

Orientation will begin soon

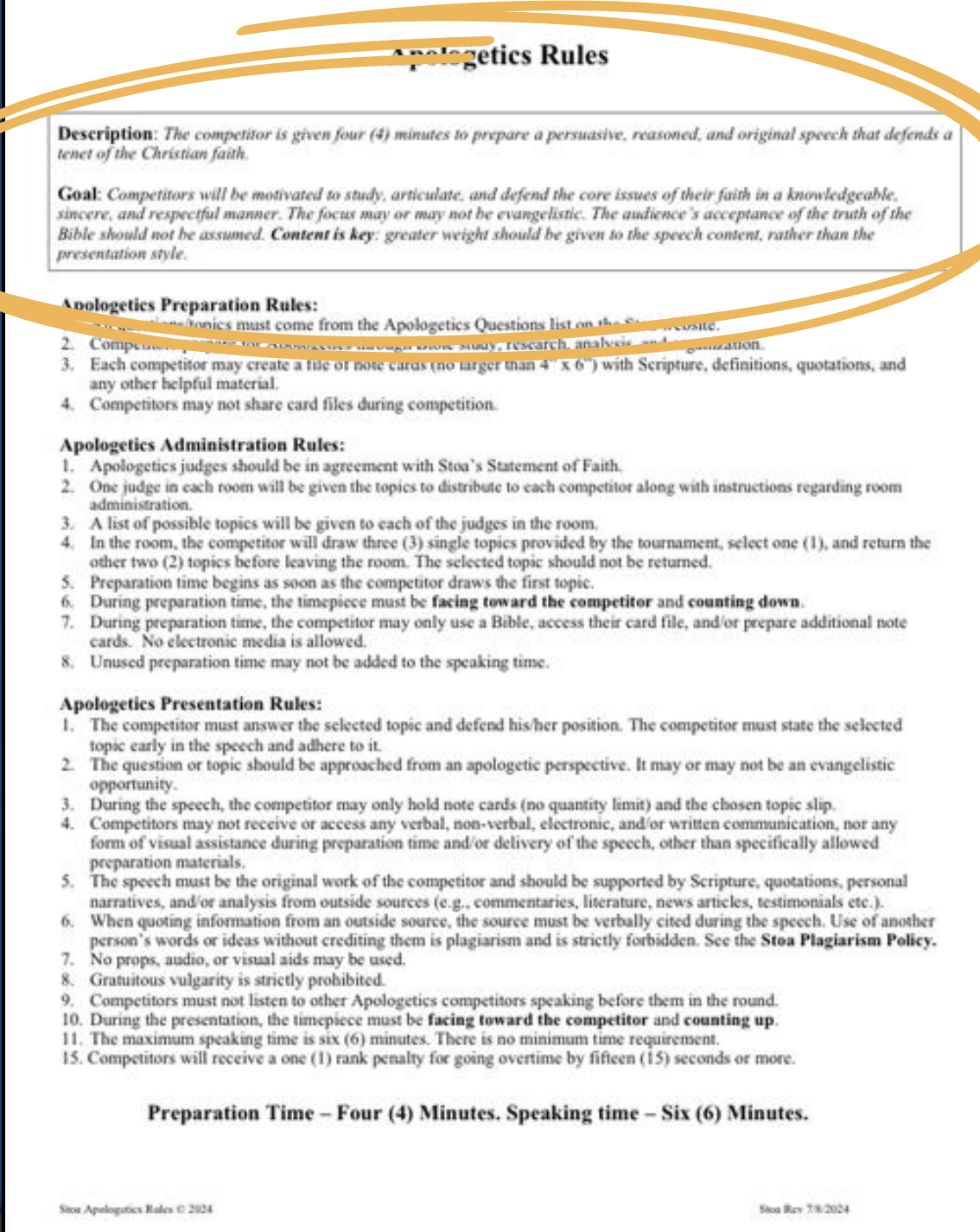
Do you have a ballot?

While you are waiting...

Please review the

- Description
- Goals

on the back of the Tab Ballot.



Apologetics Rules

Description: The competitor is given four (4) minutes to prepare a persuasive, reasoned, and original speech that defends a tenet of the Christian faith.

Goal: Competitors will be motivated to study, articulate, and defend the core issues of their faith in a knowledgeable, sincere, and respectful manner. The focus may or may not be evangelistic. The audience's acceptance of the truth of the Bible should not be assumed. **Content is key:** greater weight should be given to the speech content, rather than the presentation style.

Apologetics Preparation Rules:

1. Competitors must come from the Apologetics Questions list on the Stoa website.
2. Competitors must prepare for submission through study, research, analysis, and organization.
3. Each competitor may create a file or note cards (no larger than 4" x 6") with Scripture, definitions, quotations, and any other helpful material.
4. Competitors may not share card files during competition.

Apologetics Administration Rules:

1. Apologetics judges should be in agreement with Stoa's Statement of Faith.
2. One judge in each room will be given the topics to distribute to each competitor along with instructions regarding room administration.
3. A list of possible topics will be given to each of the judges in the room.
4. In the room, the competitor will draw three (3) single topics provided by the tournament, select one (1), and return the other two (2) topics before leaving the room. The selected topic should not be returned.
5. Preparation time begins as soon as the competitor draws the first topic.
6. During preparation time, the timepiece must be **facing toward the competitor and counting down**.
7. During preparation time, the competitor may only use a Bible, access their card file, and/or prepare additional note cards. No electronic media is allowed.
8. Unused preparation time may not be added to the speaking time.

Apologetics Presentation Rules:

1. The competitor must answer the selected topic and defend his/her position. The competitor must state the selected topic early in the speech and adhere to it.
2. The question or topic should be approached from an apologetic perspective. It may or may not be an evangelistic opportunity.
3. During the speech, the competitor may only hold note cards (no quantity limit) and the chosen topic slip.
4. Competitors may not receive or access any verbal, non-verbal, electronic, and/or written communication, nor any form of visual assistance during preparation time and/or delivery of the speech, other than specifically allowed preparation materials.
5. The speech must be the original work of the competitor and should be supported by Scripture, quotations, personal narratives, and/or analysis from outside sources (e.g., commentaries, literature, news articles, testimonials etc.).
6. When quoting information from an outside source, the source must be verbally cited during the speech. Use of another person's words or ideas without crediting them is plagiarism and is strictly forbidden. See the **Stoa Plagiarism Policy**.
7. No props, audio, or visual aids may be used.
8. Gratuitous vulgarity is strictly prohibited.
9. Competitors must not listen to other Apologetics competitors speaking before them in the round.
10. During the presentation, the timepiece must be **facing toward the competitor and counting up**.
11. The maximum speaking time is six (6) minutes. There is no minimum time requirement.
15. Competitors will receive a one (1) rank penalty for going overtime by fifteen (15) seconds or more.

Preparation Time – Four (4) Minutes. Speaking time – Six (6) Minutes.

Stoa Apologetics Rules © 2024

Stoa Rev 7/8/2024

SPEECH ORIENTATION

STOA

"...trains Christian, homeschooled youth in speech and debate, in order to better communicate a biblical worldview.



National
speech & debate
league



Homeschool
students



Ages
12 - 18



100+
tournaments
each year

This orientation will explain...



The speeches



The setting and responsibilities



The ballots



Thank you for coming to judge

THE EVENTS

INTERPRETATION

Humorous

Dramatic

Duo

Open

PLATFORM

Original Oratory

Persuasive

Expository

LIMITED PREP

Extemp

Mars Hill

Apologetics

Impromptu

WILDCARD

PLATFORM

```
graph TD; PLATFORM[PLATFORM] --- OriginalOratory[Original Oratory]; PLATFORM --- Persuasive[Persuasive]; PLATFORM --- Expository[Expository];
```

Original Oratory

Persuasive

Expository

A prepared speech, written and memorized by the competitor to:

- Inform
- Entertain
- Persuade
- Expose
- Inspire

Note: Expository allows visual aids

LIMITED PREP

```
graph TD; A[LIMITED PREP] --- B[Extemp]; A --- C[Mars Hill]; A --- D[Apologetics]; A --- E[Impromptu]
```

Extemp

Mars Hill

Apologetics

Impromptu

- Speech prepared on-site
- Judges are provided a copy of topics/questions
- Prep time & speaking time varies for each event
Please see the event rules

LIMITED PREP

Apologetics



Content is key!



Mars Hill



- Topics are theological in nature
- Defense of faith
- May or may not be evangelistic
- Judges must agree with the

Stoa Statement of Faith

Copy available at end of slides



- Topics are from media such as books, movies, songs, etc.
- Common themes found in cultural references
- Compare and contrast with biblical truths
- Conversational delivery

LIMITED PREP

Impromptu



- Wide variety of topics
- Demonstrates on-the-spot thinking
- Communicates theme and topic in a memorable way
- The prompt must be the central theme of the speech

Extemporaneous



- Questions about recent news stories
- Analyzes current events using a variety of sources
- Takes a position on topic
- Assigned order and speaking times

INTERPRETATION

Humorous

Dramatic

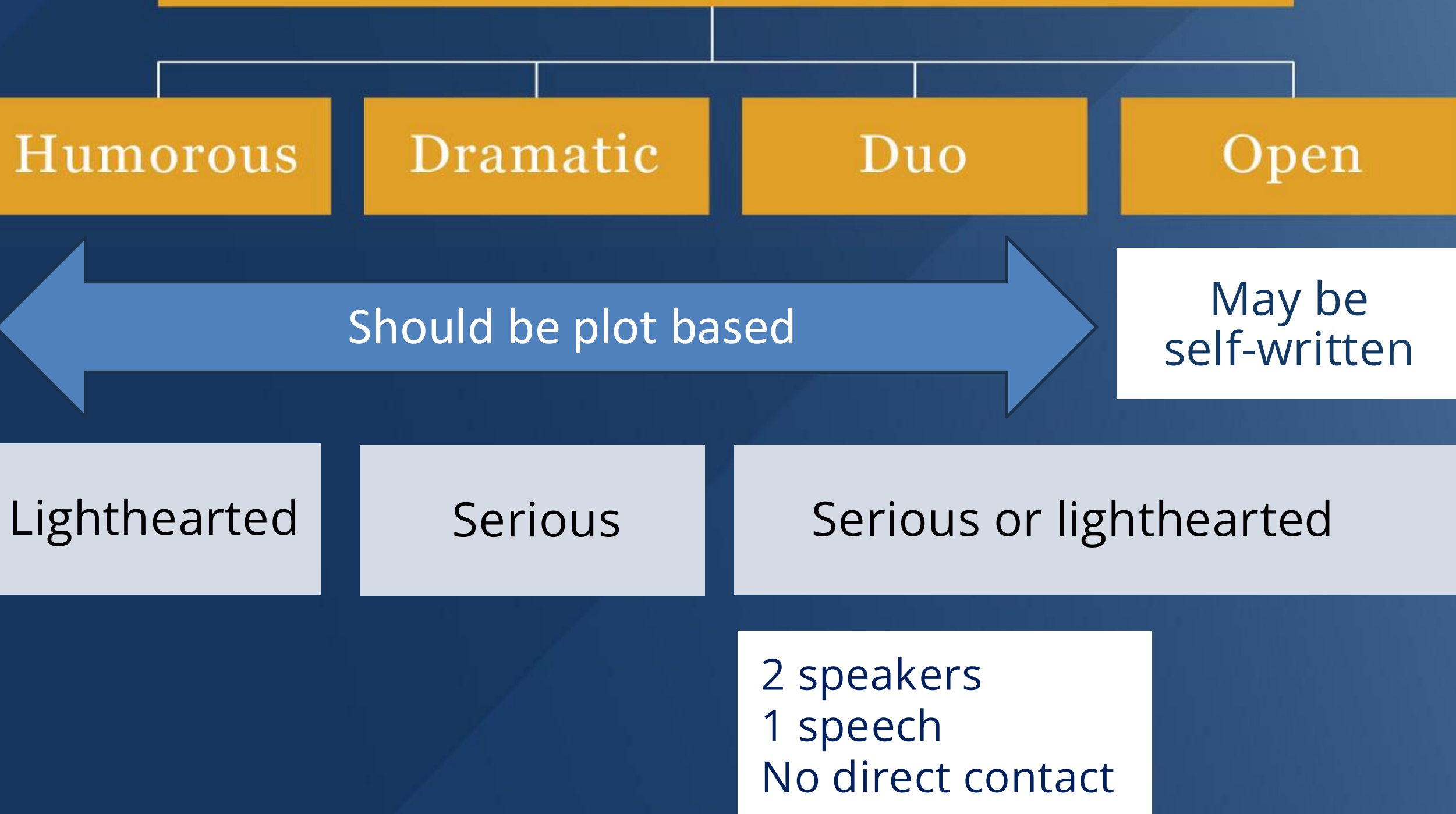
Duo

Open

- Select and analyze literature
- Bring to life through:
 - **voice**
 - **movement**
 - **facial expression**
- No costumes or props



INTERPRETATION



WILDCARD



Slam Poetry

- A thematic expressionistic presentation of poetry
- Poetry may be original, published, or a compilation of the two
- Vocal variety with limited movement
- Audience may participate with snapping and/or clapping

The background of the slide features a blue-tinted image of a classical building facade, showing architectural details like columns and a pediment with statues. A horizontal orange band is positioned across the middle of the image.

QUESTIONS?

JUDGES

You can do this!

- Be responsive! You are the audience
- Set aside personal bias and expertise
- We want your opinion!

Please, don't consult with other judges or audience members

- Give feedback that will motivate and educate

Don't discuss speech content with speakers

THE SETTING

Sit at assigned judge table and turn off your phone

Wait for all the judges before starting the round
Audience members may come and go between speakers

Head Judge controls the timer (facing competitor) and confirms penalties

Stay until every competitor has presented
Competitors may speak out of listed order (Extemp is an exception)

After the round, complete your ballot in the Judge Hospitality area

BALLOTS

Two types of ballots:

Original Oratory

Round 1	Room Collins 326B
Date: 05-23-2022	Time: 5:00pm
Section 1 [PANEL 1/3]	
Judge:	Signature:

9 970000 728253

Stoa Tabulation Ballot

Welcome! We are grateful for your willingness to volunteer your time.

- Attached are Student Ballots, one for each student, for your comments and feedback.
- Review the **Goal, Description, and Presentation Rules** located on the back of this sheet before the round begins.
- Remember to set aside any personal bias about speech topics when judging.
- With the exception of Extemporaneous, the students may speak in a different order than listed below.
- Write the topic of each speech in the indicated area on this Tabulation Ballot and the Student Ballots.
- Use the spaces on the front and the back of the Student Ballot to give feedback to the student.
- At the end of the competition round, rank the presentations 1 (best), 2 (second best), etc. Record this in the Original Rank column of this sheet.
- If no penalties are incurred, copy your original ranks to the Final Rank column.
- If a student has incurred a penalty listed on the Student Ballot, record the penalty on the Tabulation Ballot. Ballot Return will assist you with calculating the Final Rank.
- Once the Final Ranks have been determined, circle the corresponding rank on each of the Student Ballots.

Thank you so much for your time!

Name of Speaker	Topic	Original Rank	Penalties in Rank	Re-Ranking	Final Rank
			+	=	
			+	=	
			+	=	
			+	=	
			+	=	
			+	=	
			+	=	
			+	=	

Check for conflicts



Tabulation Ballot/Rules:
Rank the room

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY

A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker:	
Room:	
Judge:	
Round:	Duration:
	Event time 10:00

TOPIC

	Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)	Comments
CONTENT		
Structure:		
Engaging and relevant introduction		
Clear thesis statement	1 • • • 5	
Organized content; smooth transitions		
Effective conclusion		
Rhetoric:		
Builds credibility through sources and/or personal connection (ethos)	1 • • • 5	
Explains concepts using reason (logos)		
Evokes appropriate emotional responses (pathos)		
Utilizes creative examples and illustrations		
Language: Vocabulary; rhetorical devices/memorable language	1 • • • 5	
Impact: Compelling message; addresses topic in a unique way; achieves purpose	1 • • • 5	
DELIVERY		
Vocal: Varies volume, rate, and inflection; smooth and polished	1 • • • 5	
Physical: Authentic gestures and movement	1 • • • 5	
Facial: Eye contact; appropriate facial expressions	1 • • • 5	
OVERALL IMPRESSION		
Appearance: Poised; professional	1 • • • 5	
Manner: Confident; sincere; winsome	1 • • • 5	

PENALTIES: Overtime by 15 seconds (1 rank) _____ + Use of script (2 ranks) _____ = Total penalty rank(s) _____

FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND (Circle One)

#1 First #2 Second #3 Third #4 Fourth #5 Fifth & Below

REASON FOR RANKING

Student Ballots:
Evaluate the speech and provide feedback

STUDENT BALLOT

ORIGINAL ORATORY

A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Student Ballot

Speaker:	
Room:	
Judge:	
Round:	Duration: Event time 10:00

TOPIC

Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)		Comments
CONTENT		
Structure: Engaging and relevant introduction Clear thesis statement Organized content; smooth transitions Effective conclusion	1 • • • 5	
Rhetoric: Builds credibility through sources and/or personal connection (ethos) Explains concepts using reason (logos) Evokes appropriate emotional responses (pathos) Utilizes creative examples and illustrations	1 • • • 5	
Language: Vocabulary; rhetorical devices/memorable language	1 • • • 5	
Impact: Compelling message; addresses topic in a unique way; achieves purpose	1 • • • 5	
DELIVERY		
Vocal: Varies volume, rate, and inflection; smooth and polished	1 • • • 5	
Physical: Authentic gestures and movement	1 • • • 5	
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OVERALL IMPRESSION		
Appearance: Poised; professional	1 • • • 5	
Manner: Confident; sincere; winsome	1 • • • 5	

PENALTIES: Overtime by 15 seconds (1 rank) _____ + Use of script (2 ranks) _____ = Total penalty rank(s) _____

FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND (Circle One)

#1 First #2 Second #3 Third #4 Fourth #5 Fifth & Below

REASON FOR RANKING

- Copy speaker, room, and round from Tab Ballot

Please use black or blue ink

- Judge = you!
- Jot down the topic
- Duration = length of speech
No minimum time limits

STUDENT BALLOT

- Use the ballot criteria to evaluate the speaker
- Note unique criteria for specific speech events

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY

A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker:	
Room:	
Judge:	
Round:	Duration: Event time 10:00

TOPIC

	Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)	Comments
CONTENT		
Structure:		
Engaging and relevant introduction	1 • • • 5	
Clear thesis statement		
Organized content; smooth transitions		
Effective conclusion		
Rhetoric:		
Builds credibility through sources and/or personal connection (ethos)	1 • • • 5	
Explains concepts using reason (logos)		
Evokes appropriate emotional responses (pathos)		
Utilizes creative examples and illustrations		
Language: Vocabulary; rhetorical devices/memorable language	1 • • • 5	
Impact: Compelling message; addresses topic in a unique way; achieves purpose	1 • • • 5	
DELIVERY		
Vocal: Varies volume, rate, and inflection; smooth and polished	1 • • • 5	
Physical: Authentic gestures and movement	1 • • • 5	
Facial: Eye contact; appropriate facial expressions	1 • • • 5	
OVERALL IMPRESSION		
Appearance: Poised; professional	1 • • • 5	
Manner: Confident; sincere; winsome	1 • • • 5	

PENALTIES: Overtime by 15 seconds (1 rank) _____ + Use of script (2 ranks) _____ = Total penalty rank(s) _____

FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND (Circle One)

#1 First #2 Second #3 Third #4 Fourth #5 Fifth & Below

REASON FOR RANKING

STUDENT BALLOT

Rate the student's performance on "Evaluate" scale

The numbers are not used by the tournament to determine points or ranking

Record any penalties

Confirm penalties with Head Judge

If there are penalties, don't circle student ranks - allow Ballot Return to assist you

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY

A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker:	
Room:	
Judge:	
Round:	Duration: Event time 10:00

TOPIC	Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)	Comments
CONTENT		
Structure:		
Engaging and relevant introduction Clear thesis statement	1 5	
Organized content; smooth transitions Effective conclusion		
Rhetoric:		
Builds credibility through sources and/or personal connection (ethos) Explains concepts using reason (logos) Evokes appropriate emotional responses (pathos) Utilizes creative examples and illustrations	1 5	
Language: Vocabulary; rhetorical devices/memorable language	1 5	
Impact: Compelling message; addresses topic in a unique way; achieves purpose	1 5	
DELIVERY		
Vocal: Varies volume, rate, and inflection; smooth and polished	1 5	
Physical: Authentic gestures and movement	1 5	
Facial: Eye contact; appropriate facial expressions	1 5	
OVERALL IMPRESSION		
Appearance: Poised; professional	1 5	
Manner: Confident; sincere; winsome	1 5	
PENALTIES: Overtime by 15 seconds (1 rank) _____ + Use of script (2 ranks) _____ = Total penalty rank(s) _____		
FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND <i>(Circle One)</i> #1 First #2 Second #3 Third #4 Fourth #5 Fifth & Below		
REASON FOR RANKING		

STUDENT BALLOT

- In the comments section:
 Provide feedback:
What worked
What didn't
- You are given 2 minutes between speakers to jot down your initial thoughts
- You will have more time to complete your ballots after the round

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY

A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker:	
Room:	
Judge:	
Round:	Duration: Event time 10:00

TOPIC	Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)	Comments
CONTENT		
Structure:		
Engaging and relevant introduction	1 • • • 5	
Clear thesis statement		
Organized content; smooth transitions		
Effective conclusion		
Rhetoric:		
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Vocal: Varies volume, rate, and inflection; smooth and polished	1 • • • 5	
Physical: Authentic gestures and movement	1 • • • 5	
Facial: Eye contact; appropriate facial expressions	1 • • • 5	
OVERALL IMPRESSION		
Appearance: Poised; professional	1 • • • 5	
Manner: Confident; sincere; winsome	1 • • • 5	
PENALTIES: Overtime by 15 seconds (1 rank) _____ + Use of script (2 ranks) _____ = Total penalty rank(s) _____		
FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND <i>(Circle One)</i> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; text-align: center;"> #1 First #2 Second #3 Third #4 Fourth #5 Fifth & Below </div>		
REASON FOR RANKING		

Stoa Original Oratory Student Ballot
©2023 Stoa Rev 7/5/23

ORDERING

- Stack ballots to order speakers
- Consider order without penalty

ORIGINAL ORATORY		Student Ballot		
<p><i>A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic</i></p>		Speaker: Mark Twain		
		Room:		
		Judge:		
		Round:	Duration: Event time 10:00	
TOPIC	Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)		Comments	
CONTENT				
Structure: Engaging and relevant introduction Clear thesis statement Organized content; smooth transitions Effective conclusion	1	• • • •	5	
Rhetoric: Builds credibility through sources and/or personal connection (ethos) Explains concepts using reason (logos) Evokes appropriate emotional responses (pathos) Utilizes creative examples and illustrations	1	• • • •	5	
Language: Vocabulary; rhetorical devices/memorable language	1	• • • •	5	
Impact: Compelling message; addresses topic in a unique way; achieves purpose	1	• • • •	5	
DELIVERY				
Vocal: Varies volume, rate, and inflection; smooth and polished	1	• • • •	5	
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OVERALL IMPRESSION				
Appearance: Poised; professional	1	• • • •	5	
Manner: Confident; sincere; winsome	1	• • • •	5	
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FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND (Circle One)				
<u>#1 First</u>	<u>#2 Second</u>	<u>#3 Third</u>	<u>#4 Fourth</u>	<u>#5 Fifth & Below</u>
PLEASE EXPLAIN REASON FOR RANKING.				

ORDERING

- Consider order without penalty

After stacking, you have a general idea of your ranking

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY
A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker: **Ben Franklin**
Room: _____

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY
A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker: **Marie Curie**
Room: _____

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY
A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker: **Mark Twain**
Room: _____
Judge: _____
Round: _____ Duration: Event time 10:00

TOPIC	Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)	Comments
CONTENT		
Structure: Engaging and relevant introduction Clear thesis statement Organized content; smooth transitions Effective conclusion	1 • • • 5	
Rhetoric: Builds credibility through sources and/or personal connection (ethos) Explains concepts using reason (logos) Evokes appropriate emotional responses (pathos) Utilizes creative examples and illustrations	1 • • • 5	
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Appearance: Poised; professional	1 • • • 5	
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PENALTIES: Overtime by 15 seconds (1 rank) _____ + Use of script (2 ranks) _____ = Total penalty rank(s) _____

FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND (Circle One)

#1 First #2 Second #3 Third #4 Fourth #5 Fifth & Below

PLEASE EXPLAIN REASON FOR RANKING.

After you hear all the speakers...

Confirm any penalties with the Head Judge.

Go to the Judge Hospitality area to finish your comments and complete your ballots.

Ask the Judge Orientation staff if you have any questions.

Complete the Tabulation Ballot before circling rank on the Student Ballot.

Original Oratory

Round 1	Room Collins 326B
Date: 05-23-2022	Time: 5:00pm
Section 1 [PANEL 1/3]	
Judge:	Signature:



Stoa Tabulation Ballot

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- Write the topic of each speech in the indicated area on this Tabulation Ballot and the Student Ballots.
- Use the spaces on the front and the back of the Student Ballot to give feedback to the student.
- At the end of the competition round, rank the presentations 1 (best), 2 (second best), etc. Record this in the Original Rank column of this sheet.
- If no penalties are incurred, copy your original ranks to the Final Rank column.
- If a student has incurred a penalty listed on the Student Ballot, record the penalty on the Tabulation Ballot. Ballot Return will assist you with calculating the Final Rank.
- Once the Final Ranks have been determined, circle the corresponding rank on each of the Student Ballots.

TAB BALLOT

- Use Original Rank column to record speaker ranking based on how you ordered them
- Number speakers from 1st to last
- There can be no ties

Name of Speaker	Topic	Original Rank	Penalties in Rank	Re-Ranking	Final Rank
<i>Mark Twain</i>	<i>Cave Tours</i>	1	+	=	
<i>Alexander Hamilton</i>	<i>Savings Plan</i>	7	+	=	
<i>Harriet Tubman</i>	<i>Railroad Ties</i>	3	+	=	
<i>Ronald Reagan</i>	<i>Demolition</i>	2	+	=	
<i>Queen Esther</i>	<i>The Time is Now</i>	8	+	=	
<i>Martin Luther King Jr.</i>	<i>Living the Dream</i>	6	+	=	
<i>Marie Curie</i>	<i>Neon Lights</i>	4	+	=	
<i>Benjamin Franklin</i>	<i>Keys to Success</i>	5	+	=	

TAB BALLOT

Original Oratory

Round 1	Room Collins 326B
Date: 05-23-2022	Time: 5:00pm
Section 1 [PANEL 1/3]	
Judge:	Signature:



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<i>Alexander Hamilton</i>	<i>Savings Plan</i>	7	+	=	
<i>Harriet Tubman</i>	<i>Railroad Ties</i>	3	+	=	
<i>Ronald Reagan</i>	<i>Demolition</i>	2	+	=	
<i>Queen Esther</i>	<i>The Time is Now</i>	8	+	=	
<i>Martin Luther King Jr.</i>	<i>Living the Dream</i>	6	+	=	
<i>Marie Curie</i>	<i>Neon Lights</i>	4	+	=	
<i>Benjamin Franklin</i>	<i>Keys to Success</i>	5	+	=	

No penalties?

Carry forward to Final Rank



TAB BALLOT

Original Oratory

Round 1	Room Collins 326B
Date: 05-23-2022	Time: 5:00pm
Section 1 [PANEL 1/3]	
Judge:	Signature:



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<i>Ronald Reagan</i>	<i>Demolition</i>	2	+	=	
<i>Queen Esther</i>	<i>The Time is Now</i>	8	+	=	
<i>Martin Luther King Jr.</i>	<i>Living the Dream</i>	6	+	=	
<i>Marie Curie</i>	<i>Neon Lights</i>	4	+ 1	=	
<i>Benjamin Franklin</i>	<i>Keys to Success</i>	5	+	=	

With penalty:
Go to Ballot Return for assistance

RANKING

- Circle Final Rank numbers on individual ballot
For ranks 5-8 circle "5th Fifth & Below"
- Provide Reason for Ranking
Compare speakers within the round

Student Ballot

ORIGINAL ORATORY

A well-written speech that engages the audience and expands their understanding of the topic

Speaker:	
Room:	
Judge:	
Round:	Duration: Event time 10:00

TOPIC	Evaluate 1 (poor)...5 (excellent)	Comments
CONTENT		
Structure: Engaging and relevant introduction Clear thesis statement Organized content; smooth transitions Effective conclusion	1 • • • 5	
Rhetoric: Builds credibility through sources and/or personal connection (ethos) Explains concepts using reason (logos) Evokes appropriate emotional responses (pathos) Utilizes creative examples and illustrations	1 • • • 5	
Language: Vocabulary; rhetorical devices/memorable language	1 • • • 5	
Impact: Compelling message; addresses topic in a unique way; achieves purpose	1 • • • 5	
DELIVERY		
Vocal: Varies volume, rate, and inflection; smooth and polished	1 • • • 5	
Physical: Authentic gestures and movement	1 • • • 5	
Facial: Eye contact; appropriate facial expressions	1 • • • 5	
OVERALL IMPRESSION		
Appearance: Poised; professional	1 • • • 5	
Manner: Confident; sincere; winsome	1 • • • 5	
PENALTIES: Overtime by 15 seconds (1 rank) _____ + Use of script (2 ranks) _____ = Total penalty rank(s) _____		
FINAL RANK WITHIN THE ROUND (Circle One)		
#1 First #2 Second #3 Third #4 Fourth #5 Fifth & Below		
REASON FOR RANKING 		

Stoa Original Oratory Student Ballot ©2023 Stoa Rev 7/5/23

A few final reminders...



Before judging, read the description, goal, and presentation rules on the back of your tabulation ballot



If there are penalties, don't circle student ranks until Ballot Return assists you



Once ballots are complete, take them to Ballot Return and wait as they review them



Judge Orientation staff will be available for questions



Have fun and know that you are serving an educational role for each student!

THANK YOU!

STOA STATEMENT OF FAITH

There is one God eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit.

Man is sinful and therefore separated from God, who is holy and perfect.

Jesus Christ paid the eternal penalties for our sin through His death on the cross.

Jesus Christ also resurrected bodily and ascended into heaven and will return one day to fulfill His kingdom.

Only through Jesus Christ and the grace of His provision of salvation, may we be saved from eternal punishment, enter into God's family and receive eternal life.

The Bible is the inspired, inerrant, infallible and authoritative Word of God and the truth for Christian faith and practice.