

# Expository Rules

**Description:** *An Expository speech is a prepared speech written by the competitor, which explains and illustrates a topic through both words and visuals (e.g., illustrated boards, physical props, digital and electronic presentations, or any combination).*

**Goal:** *To develop a winsome, polished speaker who has learned to constructively use chosen media to enhance the topic.*

## Expository Preparation Rules:

1. The competitor may prepare a speech on any topic.
2. The speech may inform, persuade, entertain, inspire, or eulogize.
3. The speech must be an original work, written by the competitor.
4. An Expository speech may be used in multiple leagues during any given competitive season. However, if the competitor uses a speech topic in any competition in any venue, that competitor may not reuse it in subsequent years of competition.
5. The speech may be entered in only one event per tournament. The competitor may place the speech in a different event in subsequent tournaments.
6. The competitor may enter only one speech per event.
7. The competitor must provide a script and a citation page (if needed) at each tournament, along with the completed Platform Speech Script Submission Form. All sources must be **cited in the text of the speech, identified orally within the speech, and documented on the citation page**. Note: Electronic Script Submission is required at NITOC.
8. Copyrighted images must also be cited on the final citation page but need not be cited orally or in text.
9. A maximum of 30% of the speech may consist of directly quoted material.

## Expository Presentation Rules:

1. **All direct quotations and primary sources must be cited verbally** within the body of the speech. Use of another person's words or ideas without crediting them is plagiarism and strictly forbidden. See the **Stoa Plagiarism Policy**.
2. The script must be memorized and delivered as written in the script. No scripts or notes may be referred to in competition rounds. The competitor will receive a two (2) rank penalty for use of a script or notes in competition.
3. Audio/Visual aids and effects may be used.
4. Computers may be used.
5. **Tournaments shall provide access to power outlets in presentation rooms.**
6. All props and equipment needed for the speech must be **supplied by the competitor** (e.g., projectors, screens, power cords, tables, chairs, etc.).
7. Each speaker has approximately two minutes for setup.
8. Any special clothing related to the speech may only be put on or displayed after the speech begins.
9. The presentation area must be left in the same condition as it was prior to the speech.
10. Due to likely restrictions at tournament facilities and liability concerns (including NITOC), use of weapons (i.e., guns, knives, swords), explosives, or incendiary devices is prohibited. This includes the use of food preparation knives of any material.
11. Nothing may be distributed or offered to the judges or audience members.
12. People and live animals may not be used as aides or active participants in the speech.
13. Gratuitous vulgarity is strictly prohibited.
14. Timepiece must be **facing toward the competitor and counting up**. Local tournaments may choose to give hand signals every minute until ten (10) minutes have elapsed.
15. Maximum speaking time is ten (10) minutes. There is no minimum time requirement.
16. Competitors will receive a one (1) rank penalty for going over time by 15 seconds or more.

**Speaking Time – ten (10) minutes.**