

ORATORY

Description

The art of effective written, and oral presentation to persuade or inform. (This is not a dramatic presentation.)

Overview

Are you a wordsmith with a passion for public speaking? This competition challenges you to harness the power of words to captivate your audience with a compelling speech, either persuading them to a specific viewpoint or enlightening them on a chosen topic.

Requirements:

1. Single Speech, Concise Delivery: Present a single, original speech that doesn't exceed five minutes.
2. Your Unique Voice: The speech must be your own original work, crafted to inform or persuade.
3. Focus on Substance, Not Spectacle: Avoid dramatic performances, costumes, or props.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers, a microphone, and necessary cables that is electricity based, not battery powered

2. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Delivery	25	Diction, pronunciation, enunciation, emphasis, gestures, tempo, time, and memorization.
Interpretation	25	Subject matter, theme, logic, and emotional connection.
Platform Presence	25	Poise, attitude, audience engagement, and overall impression.
Projection	25	Voice quality, emphasis, tone, pitch, and volume.
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.

- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist

- Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”.

There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Know Your Audience: Tailor your speech to resonate with your specific audience.
- Practice Makes Perfect: Rehearse your speech multiple times to ensure smooth delivery.
- Master Your Material: Memorize your speech thoroughly to avoid relying on notes.
- Project Your Voice: Speak clearly and loudly to engage your audience.

- Use Body Language Effectively: Employ gestures and eye contact to enhance your message.
- Connect Emotionally: Convey passion and sincerity to captivate your listeners.
- Time Yourself: Practice within the five-minute time limit to avoid penalties.
- Seek Feedback: Practice your speech in front of others and solicit constructive criticism.
- Embrace Nervous Energy: Channel your nerves into positive energy to fuel your performance.
- Be Yourself: Let your personality shine through in your delivery.