

---

## IMPROMPTU PUBLIC SPEAKING

---

**Revised 6/2014**

### **Purpose and Standards**

The purpose of the Impromptu Public Speaking Career Development Event is to foster and develop the speaking abilities of FFA members as well as develop their self-confidence and contribute to their advancement in inter-personal skill attainment and leadership development. The intention of the Impromptu Contest is to offer a more realistic, practical speaking contest to better prepare our students for public statements, media coverage, and general questions about the FFA and Agriculture Industry. Students will develop the valuable speaking skills necessary to be professional, competent public representatives of the FFA Organization and Agriculture Industry.

The primary purpose of the event is to demonstrate the student's ability with limited preparation time to compose and deliver coherent and focused oral presentations.

Foundation Standards: Communications – Reading 2.0, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8. Writing 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 2.3, 2.6. Written and Oral English Language Conventions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3. Listening and Speaking 1.1, 1.8, 2.2, 2.3. Technology 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6. Problem Solving and Critical Thinking 5.1, 5.3. Health and Safety 6.1, 6.2, 6.6. Responsibility and Flexibility 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6. Ethics and Legal Responsibilities 8.1, 8.2, 8.3. Leadership and Teamwork 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6. Technical Knowledge and Skills 10.2.

Demonstration and Application – Students will demonstrate and apply the concepts contained in the foundation and pathway standards.

### **Contestants**

- I. Each section will determine how many chapter members may participate at the sectional level. Each region will determine how many sectional participants may compete at the regional level. Participation at the state level is limited to the top 50% of those that participate in the regional contest (or major portion thereof), with a maximum of four (4) per region.
- II. This contest will be open to students who are active members of chartered FFA chapters in good standing with the State Association and the National Organization in grade 10.

### **Tie Breaker**

In case of a tie, that individual who has the highest grand total score shall have prior rating. Secondary Tie Breaker will be ranking in Questions Round.

### **Rules**

- III. General Plan
  - A. The preliminary contests are local, sectional and regional in nature. All regional and state contests must follow the rules of the State Impromptu Public Speaking Contest. Judges will not question participants.
- IV. Eligibility
  - A. Public Speaking contestants will adhere to the official FFA dress uniform at all levels of participation.

- B. A student may not participate in the Creed, Impromptu Public Speaking, Prepared Public Speaking, Extemporaneous Public Speaking, or Job Interview Contests at the state level in the same year.
  - C. A contestant who is not present at the time of drawing for speaking order shall not be eligible for the contest.
- V. Subjects
- A. There will be two rounds of speaking. One round will contain topics in the form of questions that students could potentially encounter from administrators, peers, teachers, news media, or the general public with regards to the FFA Program or the Agriculture Industry. Referred to as the “Questions” Round. The other round will contain topics derived from keywords or quotes relating to leadership and the Agriculture Industry. Referred to as the “Keywords/Quotes” Round.
  - B. No less than 10 topics per round will be developed each year by the current State FFA Officer Team. Practice topics will be made available for Chapter competition. Section and Region topics will be delivered directly to the contest coordinator at each level.
  - C. Previous year topics will be published for student preparation and practice. (Same as the current practice with Extemporaneous Speaking)
  - D. Upon entering the presentation room, contestants will have one opportunity to draw and select their topic for that round. The contestant will draw three topics from the selection. The contestant will have 30 seconds to choose the topic on which he/she will speak and the time starts when the first card is drawn. After selecting one of those topics, on which he/she desires to speak, all three topics will be returned to the original group of topic areas, prior to the next drawing. The contestant may hold onto the topic card they have selected throughout their performance, but must return the topic before leaving the room.
  - E. Speaker will tell the judges the topic they have selected before beginning the 1 minute preparation time.
- VI. Time Limit
- A. Each student will receive 1 minute to review and prepare their thoughts on the topic they selected. The timekeeper in the room will alert the student when their preparation minute has begun, as well as, when the preparation minute ends. (Similar to the Parliamentary Procedure Minute)
  - B. Each speech shall be a minimum of 30 seconds in length and a maximum of two minutes. At the end of 2 minutes, the timekeeper will announce “time” and the speaker will stop speaking. Timekeeper will record all speech times.
  - C. Deductions of 20 points will be made from the score of each judge for speeches that are under thirty seconds or continue to speak after the timekeeper has announced “time”.
- VII. Methods of Selecting Winner
- A. Local contests will be under the direction of the local agriculture teacher.
  - B. Sectional and regional contests will be under the direction of the Regional Supervisor concerned. If there are more than 16 contestants entered into the entire contest, there should be preliminary rounds to make a maximum of 16 students for the final.
  - C. At the discretion of the contest coordinator, the competition will start in either the Question Round or in the Keyword/Quotation round and proceed to the other round. Contestants will draw for order. Each round must have different judges. The rounds may be conducted simultaneously or one after the other at the discretion of the contest official. There will be a minimum of 2 judges and a maximum of 3 judges in each performance room

- D. The round monitor shall then introduce each speaker by name. Only one contestant is allowed in the presentation room at a time. A contestant will not be permitted to use any outside materials while speaking. Applause are allowed after the contestant has spoken.
  - E. Timekeepers shall be designated who will record the time used by each contestant in delivering his/her speech, noting under time and overtime, if any, for which deductions should be made.
  - F. At the time of the contest, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the contest is held. They will score each contestant upon delivery of the production, using the scoresheet provided.
  - G. When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge will total his/her score on composition and delivery for each contestant. The timekeeper's record will be used in computing the final score for each contestant.
  - H. Contestants shall be ranked in numerical order on basis of final score to be determined by each judge without consultation with each other. Judges may ask each other to clarify a given response from speakers prior to ranking the contestants.
  - I. The judges' ranking on each contestant in each round shall then be added by the contest superintendent in view of the judges and the winner shall be the contestant whose total ranking is the lowest. Other placings shall be determined in the same manner (low points score method of selection). In case of a tie, that individual who has the highest grand total score shall have prior rating.
  - J. Contestants are not permitted to use any type of prop, chart, graph, computer, visual aide, and/or musical playing instrument/equipment during their speech, including the use of timing devices.
  - K. Final round video of State Finals will be made available for viewing/training purposes in the fall when practice topics are posted.
- VIII. Awards
- A. Awards will be presented to contestants by the California Association of the Future Farmers of America and the California Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., through the intercession of the contest administrator concerned.

**Explanation of Score Sheet Points**

Keep in mind that there is no requirement that a contestant must use a particular style of delivery.

**Please use the following questions to help you evaluate each contestant and rank the round.**

JUDGES COMMENT CARD

			Name of Contestant:
Did the student clearly and effectively discuss, analyze and evaluate the selected topic?	10		
To what degree did the student address all parts of the question or quote?	10		
Did the student present an organized, logical speech?	10		
Score (on Content)	30		
To what degree did the speaker use effective oral presentation skills (volume, diction, speed of delivery)?	10		
Was the speaker poised, sincere and comfortable in delivery?	10		
Did the speaker use effective body language (gestures, facial expression, eye contact)?	10		
To what degree did the speech exemplify professional standards of language usage and vocabulary?	10		
Did the speaker avoid slang, poor grammar, and mispronunciations?	10		
To what degree was the speaker effective and convincing in their presentation?	10		
Overall General Effect/Presence – General effect includes the extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable, convincing, pleasing, and held audience’s attention.	10		
Score: (On Delivery)	70		

General Commendations or Recommendations:

**JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET IMPROMPTU PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST**

	Students' Names								
<b>PART I: For Scoring Content</b>									
Did the student clearly and effectively discuss, analyze and evaluate the selected topic?	10								
To what degree did the student address all parts of the question or quote?	10								
Did the student present an organized, logical speech?	10								
Score (on Content)	30								
<b>PART II: For Scoring Delivery of the Production</b>									
To what degree did the speaker use effective oral presentation skills (volume, diction, speed of delivery)?	10								
Was the speaker poised, sincere and comfortable in delivery?	10								
Did the speaker use effective body language (gestures, facial expression, eye contact)?	10								
To what degree did the speech exemplify professional standards of language usage and vocabulary?	10								
Did the speaker avoid slang, poor grammar, and mispronunciations?	10								
To what degree was the speaker effective and convincing in their presentation?	10								
Overall General Effect/Presence – General effect includes the extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable, convincing, pleasing, and held audience's attention.	10								
Score: (On Delivery)	70								
TOTAL POINTS: (GROSS)	100								
*LESS TIME DEDUCTIONS: Max 20 points	Points								
TOTAL SCORE: (NET)									
RANKING:									

\* Overtime deduction based on timekeeper's record: each minute or major fraction there of – 20 points.

\* Under time deduction based on timekeeper's record: each minute or major fraction there of – 20 points.