West Tennessee FFA Extemporaneous Public

Purpose

The West Tennessee FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Leadership Development Event is designed to develop the ability of all FFA members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This event gives FFA members an opportunity to formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time. The event will be held in connection with the National FFA Convention & Expo.

Event Rules

The West Tennessee FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Leadership Development Event will be limited to one speaker from each region

- FFA Official Dress is required at the regional level.
- Copies of the rules and score sheet will be supplied to participants in advance of the event.
- At least three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the event. Any advisor who has a student competing in a speaking event may not serve as a judge for that respective speaking event.
- Any participant in possession of any electronic device, not provided by the event committee, in the preparation room is subject to disqualification.

Event Format

The event will take place in two rounds, preliminaries and finals. Competitors will be randomly drawn into flights during the first round. The top two competitors from each flight will move onto the finals. The final round will consist of six competitors randomly placed in one flight.

The selection of topics will be held 30 minutes before the event. The participants will draw three specific topics, selected at random from the pool of 18, relating to the industry of agriculture. After selecting the topic, they desire to speak on, all three topics will be returned for the next drawing.

Eighteen topics will be prepared by the event superintendent and will include three each from the following categories:

- Agricultural literacy and advocacy.
- Current agricultural issues.
- Advancing agriculture through agriculture science.
- Current technology uses and applications in agriculture.
- Agri-marketing and international agriculture.
- Food and fiber systems.

Participants will be admitted to the preparation room at 15-minute intervals and given exactly 30 minutes for topic selection and preparation.

The officials in charge of the event will screen reference material using the following guidelines:

- 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 double-sided pages 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 the 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.

Each speech should be no less than four and no more than six minutes in length. An additional five minutes will be allowed for the questioner to ask related questions. The room coordinator of the event will introduce the participant by name and state. The participant may introduce his or her speech by title only. Participants will 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. Event officials or observers will give no time warnings.

The state event will be conducted in one round with all six competitors competing in the same round.

A list of all possible topics will be given to and reviewed by the judges prior to the beginning of the event.

Timekeepers will record the time for each participant in delivering his or her speech, noting under time or over time, if any, for which deductions should be made.

At the time of the event, the judges will be seated in a designated section of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant on the delivery of the production using the score sheet provided.

Each judge will be allowed to ask questions pertaining to the topic. Questions will pertain directly to the speaker's subject. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided. The full five minutes should be used.

When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score on each participant. The timekeepers' record will be used in computing the final score for each participant.

Scoring

Participants will be ranked in numerical order based on the final score to be determined by each judge without consultation. The judges' rankings of each participant will then be added, and the winner will be the participant whose total ranking is the lowest. Other placings will be determined in the same manner (uses low-rank method of selection).

Tiebreakers

Will be given to the individual with the lowest ranked numerical placing across all judges.. The participants' low ranks will be counted, and the participant with the greatest number of low ranks will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, then the judges will rank the participants' responses to questions. The participant with the greatest number of low ranks from the response to questions will be declared the winner. For instance, if speaker 1 has ranks

from the judges that include 1, 2, 3 (total of 6) and speaker 2 has ranks from the judges that include 1, 1, 4 (total of 6) speaker 2 would be declared the winner because they had the highest total of low ranks. If a tie still exists, then the participants' raw scores will be totaled. The participant with the greatest total of raw points will be declared the winner.

Resources

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive.

Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

- Figures of Speech DVD,
- CDE Q&A's, FFA.org
- American Farm Bureau Federation, www.fb.org
- United States Department of Agriculture, www.usda.gov

Extemporaneous Public Speaking Rubric

1,000 POINTS

Name   Chapter

Indicators	Very strong evidence of skill 5–4 points	Moderate evidence of skill 3–2 points	Weak evidence of skill 1–0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
Oral Communication – 300 points						
Examples	• Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained. • Examples are original, logical and relevant	• Examples are usually concrete, sometimes need clarification. • Examples are effective, but need more originality or thought.	• Examples are abstract or not clearly defined. • Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions.		X 10	
Speaking without hesitation	• Speaks very articulately without hesitation. • Never has the need for unnecessary pauses or hesitation when speaking.	• Speaks articulately but sometimes hesitates. • Occasionally has the need for a long pause or moderate hesitation when speaking.	• Speaks articulately but frequently hesitates. • Frequently hesitates or has long, awkward pauses while speaking.		X 10	
Tone	• Appropriate tone is consistent. • Speaks at the right pace to be clear. • Pronunciation of words is very clear and intent is apparent.	• Appropriate tone is usually consistent. • Speaks at the right pace most of the time, but shows some nervousness. • Pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes vague.	• Has difficulty using an appropriate tone. • Pace is too fast; nervous. • Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand; unclear.		X 10	
Connecting and articulating facts and issues	• Exemplary in connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally. • Possesses a strong knowledge base and effectively articulates information regarding related facts and current issues.	• Sufficient in connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally. • Possesses a good knowledge base and for the most part, articulates information regarding related facts and current issues.	• Has difficulty with connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally. • Possesses some knowledge base but is unable to articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.		X 30	
					Oral Communications Total	
Non-verbal Communication – 400 points						
Attention (eye contact)	• Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. • Constantly looks at the entire audience (90–100% of the time).	• Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. • Mostly looks around the audience (60–80% of the time).	• Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. • Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50% of the time).		X 20	
Mannerisms	• Does not have	• Sometimes has	• Has mannerisms that		X 20	

Indicators	Very strong evidence of skill 5–4 points	Moderate evidence of skill 3–2 points	Weak evidence of skill 1–0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
	distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness. • No nervous habits.	distracting mannerisms that pull from the presentation. • Sometimes exhibits nervous habits or ticks.	pull from the effectiveness of the presentation. • Displays some nervous habits — fidgets or anxious ticks.			
Gestures	• Gestures are purposeful and effective. • Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points. • Great posture (confident) with positive body language.	• Usually uses purposeful gestures. • Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize. • Occasionally slumps; sometimes negative body language.	• Occasionally gestures are used effectively. • Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting. • Lacks positive body language; slumps.		X 20	
Well-poised	• Extremely well-poised. • Poised and in control at all times	• Usually well-poised. • Poised and in control most of the time; rarely loses composure	• Isn't always well-poised. • Sometimes seems to lose composure.		X 20	
					Non-verbal Communication Total	
Question Points — 300 points						
Supportive details/facts	• Speaks unrehearsed mostly with comfort and ease. • Speaks quickly with organized thoughts and concise accurate answers.	• Speaks unrehearsed mostly with comfort and ease, but sometimes seems to lack supporting details. • Sometime gets off focus and uses less concise facts and examples.	• Shows nervousness or seems unprepared when speaking unrehearsed. • Seems to ramble or speaks before thinking. • Inaccurate or incomplete details.		X 30	
Being detail-oriented	• Stays fully focused and detail-oriented. • Always provides details that support the issue; is well organized.	• Stays mostly focused and detail-oriented. • Usually provides details that are supportive of the issue; displays good organizational skills.	• Difficulty staying focused and detailoriented. • Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the issue; lacks organization.		X 30	
					Questions Points	
					Non-verbal Communication Total Points	
					Oral Communication Total Points	
					Time Deduction*	
					NET TOTAL POINTS	
					RANK	

* –1 point per second under four minutes or over six minutes as determined by the timekeepers.

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