International Speech Contest
Judge's Guide and Ballot

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL®

JUDGING ITEMS (See Over for Description)		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES: EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Speech Development Structure, Organization, Support Material	CONTENT 50	20	14-19	9-13	0-8										
Effectiveness Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception	CONTENT 50	15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Speech Value Ideas, Logic, Original Thought	CONTENT 50	15	11-14	6-10	0-5										
Physical Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	DELIVERY 30	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Voice Flexibility, Volume	DELIVERY 30	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Manner Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm	DELIVERY 30	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Appropriateness To Speech Purpose And Audience	LANGUAGE 20	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection	LANGUAGE 20	10	7-9	4-6	0-3										
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)															

SAMPLE

(Detach and submit to counters)

Judge's Official Ballot

International Speech Contest

Name of Contestant:

_____

_____

_____

PLACE	RANKING POINTS (for counters' use only)
First Place	3 points
Second Place	2 points
Third Place	1 point

NOTE: Votes must be cast for first, second, and third place or the ballot will be voided.)

_____ *(Signature of Judge)*

_____ *(Judge's Name; Please Print)*

Judging Criteria

Content (50%)

Speech Development is the way the speaker puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. The speech is structured around a purpose, and this structure must include an opening, body and conclusion. A good speech immediately engages the audience's attention and then moves forward toward a significant conclusion. This development of the speech structure is supported by relevant examples and illustrations, facts and figures, delivered with such smoothness that they blend into the framework of the speech to present the audience with a unified whole.

Effectiveness is measured in part by the audience's reception of the speech, but a large part is your subjective judgement of how the speech came across. You should ask yourself such questions as "Was I able to determine the speaker's purpose?" "Did the speech relate directly to that purpose?" "Was the audience's interest held by the speaker?" "Was this speech subject appropriate for this particular audience?"

Speech Value justifies the act of speaking. The speaker has a responsibility to say something meaningful and original to the audience. The listeners should feel the speaker has made a contribution to their thinking. The ideas should be important ones, although this does not preclude a humorous presentation of them.

Delivery (30%)

Physical presentation of a speech carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. The speaker's appearance should reinforce the speech, whether profound, sad, humorous, or instructional. Body language should support points through gestures, expressions, and body positioning. The speaker makes effective use of and stays within the designated speaking area.

Voice is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood.

Manner is the indirect revelation of the speaker's real self as the speech is delivered. The speaker should speak with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in their reactions.

Language (20%)

Appropriateness of language refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech purpose and to the particular audience hearing the speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely.

Correctness of language ensures that attention will be directed toward what the speaker says, not how it is said. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words being used.

Judge's Code of Ethics

1. Judges will consciously avoid bias of any kind in selecting first, second and third place contestants. They will not consider any contestant's club, area, division or district affiliation. Nor will they consider any contestant's age, sex, race, creed, national origin, profession, or political beliefs. They will demonstrate the utmost objectivity.
2. Judges will not time the speeches and will not consider the possibility of under-time or overtime when judging a contestant's speech.
3. Judges will support by word and deed the contest rules and judging standards, refraining from public criticism of the contest and revealing scores and ranking only in accordance with official policy.

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