

The purpose of this event is to develop the ability of all FFA members to express themselves on a given subject without having to prepare or rehearse its content in advance.

1. The first selection of topics shall be held thirty minutes before the event. The contestant will draw three specific topics relating to the industry of agriculture and will select one. After the first contestant selects a topic, all three topics will be returned to the original group of topic areas. The next contestant will then draw three topics and then select a topic. This process continues for each contestant. Each contestant shall have 30 minutes of preparation time prior to their performance.
2. Twelve topics shall be prepared by the superintendent of the event and will include three each from the following categories: (a) agriscience and technology, (b) agri-marketing, and international agricultural relations, (c) food and fiber systems and (d) urban agriculture. They will be typed on cards. There shall be twelve different topics for the preliminary and final heats prepared by the superintendent. The Superintendent will inform the Judges of each contestant's topic selection.
3. When not preparing or performing, contestants will remain sequestered in a holding area until after they perform. Contestants will participate according to the rotation established by state rules. The first contestant will be admitted to the preparation room 30 minutes prior to the event and subsequent contestants at 15-minute intervals.
4. All reference materials must be submitted for screening **30 minutes prior to the contest** and will be held until the final speaker has competed. **Failure to comply with these rules will result in disqualification.**
 - a. **Printed materials** may include books, newspapers, magazines, and printed materials from industry or academic websites. Materials may not include notes, outlines, speeches, or annotations prepared by the contestant or others. Internet-based materials must display authorship or source information and may be subject to verification. Printed materials compiled in notebooks or folders may not exceed **100 single-sided pages** (8½" × 11"). Tables of contents or tabs are permitted and count toward the page limit.
 - b. **Electronic materials** must be stored on a **USB flash drive (maximum 4GB)**. All files must be in **PDF format only**, unaltered, and display original source information. Indexing is permitted; all other file formats are prohibited.
 - c. Computers or tablets may be used **only to access and read reference materials**. Contestants may not type, write, organize notes, or prepare speeches using electronic devices. All internet, wireless, and external connectivity must be disabled. Audio, video, and multimedia files are not permitted.
 - d. Devices and materials may be inspected at any time. Contestants are responsible for their own equipment and assume all risk of equipment failure; no accommodations will be provided.
5. Cell phones, smart phones, and gaming devices are not allowed during the contest
6. Each speech shall be the result of the contestant's own effort using approved reference material which the contestant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance may be provided. The event superintendent shall provide all note cards used by contestants if contestants choose to use notecards, 3x5 and 4x6 note cards will be provided by the event superintendent for contestants to use. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 30-minute preparation period.
7. Each speech shall be no less than four (4) nor more than six (6) minutes with five (5) minutes additional time allowed for related questions, which shall be asked by the judges. A 30-second warning shall be provided via a timecard from the timekeeper or a judge for contestants in the Extemporaneous Speaking Development Event. Such a warning shall be provided when the contestant has 30 seconds remaining before going beyond the six-minute time allotment. Contestants will be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being over six minutes or under four minutes. Time commences when the contestant begins speaking. Contestants may use a wristwatch only to keep record of time.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING - Rubric



Contestant Name: _____ Chapter: _____ Area: _____

Oral Communication (600 Points)

<i>Indicators</i>	Very strong evidence skill is present 5-4	Moderate evidence skill is present 3-2	Evidence skill is not present 1-0	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
A. Examples related to topic	Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained. Examples are original, logical and relevant to topic selected	Examples are usually concrete, but sometimes need clarification. Examples are generally related to topic selected	Examples are abstract or not clearly defined. Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions about the related topic.		X 10	
B. Speaks 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 15	
C. 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 place most of the time, but shows some nervousness. Pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes vague.	Has difficulty using an appropriate tone. The pace is too fast, nervous. Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand.		X 15	
D. Speaker is detail oriented	Is able to stay fully detail oriented. Always provides details which support answers/basis of the question.	Is mostly detail oriented. Usually provides details which are supportive of the answers/basis of the questions.	Has difficulty being detail oriented. Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the answers/basis of the question.		X 20	
E. Connects and articulates facts and issues	Exemplary in connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally. Possess a strong knowledge base and is able to effectively articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.	Sufficient in connecting facts and issues and 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.	Has difficulty with connecting facts and issues and 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.		X 20	
F. Articulation of Answers	Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease. Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers.	Mostly speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease, but sometimes seems nervous or unsure. Is able to speak effectively but 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 20	
G. Validity of Answers	Answer(s) sounds logical and valid.	Some answer(s) sound logical and valid.	No answer(s) seem logical or valid.		X 20	

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING - Rubric (2)



Contestant Name: _____ Chapter: _____ Area: _____

Non-verbal Communication (400 Points)

<i>Indicators</i>	Very strong evidence Skill is present 5-4	Moderate evidence Skill is present 3-2	Evidence Skill is not present 1-0	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
A. Attention (eye contact)	Eye contact is consistently used as an effective connection. Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100% of the time).	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. Looks mostly 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).		X 20	
B. Mannerisms	Does not have distracting mannerisms that affect the 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.		X 20	
C. 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 talking points. 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; slumps.		X 20	
D. Well Poised	Is extremely well poised. Poised and in control at all times.	Is usually well poised. Poised and in control most of the time; rarely loses composure.	Isn't always well poised. Sometimes seems to lose composure.		X 20	
Gross Total Points						
Point deduction (-1 point per second under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes)						
NET TOTAL POINTS - 1000 points possible						

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING - Score Card



		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
ORAL COMMUNICATION													
A. Examples	50												
B. Speaks without hesitation	75												
C. Tone	75												
D. Speaker is detail oriented	100												
E. Connects and articulates facts and issues	100												
F. Speaks unrehearsed (Question and Answer)	100												
G. Validity of Answers	100												
NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION													
A. Attention (eye contact)	100												
B. Mannerisms	100												
C. Gestures	100												
D. Well poised	100												
Total Points													
Deductions (-1pt under 4/over 6 mins)													
Net Total Points													

Judge's Signature: _____

Judges Email: _____

Judges Cell: _____