

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FFA

Rules for Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE

Eligibility

1. The CDE is open to students who are regularly enrolled in agricultural education classes and who are active members of chartered FFA chapters in good standing with the State Association.
2. Each chapter may enter one FFA member.
3. Props or equipment are not to be used in this CDE.
4. A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking.
5. All participants are required to wear official FFA dress when delivering their speech.

Official Dress

1. Participants are expected to observe the National FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket during career development events.
2. Official FFA dress is highly recommended for all participants where appropriate and is required for the awards presentation and recognition. The Illinois FFA Board of Directors has defined “acceptable” Official Dress as:

Male - Black dress shoes (not tennis shoes), black socks, black dress pants (not jeans), white collared (or light colored), button down dress shirt, dark colored tie, and Official FFA jacket. No hats of any kind.

Female - Black closed-toe dress shoes, black nylons, knee length black skirt or black dress slacks, white collared (or light colored), button down dress shirt, FFA scarf, and Official FFA jacket. No tall boots

Subject

1. Prior to the event, participants should gather research and references from all aspects of agriculture to assist them in composing their speech.
2. Approximately 35 minutes prior to their scheduled speaking time, each participant will draw **three** specific topics, which have not been publicized, from 12 topics relating to the agriculture industry. [Note: Sample topics are included in these rules, but the topics used in the CDE are not limited to these examples]
3. The participant will speak on the one of the topics chosen and all three topics will be placed back in the pool for possible use by a succeeding participant.
4. Each participant will have thirty (30) minutes in which to prepare their speech. ***The participant may use:***
 - a) ***Any reference material brought by themselves to the preparation room, however no handwritten reference materials of any type will be allowed.***
 - b) ***Online resources are allowed, but the computer used to search for those resources must be provided and/or approved by the event supervisor. Online resources will not include personal files saved to the web or in a folder such as, but not limited to, Dropbox®***

5. Participants must use the uniform note cards provided. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 30-minute preparation period. Notes may not be prepared prior to the CDE.
6. Each participant's speech is to be the result of his or her own efforts. Training in both composition and delivery are limited to the resources of the school from which the participant comes, but facts and working data may be secured from any source.

Time Limit

1. Two timekeepers shall be designated to record the time used by each participant in delivering their speech, noting under-time or over-time, if any, for which deductions should be made. Timekeepers should be seated together.
2. Each participant must speak no less than four and no more than six minutes. At the end of the four minutes, the timer will stand or otherwise signal. The participant will then have two additional minutes to summarize and complete the presentation until the six minutes are reached.
3. Participants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being over six (6) minutes or under four (4) minutes.
4. Time commences when the speaker begins talking.
5. The participant's speech will be followed by a five (5) minute period, during which the judges will ask them questions relating to their speech. The time for the question period will begin when the first judge begins asking a question.
6. At the end of the five-minute question period, the timekeeper(s) will call time. When time is called the speaker, if interrupted, may complete the sentence they were saying or they may stop in mid-sentence with no penalty.

Procedures

1. ***The event supervisor shall identify the method of determining the speaking order and that decision is not open to appeal.***
2. ***The event supervisor may determine the order of speaking in one of two ways:***
 - a) ***A draw for the speaking order, or***
 - b) ***Allowing participants to schedule a time to speak.***
3. ***When the speaker is brought into the speaking room, the room host will introduce each participant by name. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.***
4. Three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the CDE. When possible, the judges should have an agricultural background.
5. During the presentation, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant upon the delivery of their presentation, using the score sheet provided.
6. Each judge shall formulate and ask questions that pertain directly to the speaker's subject. All judges will ask at least one question.
7. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided.

8. Judges will score each participant on their ability to answer all questions asked by all judges.
9. The full five minutes for questions should be used.

Method of Selecting Winner

1. When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total their score on each participant. The timekeepers' records will be used in computing the final score for each participant.
2. Participants shall be ranked in numerical order by each judge without consultation with any other judge.
3. If any judge's scoring results in a tie between two or more speakers, the judge shall be asked to re-score so as to avoid the tie.
4. After a judge has broken all ties in total score they will rank all participants in numerical order without consulting any other judge. The rankings of the three judges shall then be added and the winner will be the participant whose total of rankings is the lowest. Other placings shall be determined in the same manner (Low point score method of selection).
5. If a tie occurs when adding the rankings of the three judges, the individual who has the highest grand total score shall be ranked higher.
6. ***In instances when a District or State Competition rules/instructions requires a school, section or district to furnish a qualified individual to serve as a judge, and no judge is provided, the student(s) representing that school, section or district shall be disqualified.***

LEVELS OF COMPETITION

1. All section and district CDEs shall be conducted alike and conform with the State Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE rules.
2. Winners are eligible to participate only in the next succeeding section, district, state and national CDEs.
3. The first and second place participant at the Section Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE will advance to the District competition.
4. The first and second place participants at the District Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE will advance to the State Extemporaneous Public Speaking Finals.
5. Awards shall be the same as Public Speaking awards on all levels.

Sample Topics for Extemporaneous Public Speaking

(These are samples. Additional topics maybe used for the actual CDE)

Agriscience & Technology

Using Hydroponics to Produce Food Crops

Using the Earth's Resources

Reproducing Plants

Using Biotechnology to Improve Life

Applying Principles of Soil Science

Applying Science to Food Preservation

Designing and Conducting Agricultural Research

Controlling Electrical Current: Circuits, Conductors & Insulators

Soil and Water Relationships: Permeability and Drainage

Animal Breeding and Reproduction

Agrimarketing & International Agriculture Relations

Selecting a Marketing Strategy

Establishing Prices for Meat Animals

Careers in Agriculture Sales

Using Commodity Futures

Manufacturing and Distributing Agricultural Equipment

Marketing Horticultural Products and

Services

Understanding the World Food and Fiber Chain

United States Policies Affecting World Markets

The Effect of Tariffs and Embargoes on World Trade

How Foreign Competition Affects U.S. Trade Opportunities

Food & Fiber Systems

Methods of Harvesting Timber
Selecting Seed
Developing A Conservation Plan
Managing the Cow-Calf Herd
Managing Market Hogs
Maximizing Your Crop Harvest
Conservation Tillage
The Use of Chemicals in Livestock Feed
Principles of Field Scouting
Maintaining Animal Health

Urban Agriculture

Improving Life with Companion Animals
Urban Encroachment on Farmland
Developing a Community Garden
Managing a Pet Store
Lawn Chemicals and the Urban Environment
Indoor Landscaping
Managing a Greenhouse
Developing Community Parks
Establishing a Farmers Market
Ag Literacy Activities for Urban Residents

Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE Rubric - 1000 points

Judges Name or # _____ Participant _____

Oral Communication - 600 points						
Indicators	Very strong evidence skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned Decimals may be used in assigning points	Weight	Total Score
A. Examples	<i>Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained.</i> • Examples are original, logical and relevant.	<i>Examples are usually concrete, sometimes needs clarifications.</i> • Examples are effective, but need more originality or thought.	<i>Examples are abstract or not clearly defined.</i> • Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving listeners with questions.		X 10	
B. Speaking without hesitation	<i>Speaks very articulately without hesitation.</i> • Never has the need for unnecessary pauses or hesitation when speaking.	<i>Speaks articulately, but sometimes hesitates.</i> • Occasionally has the need for a long pause or moderate hesitation when speaking.	<i>Speaks articulately, but frequently hesitates.</i> • Frequently hesitates or has long awkward pauses while speaking.		X 15	
C. Tone	<i>Appropriate tone is consistent.</i> • Speaks at the right pace to be clear. • Pronunciation of words is very clear and intent is apparent	<i>Appropriate tone is usually consistent.</i> • Speaks at the right pace most of the time, but shows some nervousness. • Pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes vague.	<i>Has difficulty using an appropriate tone.</i> • Pace is too fast; nervous. • Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand; unclear.		X 15	
D. Volume	Volume is loud enough to be heard by all audience members throughout the presentation. • The speaker effectively changed delivery volume to better convey meaning.	Volume is loud enough to be heard by all audience members at least 90 - 80% of the time. • The speaker sometimes changed delivery volume to better convey meaning.	Volume often too soft to be heard by all audience members. • The speaker rarely or did not change delivery volume to better convey meaning.		X 10	
E. Being detail oriented	<i>Is able to stay fully detail-oriented.</i> • Always provides details which support the issue; is well organized.	<i>Is mostly good at being detail-oriented.</i> • Usually provides details which are supportive of the issue; displays good organizational skills.	<i>Has difficulty being detail-oriented.</i> • Overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the issue; lacks organization.		X 20	
F. Connecting and articulating facts and issues	<i>Exemplary in connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally.</i> • Possesses a strong knowledge base and is able to effectively articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.	<i>Sufficient in connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally.</i> • Possesses a good knowledge base and is able to, for the most part, articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.	<i>Has difficulty with connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally.</i> • Possesses some knowledge base, but is unable to articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.		X 20	

Indicators	Very strong evidence skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned Decimals may be used in assigning points	Weight	Total Score
G. Speaking unrehearsed (questions and answers)	<i>Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers. 	<i>Speaks unrehearsed mostly with comfort and ease, but sometimes seems nervous or unsure.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is able to speak effectively, has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus. 	<i>Shows nervousness or seems unprepared when speaking unrehearsed.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seems to ramble or speaks before thinking. 		X 30	
Non-verbal Communication - 400 points						
A. Attention (eye contact)	<i>Eye contact constantly used as an effective medium.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100% of the time). 	<i>Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly looks around the audience (60-80% of the time). 	<i>Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50% of the time). 		X 20	
B. Mannerisms	<i>Does not have distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No nervous habits. 	<i>Sometimes has distracting mannerisms that pull from the presentations.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes exhibits nervous habits or ticks. 	<i>Has mannerisms that pull from the effectiveness of the presentation.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Displays some nervous habits – fidgets or anxious ticks. 		X 20	
C. Gestures	<i>Gestures are purposeful and effective.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points. Great posture (confident) with positive body language. 	<i>Usually purposeful gestures.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands are used to express or emphasize. Occasionally slumps; sometimes negative body language. 	<i>Occasionally gestures are used effectively.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting. Lacks positive body language; slumps. 		X 20	
D. Well-poised	<i>Is extremely well-poised.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poised and in control at all times. 	<i>Usually is well-poised.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poised and in control most of the time; rarely loses composure. 	<i>Isn't always well-poised.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes seems to lose composure. 		X 20	
Gross Total Points						
Time Deductions*						
Net Total Points						
Rank						

*- 1 point per second penalty for speeches under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes, as determined by the timekeepers

FINAL RANKING SHEET

EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC SPEAKING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

When all contestants have finished speaking, the chairperson of the CDE will assemble the score sheets from all judges and timekeepers. Totals shall then be compiled. The CDE chairperson should then complete the "Final Ranking Sheet" **USING THE RANKING ONLY, NOT THE ACTUAL SCORES.**

Rankings taken from judges' score sheets

Order of Speaking										
Contestant's Name or Code Number										
Judge #1										
Judge #2										
Judge #3										
Total of Judges' Rankings										
Final Ranking										

Note: In arriving at final rankings, the lowest total of the Judges' rankings receives first place, the next lowest total is second, etc. However, if two of three judges rank any contestant first, that contestant shall receive first place regardless of the opinion of the third judge. If a tie occurs when adding the rankings of the three judges, the individual who has the highest grand total score shall be ranked higher.