

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

Career Development Event

The FFA Extemporaneous Speaking CDE is designed to develop rural and agricultural leadership through providing for member participation in agricultural public speaking activities and stimulating interest in leadership and citizenship.

I. GENERAL PLAN

The preliminary CDEs are for local and regional participation and they are held under the auspices of the FFA unit concerned. These preliminary events culminate in the state CDE held at the time of the State FFA Convention. All regional CDEs must follow the rules of the State Extemporaneous Speaking CDE.

Appropriate awards will be given by the State FFA Foundation, Inc.

II. ELIGIBILITY

1. The State CDE will be limited to participation by one member representing each region, who shall have been determined winner in a regional contest held prior to the state event plus the second place individual from the regions that had the first, second and third place individuals at the previous State Convention.
2. The state CDE will be open only to members who meet the requirements of page 1.1, section 1-A.
3. A contestant shall wear the Official Dress when competing in the contest.

III. SUBJECT

1. Twelve to eighteen topics will be prepared by the event chair and will include at least two from the following categories:

- **Agricultural literacy and advocacy**

What are some changes that could be made to the educational system to potentially improve the knowledge and understanding of the agriculture industry?

How can niche market and conventional agricultural producers come together with one voice?

- **Current agricultural issues**

What are some advantages/disadvantages to marketing produce locally such as farmers markets and local vendors?

Should livestock be implanted with a microchip so meat can be traced back to the producer? Why or why not?

- **Advancing agriculture through agriculture science**

How will technology affect the job security of the agriculture labor force in the future?

What biotechnology advances will have the greatest impact on production agriculture in the next 50 years?

- **Current technology uses and applications in agriculture**

Should small urban producers be required to operate under the same regulations as larger producers?

How has technology advanced safety procedures and mechanisms on the farm? What steps can be taken to further improve farm safety?

- **Agrimarketing and international agriculture**

What international trade relations have changed U.S. agriculture over the past 50 years? What have we learned for future trade relations?

How can immigration be reformed to ensure agriculture maintains a reliable work force?

- **Food and fiber systems**

How can agriculturists help the public discern between marketing propaganda and legitimate healthy food choices?

What policies could potentially protect livestock producers from false animal welfare accusations?

2. Contestants will draw to determine the order of speaking. Contestants will be admitted into the preparation room at 15- minute intervals and given exactly 30 minutes for topic selection and preparation.

3. Each contestant will select three of the topics, which will be placed face down on a table in the preparation room. The contestant will then select any one of the topics that he/she has selected as the topic for his/her speech.

4. **Reference materials** can be provided by the contestant. The materials will be screened by the officials in charge of the contest on the following basis:

- Must be limited to five items
- Printed material such as books or magazines
- Printed compilations of materials collected from Internet research
- Participants may have up to 10 minutes to conduct online research. Computers may be provided. Access to email, Dropbox or any prepared materials are prohibited. A room monitor will be the official timekeeper for each contestant's technology time. The use of prepared notes or speeches even if accessed with technology time is prohibited and will be grounds for disqualification.
- To be counted as one item, a notebook or folder of collected materials may contain no more than 100 single-sided pages or 50 pages double-sided numbered consecutively.
- References should be in original format.
- There can be no notes or speeches prepared by the participant or by another person for the purpose of use in this event. Cutting and pasting into a Microsoft Word document will be considered prepared notes. Each speech should be the result of the participant's own effort using approved reference material which the participant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance may be provided. Participants must use uniform note cards provided. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 30 minute preparation period. A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.

5. Each speech shall be the result of the contestant's own effort using approved reference material that the contestant may bring into the preparation room. No other assistance or reference materials will be provided to the contestants. Any notes used during the speech must be made during the 30 minute preparation period.
6. A list of all possible topics will be given to and reviewed by the judges prior to the beginning of the CDE.

IV. TIME LIMIT

Each speech shall be not less than four or more than six minutes with five minutes additional time allowed for related questions which shall be asked by the judges. The Faculty Chairperson shall introduce the contestant by name and region, and the contestant may introduce his or her speech by title only. Contestants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being over six minutes or under four minutes. Time commences when the speaker begins talking. Speakers may use a watch to keep a record of their time. Timekeepers will not notify the contestant of the time elapsed.

V. METHODS OF SELECTING WINNER

1. The appointed contest chairpersons will be in charge of this CDE.
2. Contestants will be scheduled with a time to begin their competition. The CDE chairperson shall then introduce each contestant by name and in order of the drawing. A contestant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation. Applause should be withheld until all contestants have spoken.
3. Two time keepers shall be designated who will record the time used by each contestant in delivering his/her speech, noting under time or overtime, if any, for which deductions should be made. Timekeepers should be sitting together.
4. At least three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the contest. At least one judge should have an agricultural background.
5. At the time of the contest, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the CDE is held. They will score each contestant upon the delivery, content, and composition of the presentation, using the rubric provided.
6. Each judge shall formulate and ask questions. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided. Judges will score each contestant on his/her ability to answer all questions asked by all judges. The full five minutes should be used.
7. When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge will total their scores on each contestant. The timekeepers' record will be used in computing the final score for each contestant. The judges' score sheets will then be submitted to the teacher co-chair persons to determine the final ratings of the contestants.

8. Contestants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of final score to be determined by each judge without consultation with each other. The judges' ranking of each contestant then shall be added and the winner will be that contestant whose total of the rankings is the lowest. Other placings shall be determined in the same manner. (Low point score method of selection.) In case of a tie that individual who has the highest grand total score shall have prior rating.

VI. AWARDS

Plaques or trophies will be awarded to the regional, and state contestants by the State FFA Foundation.

VII. CREDITING RESOURCE MATERIAL

All candidates in the FFA Extemporaneous Speaking Contest should give credit to others where any direct quotes, phrases, or special dates are used in the speech, in order not to be guilty of plagiarism.

Extemporaneous Speaking Rubric

Contestant Name _____ Chapter _____

Section A: Oral Presentation

Indicator	Strong evidence skill is present		Evidence skill is present		Evidence skill is not present		Possible Points	Points Earned
	70-100 Points		31-69 Points		0-30 Points			
Well-poised, Maintains attention	Poised & in control at all times; Constantly looks at entire audience (90-100% of time).		Poised & in control most of the time; Mostly looks around audience (60-80% of time).		Sometimes seems to lose composure; Occasionally looks at someone (<50% of time).		100	
Being detail-oriented	Always provides details which support the issue; has good organizational skills.		Usually provides details which are supportive of the issue; displays organizational skills.		Sometimes overlooks details that would support issue; lacks organizational skills.		100	
Examples	Examples are original, logical and relevant; they are vivid, precise and clearly explained.		Examples are effective, but need more thought; they sometimes need clarification		Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving questions; they are abstract & not clear		100	
Speaking without hesitation	Speaks very articulately without hesitation. No unnecessary pauses.		Speaks articulately, but does hesitate. Occasionally has unnecessary pauses.		Speaks articulately, but frequently hesitates. frequently has unnecessary pauses.		100	
Voice & tone	Pronunciation of words is very clear & intent is apparent; speaks at the right pace.		Pronunciation of words is usually clear & speaker usually speaks at the right pace.		Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand; pace is too fast; nervous.		100	
Command of audience	Speaker can engage and captivate the audience with the message of the speech.		Speaker presents speech as a repeating of facts; speech comes across as a report.		Speaker bores the audience with lack of enthusiasm & power to deliver the speech.		100	
Mannerisms & gestures	Does not have any distracting mannerisms; gestures are purposeful and effective.		Sometimes has distracting mannerisms; usually uses purposeful gestures.		Has mannerisms that pull from the speeches effectiveness; occasionally gestures are used.		100	
Connect & articulate facts & issues	Possesses a strong knowledge base & able to articulate related facts & current issues.		Possesses a good knowledge base; able to articulate most facts & current issues.		Possesses some knowledge base; unable to articulate most facts & current issues.		100	

Section B: Response to Questions

Indicator	Strong evidence skill is present		Evidence skill is present		Evidence skill is not present		Possible Points	Points Earned
	70-100 Points		31-69 Points		0-30 Points			
Points Possible	70-100 Points		31-69 Points		0-30 Points		100	
Speaking unrehearsed	Is able to answer questions quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers.		Is able to answer questions with thoughts, but has to stop & think about answers.		Shows nervousness or seems unprepared ; seems to ramble when answering questions.		100	
Demonstrates knowledge of topic	Answer shows thorough knowledge of the subject; Supports answer strong evidence.		Answer shows some knowledge of the subject; some evidence, but lacks strength.		Answers show little knowledge of the subject; evidence is lacking to support the answer.		100	
Speech length	Length of speech 4-6 Minutes		Time deductions 1 point per second-_____ points.		Contestant Placing _____		Total Points	