

# PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the FFA Public Speaking Contest is to develop agricultural leadership by demonstrating the ability to present ideas in an organized and effective manner.

## **Objectives**

The student will be able to:

- I. Develop a well written manuscript.
- II. Organize and present ideas in a logical sequence.
- III. Communicate effectively with others.
- IV. Deliver a speech and respond to questions regarding its content.
- V. Select an agricultural topic on which they want to speak.
- VI. Develop self-confidence in public speaking.

## Event Format

1. Prepared Public Speaking contest has three (3) divisions. Each division is a separate event.
  - a. Division I - Contestant must be a freshman (9<sup>th</sup> grade).
  - b. Division II - Contestant must be a sophomore (10<sup>th</sup> grade).
  - c. Advanced - Contestant may be in 9-12 grade.

**\*NOTE: A contestant may only compete in one of the above divisions in the same year. Students are not allowed to compete in Creed Speaking and Division I Prepared Public Speaking in the same year.**
2. **NO PROPS ARE TO BE USED for Division I, Division II, or Advanced Prepared Public Speaking.** Note cards and manuscripts are allowed and not considered props in any prepared speaking contest. Their use may affect scoring in the sections of the score card titled Stage Presence and Power of Expression.
- 3.

DIVISION	*SPEECH LENGTH	TIME FOR QUESTIONS	DEDUCTIONS
I	3-4 minutes	3 minutes	Deductions of one (1) point per second per judge over or under specified *Speech Length.
II	4-6 minutes	4 minutes	
Advanced	6-8 minutes	5 minutes	

4. On the time limit for questions, the contestant and the judges must stop when time is called by the time keeper. (see chart above).
5. Participants will submit the speech in the following format:
  - a. Double-spaced typewritten on 8½" x 11" white bond paper with **cover page** that gives the speech title, participant's name, chapter, and date. The format should use 1" margins, a 12 pitch font (Arial, Courier, Courier New or Times New Roman) and **follow the most current version of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (Modern Language Association) for style/format.** Do not bind or place in folders, special binders or covers. Place a staple in the upper-left corner. Manuscripts not meeting these guidelines will be penalized. **(Note, regardless of MLA style/format suggestions, each speech must have a cover page as indicated above.)**
  - b. A complete and accurate bibliography used in writing the speech. All participants in the State FFA Prepared Public Speaking Career Development Event should give credit to others where any direct quotes, phrases or special dates are used in the manuscript, in order not to be guilty of plagiarism. The Boards of National Officers and Directors of FFA at the October 1960 meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, adopted the following: *"A bibliography MUST be included as part of the public speaker's manuscript, an direct quotes from any source of information must be marked in "quotes" on the manuscript and be identified in the bibliography. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify a participant. This applies to all events above the local level."*
6. As soon as the district winners for all divisions are selected, the local advisor will send the following materials to: Dr. Terry Heiman, Director, Agricultural Education Section, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102.
  - a. Four double-spaced typewritten copies of the speech on 8-1/2" x 11" white paper.
  - b. A signed statement that the contestant's speech is the result of his/her own effort.
  - c. A bibliography attached to each copy of the speech.

## Event Scoring

Tie breaking in FFA Creed, Prepared and Extemporaneous Speaking events will be done as follows: 1) Add judges ranking – lowest ranking; 2) If lowest rank value is a tie go to greatest number of lowest ranks; 3) If greatest number of lowest ranks is a tie then rank of judges score on response to questions where applicable; 4) If the greatest number of lowest ranks on response to questions is a tie to use total raw score.

## Event Rules and Regulations

1. The state and district contests will be governed by the general rules and regulations of the National Prepared Public Speaking Contest.
2. The number of state public speaking entries from each district is listed in the Guidelines under Allocation of Teams. **Each school will be allowed two speakers in both Division II and Advanced Prepared Public Speaking to the Area contest. This will not change the number of students qualifying for District or State competition.**
3. Area winners should be certified to the college representative and/or district MVATA president at least one week prior to the district contest or at a time specified by the contest announcement. **Four double-spaced typewritten copies of the speech should accompany the certification.**
4. All speeches must be on FFA or agricultural subjects. Division I must be based on the Ag Science I competencies. Division II must be based on the Ag Science II competencies. Advanced Prepared Public Speaking topics may include any current subject which is of an agricultural character (nature) and which may include agriscience and technology, agribusiness, agrimarketing, and international agricultural relations and agricultural communications.
5. The first-place Advanced Division winner at the State Contest will represent the Missouri FFA Association at the National FFA Convention.

## References

**MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Paper, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. ([www.mlahandbook.org](http://www.mlahandbook.org))**

## Forms

Prepared Public Speaking Score Sheet, Explanation of the Score Sheet Points

# PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING SCORE SHEET

Division I \_\_\_\_\_ Division II \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking Order:

Possible Points		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>CONTENT OF MANUSCRIPT (Maximum Points 200):</b>									
Importance and appropriateness of the subject	40								
Suitability of the material used	40								
Accuracy of the statements	40								
Evidence of purpose	40								
Completeness and accuracy of bibliography	40								
<b>COMPOSITION OF MANUSCRIPT (Maximum Points 100):</b>									
Organization of contents	20								
Unity of thought	10								
Logical development	20								
Language used	15								
Sentence structure, spelling and grammar	15								
Accomplishment of purpose-conclusion	20								
<b>VOICE (Maximum Points 100):</b>									
Quality, pitch	25								
Articulation	25								
Pronunciation	25								
Force	25								
<b>STAGE PRESENCE (Maximum Points 100):</b>									
Personal appearance	25								
Poise and body posture	25								
Attitude, confidence and personality	25								
Ease before an audience	25								
<b>POWER OF EXPRESSION (Maximum Points 100):</b>									
Communicative ability including: fluency, emphasis, directness, sincerity	50								
Conveyance of thought and meaning	50								
<b>RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS* (Maximum Points 300):</b>									
Ability to answer the questions on the speech, which are asked by the judges, indicating originality, familiarity with subject and ability to think quickly	300								
<b>GENERAL EFFECT (Maximum Points 100)</b>									
Extent to which the speech was interesting, pleasing, understandable, convincing, and held attention	100								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Gross Total Points</b>	1000								
Less Time Deduction **									
<b>Net Total Points:</b>									
Participant Ranking:									

\* Judges should meet prior to the event to prepare and clarify the types of questions to be asked.

\*\* - 1 point per second over, determined by the timekeepers

## Explanation of Score Sheet Points

### *Part I: For Scoring Content and Composition of Manuscript*

1. **Content of Manuscript** includes:.....200 points

- Importance and appropriateness of the subject
- Accuracy of statements included
- Completeness and accuracy of bibliography
- Suitability of the material used
- Evidence of purpose
- Relationship to agriculture

2. **Composition of Manuscript** includes:.....100 points

- Organization of the content
- Logical development
- Sentence Structure
- Spelling and grammar
- Unity of thought
- Language used
- Accomplishment of purpose / conclusions

### *Part II: For Scoring Delivery of Production*

1. **Voice** includes:.....100 points

- Quality and Pitch
- Pronunciation
- Articulation
- Force

2. **Stage Presence** includes:.....100 points

- Personal Appearance
- Attitude, confidence, and personality
- Poise and body posture
- Ease before an audience

3. **Power of Expression** includes:.....100 points

- Fluency
- Directness
- Conveyance of thought and meaning
- Emphasis
- Sincerity
- Communicative ability

4. **Response to Questions** includes:.....300 points

- Ability to answer questions on the speech asked by judges indicating originality, familiarity with subject, and ability to think quickly

5. **General Effect** includes:.....100 points

- Extent to which the speech was interesting, pleasing, understandable, convincing, and held attention