

Extemporaneous Speaking

Objective:

To develop the ability of FFA members to express themselves through a speech on a given subject about agriculture industry current events without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance.

A. Rules and Regulations

1. The event is open to all FFA members in good standing who are regularly enrolled in an agricultural education course at or above the ninth grade level during one or both semesters of the current school year and who have not placed first in a state Extemporaneous Speaking Leadership Development Event (LDE) previously.
2. Each district will determine the number of individuals per school allowed to compete at the district level. Each district may send the top two individuals, with up to two additional teams identified as alternates, to the state level competition regardless of ribbon color awarded at the district level.
3. In addition to the Extemporaneous Speaking LDE, an Extemporaneous Speaking participant may compete in only one of the following events in a given year: Conduct of Chapter Meetings (applicable to ninth grade participants), Senior Parliamentary Procedure, or Agricultural Demonstration. They are not eligible to compete in any other individual (non-team based) Leadership Development Event in the same year in which they compete in the Extemporaneous Speaking event.
4. Twelve topics shall be prepared by the FFA Association state staff, in partnership with industry representatives versed on the current issues facing the agriculture industry. Two topics will be prepared from each of the following six areas:

Agricultural literacy and advocacy

Current agricultural issues

Advancing agriculture through agriculture science

Current technology uses and applications in agriculture

Agrimarketing and international agriculture

Food and fiber systems

5. Each of the 12 topics will be listed on an individual card. Each participant will randomly draw three cards from the original 12. During the random selection of three cards, the topics shall be presented face down to the speaker so that the topics are unknown at the point of selection. The speaker will then review the three cards selected at random and intentionally choose one topic to address through their speech. After selection, all topics will be returned to the original group of topics, face down, prior to the next participant drawing.
6. Each participant must bring their own reference material. This material will be screened by the officials managing the Leadership Development Event. The following items may be brought (or in the case of the laptop, used) on the following basis:
 - a. Shall be limited to five printed items. Must be printed material such as books or magazines and/or a compilation of collected materials (cannot be notes or speeches prepared for this event or a previous event).
 - b. To be counted as one item—a notebook or folder of collected materials that may contain no more than 100 pages, single sided or 50 pages double sided numbered consecutively (cannot be notes or speeches prepared by the participant or notes or speeches prepared by another person for the purpose of use in this event). Copies must reference the origination point.

- c. Participants may have 10 minutes to conduct research using an electronic device provided by event coordinators. At the state event, a laptop or tablet shall be provided for such research. Districts must determine and announce to all teachers within the district if the district will provide a laptop, desktop, or tablet or if students should bring their own device. Access to email and prepared content shall be strictly monitored and prohibited. Search engines, content sites flash drives, and online personal document storage sites are permissible. No cellphones or electronic devices with communication capabilities will be allowed into the holding or competition rooms. Members found to have these in possession will be disqualified from the competition.
7. Each speech will be limited to six minutes and must be no less than four minutes in length. One point will be deducted for each second that the student speaks over time or under time. A maximum of five minutes of additional time will be allowed for each participant to answer questions asked by the evaluators.
8. Each participant's speech is to be the result of his or her own effort. Index cards will be provided. Each participant will be granted 30 minutes to prepare his or her remarks.
9. No video recording will be allowed in the performance room in order to maintain the integrity of the event at future locations.

B. Suggested Guide for Conducting FFA Extemporaneous Speaking Leadership Development Event

Prior to the Event

1. The order of appearance to be used will be determined in advance of the event.
2. Provide the following to each evaluator:
 - a. Extemporaneous Speaking Rules and Regulations (this document)
 - b. Scoring Rubric – one per participant
 - c. Official Score Card/Results Sheets
 - d. List of the 12 possible topics from which students will select their topic
 - e. Order of Appearance Roster

Start the Event

1. The participant will draw three topics and select the one on which they wish to speak. The participant must write down the topic and return all three cards to the original group prior to the next participant drawing.
2. Each participant must be allowed the full 30-minute preparation period, which begins at the time they enter the preparation room, and after they have selected a topic.
3. Each participant shall be introduced to the evaluators by the individual coordinating the event. Introductions will include the participant's name and chapter.
Example: The following speaker is Alex Degree from the Blue and Gold FFA Chapter.
4. After each participant concludes their speech, the timer must record the total time and forward to the evaluators.
5. Each participant is to be allowed a maximum of five minutes of questioning by the evaluators. These questions are to be based on the speech content. Answers or questions must be stopped at the five-minute point.

After Event

1. Each evaluator shall total each participant's score and arrive at the placing. Discussion between evaluators is allowed and encouraged. Audience members and participants **shall not** be present during evaluator discussion.

- 2. Ribbons may be awarded according to the guidelines on the results sheets. The top four participants shall be ranked, regardless of their ribbon assignment, and up to two individuals regardless of their ribbon rating at the district level may advance to the state round of competition. Advancing speakers are to be of high quality.
- 3. A critique sheet shall be completed for each participant.
- 4. Two copies of the results should be completed on the form provided to the judges. List the name and chapter of each participant.
- 5. District FFA board representatives must verify the membership of all state-qualifying participants within one week of the district event.

Event Attire

- 1. Each participant shall wear the official FFA dress as defined in the FFA Manual: A white collared shirt or blouse, official FFA tie or scarf, black trousers or skirt, black shoes, and FFA jacket.
- 2. Points may be deducted for variance from official dress.

C. Official Score Card

Examples.....	50
Speaking without Hesitation.....	50
Tone.....	50
Being Detail-oriented.....	150
Connecting and Articulating Facts and Issues.....	150
Speaks Unrehearsed.....	150
Attention.....	100
Mannerisms.....	100
Gestures.....	100
Well-poised.....	100
Total.....	1000

Time Penalty: one point is deducted for each second under time or over time.

D. Awards Recognition

- 1. District Awards: Participants meriting awards shall be rated as purple, blue, red, or white and the top four participants shall be ranked by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th). Each district may send the top two contestants, with up to two additional contestants identified as alternates, to the state round of competition.
- 2. State Awards: Participants in the state event will be designated as gold, silver, or bronze medal recipients. The state winner will represent Nebraska in the national-level Extemporaneous Speaking Leadership Development Event.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING EVENT CRITIQUE SHEET

Participant: _____

FFA Chapter: _____

INDICATOR	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Points
Verbal Communication – 600 points						
Examples	Examples are vivid, precise, and clearly explained; examples are original, logical, and relevant	Examples are usually concrete, sometimes needs clarification; examples are effective, but need more originality or thought	Examples are abstract or not clearly defined; examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions		X 10	
Comments:						
Speaking without Hesitation	Speaks very articulately without hesitation; never has the need for unnecessary pauses or hesitation when speaking	Speaks articulately, but sometimes hesitates; occasionally has the need for a long pause or moderate hesitation when speaking	Speaks articulately, but frequently hesitates; frequently hesitates or has long, awkward pauses while speaking		X 10	
Comments:						
Tone	Appropriate tone is consistent; speaks at the right pace to be clear; pronunciation of words is very clear and intent is apparent	Appropriate tone is usually consistent; speaks at the right pace most of the time, but shows some nervousness; pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes vague	Has difficulty using an appropriate tone; pace is too fast, nervous; pronunciation of words is difficult to understand, unclear		X 10	
Comments:						
Being Detail-oriented	Is able to stay fully detail-oriented; always provides details which support the issue; is well-organized	Is mostly good at being detail-oriented; usually provides details which are supportive of the issue; displays good organizational skills	Has difficulty being detail-oriented; sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the issue; lacks organization		X 30	
Comments:						
Connecting and Articulating Facts and Issues	Exemplary in connecting facts and issues and	Sufficient in connecting facts and issues and	Has difficulty with connecting facts and issues and		X 30	

	articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally; possesses a strong knowledge base and is able to effectively articulate information regarding related facts and current issues	articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally; possesses a good knowledge base and is able to, for the most part, articulate information regarding related facts and current issues	articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally; possesses some knowledge base but is unable to articulate information regarding related facts and current issues			
Comments:						
Speaking Unrehearsed (Questions & Answers)	Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease; is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers	Speaks unrehearsed mostly with comfort and ease, but sometimes seems nervous or unsure; is able to speak effectively, has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus	Shows nervousness or seems unprepared when speaking unrehearsed; seems to ramble or speaks before thinking		X 30	
Comments:						
Non-verbal Communication – 400 points						
Attention (Eye Contact)	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection; consistently looks at the entire audience (90-100% of the time)	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent; mostly looks around the audience (60-80% of the time)	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker; occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50% of the time)		X20	
Comments:						
Mannerisms	Does not have distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness; no nervous habits	Sometimes has distracting mannerisms that pull from the presentation; sometimes exhibits nervous habits or ticks	Has mannerisms that pull from the effectiveness of the presentation; displays some nervous habits; fidgets or anxious ticks		X20	
Comments:						
Gestures	Gestures are purposeful and effective; hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points; great posture; confident with positive body language	Usually uses purposeful gestures; hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize; occasionally slumps; sometimes negative body language	Occasionally gestures are used effectively; hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting; lacks positive body language and		X20	

			slumps			
Comments:						
Well-poised	Is extremely well-poised; poised and in control at all times	Usually is well-poised; poised and in control most of the time; rarely loses composure	Isn't always well-poised; sometimes seems to lose composure		X20	
Comments:						
Sub-total Points						
-1 point per second under four minutes or over six minutes, determined by timekeeper						-
Total Points						

GENERAL COMMENTS:

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING EVENT SCORE SHEET

Participant: _____

FFA Chapter: _____

Verbal Communication – 600 points				
INDICATOR	Very strong evidence of skill is present	Moderate evidence of skill is present	Strong evidence of skill is not present	Total Points
Examples <i>(50 points maximum)</i>				
Speaking without Hesitation <i>(50 points maximum)</i>				
Tone <i>(50 points maximum)</i>				
Being Detail-oriented <i>(150 points maximum)</i>				
Connecting and Articulating Facts and Issues <i>(150 points maximum)</i>				
Speaking Unrehearsed (Questions & Answers) <i>(150 points maximum)</i>				
Non-verbal Communication – 400 points				
Attention (Eye Contact) <i>(100 points maximum)</i>				
Mannerisms <i>(100 points maximum)</i>				
Gestures <i>(100 points maximum)</i>				
Well-poised <i>(100 points maximum)</i>				
Sub-total Points				
-1 point per second under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes, determined by timekeeper				
Total Points				

GENERAL COMMENTS: