

United States Extemporaneous Speaking

Ohio High School Speech League

Round _____

Room _____

Section _____

Code	Title	Rank	Time

Instructions to Judges

No ties may be given. "1" is the best rank; "2" is the second best rank; etc. Do not use Roman numerals to record ranks.

Contestants are to speak at the time and in the order scheduled unless otherwise directed by the Tab Room.

The contestant must give the topic question slip to the judge.

The Extemporaneous speech is an original synthesis by the speaker of the current fact and opinion on the designated topic as presented in several sources. The best Extemporaneous speech combines clear thinking, good speaking, and an interesting presentation to establish a definite thought with respect to the subject chosen.

The contestant should be held accountable for strict adherence to the precise statement of the topic drawn and discounted severely for deviating from the subject of the chosen topic. The information presented should be well chosen, pertinent, and sufficient to support the central thought of the topic and should be organized according to some logical plan to produce a complete speech within the time allowed.

Delivery should be free from marked defects in the mechanics of speech – poise, quality and use of voice, enunciation, fluency, body expressiveness – and should be effective in enlisting and holding the interest of the audience.

The use of notes while speaking is prohibited.

The time limit is 7 minutes with a 30 second grace period. Any time penalty is left to the judge's discretion. Judges are asked to inform contestants of their remaining time by holding up 2 fingers at the end of 5 minutes, 1 finger at the end of 6 minutes, a half signal at the end of 6 ½ minutes, and then a closed fist at the 7 minute point.

Timing begins with the first word and/or movement in the presentation.

Judge's Signature _____ Code _____ School _____