

Impromptu

Description: *In Impromptu speaking the speaker is given two (2) minutes to prepare a speech on a randomly drawn quotation or topic.*

Goal: *To create a polished speaker who is able to give an original, spontaneously prepared speech within the room, using the selected topic as the central theme.*

Impromptu Administration Rules:

1. One judge in each room will be given instructions regarding room administration as well as the envelope of topics to distribute to the student.
2. A list of possible topics will be given to each of the other judges in the room.
3. The speaker will receive three (3) single topics, choose one, and return the other two. The chosen topic should not be returned to the envelope.
4. Topics should be of the same type for all speakers in the round (e.g. all quotations or all abstract concepts, etc.)
5. The timekeeper will start the digital timepiece when the competitor receives the topics and will give verbal countdown signals every thirty (30) seconds until two (2) minutes have elapsed.
6. Unused preparation time may not be added to the speaking time.

Impromptu Presentation Rules:

1. The speaker may write notes on a blank sheet of paper during preparation time, but he may not use or refer to the notes during his speech.
2. The speaker may not bring any prepared material into the room.
3. The speaker may approach the topic in any way he chooses, but the topic must be the central theme of the speech and not peripheral to it.
4. The speaker may refer to his topic slip when announcing his topic during the speech. He may not write notes on the topic slip.
5. Each speech should be a fresh, original presentation, developed from one of the topics given and prepared on the spot.
6. The speaker must state his topic early in the speech and adhere to the chosen topic.
7. No audio or visual aids or props may be used.
8. No computers, Kindles, iPods, cell phones, or other electronic media devices may be used for Impromptu preparation or presentation.
9. Gratuitous vulgarity is strictly prohibited.
10. The student must not listen to other Impromptu competitors speaking before him. He may stay after he has given his speech to listen to subsequent speakers.
11. The timekeeper will start the digital timepiece when the competitor begins and will stop the digital timepiece when the competitor finishes. Hand signals will be given each minute showing the minutes remaining, at thirty seconds remaining, and a countdown from ten to zero seconds.
12. Maximum speaking time is five (5) minutes.

Preparation time – two (2) minutes. Speaking time – five (5) minutes. No minimum time.