qualifies for State (3 -6 min)  
 15 second grace period before and after

### Comments

A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement

PERSUASIVE SPEECH						
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION						
1	1	2	3	4	5	Opening effectively and creatively captures the audience's attention and sets clear purpose for speech. Conclusion effectively ties speech together, clarifies the purpose of the speech and inspires the audience.
2	1	2	3	4	5	Main idea is clear and consistently developed throughout the speech. Speech is well organized and easy to follow. Purpose is clear and evident.
3	1	2	3	4	5	Word choice and sentence structure appropriate for the audience and well chosen for the persuasive nature of the speech. (*Please list any misused words in the designated space.)
4	1	2	3	4	5	Ideas and reasoning are supported by more than emotions and opinions. High quality citations are effectively integrated into the speech. Please tally here each citation heard:
DELIVERY						
5	1	2	3	4	5	Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.
6	1	2	3	4	5	Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the subject. Entire audience is included.
7	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to add interest and emphasize important ideas and emotions without being distracting.
AUDIBLE MESSAGE						
8	1	2	3	4	5	Vocal variation (tone, volume, expression) adds interest to the performance and helps to emphasize important words and ideas. Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.
10	1	2	3	4	5	Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)

Count	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points					

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)



## Rules for Poetry

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch.

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop skill in understanding and conveying the meaning and emotions of poetry.

### Description of Category:

All the skills of reading aloud, including vocal flexibility, inflectional variety, clear articulation, and correct pronunciation, as well as the use of pause and rate variation are used to interpret poetry. In addition, the student should remember that in poetry, more than in any other kind of literature, the emotional weight of the content and the importance of image, rhythm, and sound are directly related. Special attention should be paid to how the emotional and intellectual forms are dependent upon one another. This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category may be a single poem, a cutting from a single poem, or several related poems or cuttings. The material may be previously published, original, or a combination thereof.
  2. Whether the selection is original or not, the participant must prepare and present an introduction(s), including author(s) and title(s), and any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation. **The introduction(s) and transition(s) must be given from memory.** Introductions for multiple poems may be given all at the beginning of the presentation or at the beginning of each poem.
  3. The selection must be read from the printed page by using either the original source or a typed manuscript. **The material is not to be presented as a memorized selection.** The participant must refer to the manuscript repeatedly during the presentation. The participant may not walk except during memorized transitions. (Walking is defined as more than one consecutive traveling step.)
  4. Costumes, props, or visual materials may not be used in this category. Items found in the room or on the body like hair, jewelry, desks, chairs, doors, scripts etc., are considered props and may NOT be used. Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds total.
  5. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes      No

**Comments**  
A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

POETRY					
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION					
1	1	2	3	4	5
Introduction creates an atmosphere, sets the mood, and grasps the attention of the audience.					
2	1	2	3	4	5
Selection is well organized and conveys a complete message; if needed, transitions move the audience seamlessly through selection.					
DELIVERY					
3	1	2	3	4	5
Meaning and interpretation of the selection is clear throughout. The mood and emotions of the selection are consistently and effectively interpreted and conveyed to the audience.					
4	1	2	3	4	5
Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the selection. Entire audience is included. Script is referred to consistently but is rarely noticed by the audience.					
5	1	2	3	4	5
Reading is done with expression that enhances the enjoyment of the selection. Rhyming, if present, is not overly emphasized.					
6	1	2	3	4	5
Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.					
7	1	2	3	4	5
Gestures are effectively used to enhance the presentation.					
AUDIBLE MESSAGE					
8	1	2	3	4	5
Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.					
Variation in volume adds interest to the piece.					
9	1	2	3	4	5
Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.					
10	1	2	3	4	5
Lines spoken clearly throughout. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. No mispronunciations noticed.					
(*Please, list any mispronounced words in the designated space.)					

Count  
X value  
= points

X 1

X 2

X 3

X 4

X 5

Total Column I

Total Column II

Total Column III

Total Column IV

Total Column V

Total Score

Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

## Rules for Prose

**Time Limit: 4 - 7 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop skill in reading aloud and conveying the meaning and emotions of prose.

### Description of Category:

**Prose is defined as ordinary speech or writing without metrical structure. (Poetry is not prose.)** Oral interpretation is defined as the "effective communication of thoughts and feelings to the listener." Careful study of the written word is necessary for the interpreter to give special attention to the meanings and emotions of the piece. The printed word is the source from which the reader should draw meaning to share with the audience. All the skills of reading aloud, including vocal flexibility, inflectional variety, clear articulation, and correct pronunciation, as well as the use of pause and rate variation, can be practiced through participation in this category. This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category is to be a **selection or multiple cuttings from a single piece of prose literature**. In interpreting this rule, note that if a dramatic production has evolved from the material chosen, the student is to use the original prose version for the reading. For example, a student may read from *Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes, but not from the movie script adapted from that novel entitled, "Charley." Material with rhyming or a metrical structure is not considered prose.
  2. The participant must prepare and present an **introduction** which states the **title, the author, and any transitions** needed to establish a relationship between parts of the text. The introduction and any transitions (if used) **must be given from memory**.
  3. The selection is to be read from the printed page by using either the original source or a typed manuscript. **The material is not to be presented as a memorized selection.** The participant **must** refer to the manuscript repeatedly during the presentation. The participant may not walk except during memorized transitions. (Walking is defined as more than one consecutive, traveling step.)
  4. Costumes, props, or visual materials may not be used in this category. Items found in the room or removable items on the body, such as jewelry, desks, chairs, doors, scripts etc., are considered props and may NOT be used. Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds total.
  5. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
- T A presentation in this category shall be from four to seven minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.**

Yes      No

PROSE									
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION									
1	1	2	3	4	5	Introduction creates an atmosphere, sets the mood, and grasps the attention of the audience.			
2	1	2	3	4	5	Selection is cut and organized so it is easily understood and conveys a complete message; if needed, transitions move the audience seamlessly through selection. Selection comes to a natural conclusion.			
DELIVERY									
3	1	2	3	4	5	Meaning and interpretation of the selection is clear throughout. The mood and emotions of the selection are consistently and effectively interpreted and conveyed to the audience.			
4	1	2	3	4	5	Reading is done with expression that enhances the enjoyment of the selection.			
5	1	2	3	4	5	Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the selection. Entire audience is included. Script is referred to consistently but is rarely noticed by the audience.			
6	1	2	3	4	5	Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.			
7	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to enhance the presentation.			
AUDIBLE MESSAGE									
8	1	2	3	4	5	Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard. Variation in volume adds interest to the presentation.			
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.			
10	1	2	3	4	5	Lines spoken clearly throughout. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. No mispronunciations noticed. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)			

Count					
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points					

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I

Total Column II

Total Column III

Total Column IV

Total Column V

Total Score

Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

## Rules for Serious Solo Acting

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes** (15 sec. grace period over and under)

Judges are required to use a stopwatch.

### Purpose of the Category:

To develop skills in the presentation of serious drama, using voice, movement, body, hands, and facial expression.

### Description of Category:

This category enables the participant to consider shorter monologues and plays as well as stand-up, dialogue, and multiple character pieces. The material for Serious Solo Acting shall be a cutting taken from drama, or other literature adapted to the dramatic format with brief narrative transitions allowed. The material may be original, non-original, or an adaptation by the participant, and may include impersonations. The material may be in the form of a monologue or a selection that includes any number of characters. This is an individual category.

### Rules:

1. An entry in this category is to be **memorized**. The source material may be prose, poetry, drama, or essay and may be either original or non-original. Impersonations are allowed.
2. The participant must **prepare and present an introduction**, including **author and title**, and **any transitions needed** to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation. **The introduction and transitions must be given from memory**. If the piece is adapted, credit must be properly given to authors of the original piece and all adaptations must be stated in the introduction.
3. Movement is limited only by what is appropriate to the material and the style of the presentation.
4. The presentation shall be performed **without use of costume, make-up, or properties**. (Properties are defined as any tangible objects used in interpretation categories that would give one group or individual an advantage over other competitors.) Items found in the room or removable items on the body, such as jewelry, scripts etc., are considered props and are prohibited. The use of walls, doors, windows, lights, etc., is prohibited. A chair and table or desk may be used and will be provided by the host. Tables must be used as tables and chairs must be used as seats. The presentation space is defined as a wall-less area within a room. Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds.
5. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
6. A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.**

Yes      No

SERIOUS SOLO ACTING						
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION						
1	1	2	3	4	5	Introduction creates an atmosphere, sets the mood, and grasps the attention of the audience.
2	1	2	3	4	5	Selection is cut and organized so it is easily understood and conveys a complete message; if needed, transitions move the audience seamlessly through the selection.
DELIVERY						
3	1	2	3	4	5	Character(s) are lifelike and believable throughout the presentation. Speaker stayed in character throughout. If more than one character, each is easily distinguishable.
4	1	2	3	4	5	Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.
5	1	2	3	4	5	Gestures are effectively used to enhance the presentation and to make character(s) come alive.
6	1	2	3	4	5	Movement and blocking enhance the presentation and add interest without being distracting.
7	1	2	3	4	5	The meaning and emotions of the piece are consistently conveyed to the audience.
AUDIBLE MESSAGE						
8	1	2	3	4	5	Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard.
9	1	2	3	4	5	Vocal variation adds interest to the performance.
10	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas. Pauses are used effectively to add interest and build suspense.
						Lines spoken clearly throughout. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. No mispronunciations noticed.
						(*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)

Count						
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5	
= points						

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.)

Total Column I

Total Column II

Total Column III

Total Column IV

Total Column V

Total Score

Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)

## Rules for Special Events Presentation

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes** (15 sec. grace period over and under)

Judges are required to use a stopwatch. (Only time the actual speech, not the set-up, tear down, or announce of situation.)

### Purpose of the Category:

To give students the opportunity to use creativity and imagination in preparing and delivering a presentation related to a specific category.

### Description of Category:

The challenge in this category is to give an original speech/presentation that fits a defined occasion and audience. The tone of the speech should be creative, entertaining, and imaginative. A presentation in this category may include an individual speaker or a team of two or three. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style.

### Rules:

1. A speech in this category may be given by 1 to 3 individuals. It must be written by the participant(s) who present it.
  2. **Prior to the presentation, the participant(s) must announce their chosen situation.** (eg: "We have chosen situation A, a vacation blog") This announcement must be brief and is not part of the presentation; timing begins after this announcement. The criteria for the chosen situation must be followed. (See Situation sheet for specific criteria for each situation.)
  3. The speech may be presented from memory, using notes, or extemporaneously. 5x7 or smaller note cards may be used but are not required. Student(s) should not be marked lower for using a notecard. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech that are adversely affected by using a notecard, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
  4. **The use of costuming, props, and/or visual materials are required** in this category. **Attire/costumes** appropriate to the presentation may be worn. A table and chair/desk will be provided by the host. No laser pointers are permitted. Electronic devices, if used as props, are turned off.
  5. A team presentation requires each person in the group to share the responsibility of giving the presentation. One person's contribution should not appear to be significantly greater than the other(s).
  6. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
- T A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.
- \* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.*

Yes      No

Comments

A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

Circle One:   Situation A   Situation B   Situation C

SPECIAL EVENTS									
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION									
1	1	2	3	4	5	Opening effectively and creatively captures audience's attention and sets clear direction for presentation. Ending effectively ties piece together.			
2	1	2	3	4	5	Concept is interesting, creative, and imaginative. Main point is clear and consistently developed throughout presentation. There is a clear focus on the criteria of the situation.			
3	1	2	3	4	5	Speech is well organized and easy to follow; structure evident; transitions connect points and enhance the flow of the speech.			
4	1	2	3	4	5	Word choice and sentence structure interesting and appropriate for audience. (*Please list any misused words in the designated space.)			

DELIVERY

Delivery is lively and energetic and holds audience interest throughout; if given by two or three, they work together well.

Eyes consistently connect with audience drawing them into the subject. Entire audience is included.

Overall visual effect is creative, interesting, and entertaining. Costuming, props, and/or visual aids used effectively to enhance the presentation.

AUDIBLE MESSAGE									
8	1	2	3	4	5	Vocal variation (tone, volume, expression) adds interest to the performance. Every word could be easily heard.			
9	1	2	3	4	5	Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.			
10	1	2	3	4	5	Speaks clearly all of the time and has no mispronunciations. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.)			

Count	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5	
= points	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Total Column I

Total Column II

Total Column III

Total Column IV

Total Column V

Total Score

Rank

(1,2,3,4,5,5,...)



# Rules for Storytelling

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes (15 sec. grace period over and under)**

Judges are required to use a stopwatch.

## Purpose of the Category:

To develop skills in presenting imaginative material of the narrative form.

## Description of Category:

The art of storytelling is older than reading, dating back to long before printing was invented, but it is modern too. The storyteller uses vocal variation and physical movement to suggest different characters and character relationships in order to make the story come alive in the mind of the listener. Whether the material is from a published source or original, the primary audience is to be elementary-aged children. This is an individual category, and since storytelling styles vary, the storyteller may choose to sit or stand while telling their story, but they may not switch between sitting and standing as that would constitute using the chair as a prop.

## Rules:

1. A presentation in this category is to be a **narrative that is suitable for elementary-aged children**. Examples of suitable material are: traditional or contemporary children's stories, folk tales, tall tales, myths, and fables. The storyteller should tell the story in an animated, dynamic, and spontaneous manner that will capture and hold the interest of the chosen audience. **This story must be told from memory.**
2. The participant is to prepare an **introduction that creates an atmosphere, sets the mood, and grasps the attention of the audience**. Within the introduction, the speaker must give the **title of the story and either the author or culture** from which the story comes. (e.g. "...The Lovely Woman Who Wept Pearls, based on a traditional Islamic folktale from Turkey.") The introduction must be given from memory.
3. **Stories in this category must be told in the third person.** (*Characters must be identified from the narrator's point of view. Eg: Mama Bear said, "This porridge is too cold!"*) "I" stories (first person) are not allowed, nor are rhyming stories.
4. Notes, costumes, props and visual aids may not be used. Items found in the room or removable items on the body, such as jewelry, desks, doors, windows, scripts etc., are considered props and may **NOT** be used. After the introduction, the participant may choose to sit on a chair or stand. **The storyteller may not switch between sitting and standing during the story.** Storytellers who choose to stand may move about freely when telling their stories. Singing, if used, must be incidental and consist of no more than 30 seconds total.
5. A presentation in this category may not be used by the participant for more than one season.
- T** A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length. A 15-second grace period is allowed over or under. Beyond 15 seconds over or under is a rule violation.

**\* A clear rule violation means that the performance will receive a 10 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Proceed to the INFRACTIONS TABLE with any violations.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. *If no, please explain and provide the number associated with the infraction.***

Yes

No

Round \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: \_\_\_\_\_ (3-6 min)  
 You must circle one number in each row. A score of 44 qualifies for State 15 second grace period before and after

### Comments

A minimum of 3 comments required. Feedback should include comments on strengths and specific suggestions for improvement.

STORYTELLING					
CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION					
1	1	2	3	4	5
Introduction creates an atmosphere, sets the mood, and grasps the attention of the audience.					
2	1	2	3	4	5
Story flows seamlessly from beginning to end. The ending is interesting and conveys a feeling of completeness.					
DELIVERY					
3	1	2	3	4	5
Story is told in the 3rd person with expression, enthusiasm, and a feeling of spontaneity. The meaning and emotions of the story are consistently and effectively conveyed to the audience.					
4	1	2	3	4	5
Characters are interesting, animated, and consistent throughout the presentation. Each character is distinct from the others.					
5	1	2	3	4	5
Facial expression adds to the visual impact of the presentation.					
6	1	2	3	4	5
Eyes consistently connect with the audience, drawing them into the story. Entire audience is included.					
7	1	2	3	4	5
Gestures and movement are used throughout the presentation to enhance the story and to make the characters come alive.					
AUDIBLE MESSAGE					
8	1	2	3	4	5
Volume fits the piece, audience, and room. Every word could be easily heard. Variation in volume adds interest to the piece.					
9	1	2	3	4	5
Rate is appropriate for the audience and room. Variations and pauses add interest to the presentation and emphasize important ideas.					
10	1	2	3	4	5
Speaks clearly all of the time. If using a dialect or unusual character voice, the speaker is consistent and easily understood. No mispronunciations noticed. (*List any mispronounced words in the designated space.					

Count	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
X value	X 1	X 2	X 3	X 4	X 5
= points	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

(\*List mispronounced or misused words below.) Total Column I \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column II \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column III \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column IV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Column V \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Score \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rank \_\_\_\_\_ (1,2,3,4,5,5,...)