



Impromptu speaking involves speeches that the speaker has developed themselves within a three-minute preparation time. One at a time, the speakers will randomly draw a piece of paper with a topic on it. From the time the speaker is given the topic, the speaker will have three minutes to prepare a speech.

Guidelines for preparing an impromptu speech

Clearly state the topic as it was given to the speaker.

Give a reasonable interpretation of the topic.

Neither exaggerate by reading more into the issue than is there, nor understate the issue.

Give the speech a clear, central purpose.

Use a strategy. A speech can inform or persuade. Persuasion is suggested as it provides a direction and purpose to the speech. The evaluators may not consider the position taken by the speaker and will consider how well the position is stated, developed and supported.

The speaker should incorporate an introduction, a body and a summary in the delivery of the speech. The body of the speech should be used for the development of the thesis or topic of the speech.

Length

Cloverbud, ages 5-7: 1-3 minutes

Junior/Intermediate, ages 8-13: 2-5 minutes

Senior, ages 14-18: 2-5 minutes

Length: The speaker's presentation should be two to five minutes in length. Exceeding five minutes in length does not result in disqualification but will be considered when evaluating the presentation.

Posters and Slides

None Allowed.

Visual Aids

The speaker may not use props or costumes in the delivery of the speech.

Number of Presenters

This format is limited to individual participants.

Questions

There will be no questions during this category. The entire category involves the unrehearsed delivery of information and ideas.

Notes

The speaker is allowed to use notes during the delivery of the impromptu speech. Notes should not distract from message.

Attire

Appropriate attire for the occasion. Costumes may not be used.

4-H Impromptu Speech

Date: _____

Member Name: _____ Age: _____ Junior/Int (8-13) Senior (14-18)

County: _____ Title: _____



Indicate point value that most closely matches performance.

Performance	1 point	2 points	3 points	4 points	POINTS
Prompt Use	The speaker fails to address the prompt.	The speaker addresses the prompt and provides limited supporting details.	The speaker demonstrates good understanding of the prompt and provides adequate solid supporting details.	The speaker demonstrates excellent understanding of the prompt and provides excellent solid supporting details.	
Subject Knowledge and Coverage	Not enough information is presented to judge speaker's knowledge.	Adequate knowledge of subject.	In-depth knowledge of subject.	Full subject knowledge (more than required).	
Organization	Speech is unorganized.	Speech follows a logical progression.	Speech shows skill and creativity in organization.	Speech shows a strong structure that enhances effect of speech.	
Voice	Volume, pronunciation or vocal variation needs improvement.	Voice and language are adequate.	Voice and language are skillful and effective.	Volume, tone, timing, inflection, and language enhance speech.	
Manner and Appearance	Appearance, body language or gestures need improvement.	Appearance and mannerisms are appropriate.	Appearance and mannerisms are presented with business-like conduct and style.	Appearance and mannerisms are presented with a professional demeanor and personal style.	
Opening/Closing	Opening/Closing are missing or unclear.	Opening/Closing are clear and organized.	Opening/Closing are well organized and effective.	Opening/Closing are creative and contribute to a cohesive presentation.	
Effectiveness	More practice is needed to maintain audience interest.	Audience interest is maintained.	Effort is shown to enhance audience interest and involvement.	Multiple techniques are used to successfully create audience interest.	

Ribbon Placings: BLUE 28-21 points RED 20-15 points WHITE 14 points and below

Presentation Time _____

Total Points _____

