

Speak Out

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| LEVEL: | Grades 9-10 |
| TYPE OF CONTEST: | Team |
| COMPOSTION OF TEAM: | 3 students per team (teams are school-site based) |
| NUMBER OF TEAMS: | 3 teams per Center |
| SPONSOR: | Dr. Maria Garcia-Sheets, University of the Pacific MSP Center |
| OVERVIEW: | Students will work as a team to choose a topic from the official presentation topic options. Team members will prepare and deliver a short oral presentation that clearly expresses their collective ideas. The competition is designed to encourage teamwork. The visual materials will reinforce the team's points. All team members will participate in the organization, preparation, and deliver of presentation. |

MATERIALS: The following materials will be provided by the Host Center:

- Presentation Topics (to be received in advance)
- Overhead Projector
- Flip Chart Stand

The team will provide the following:

- Visual Material (Aid)

Before MESA Preliminaries, the Host Center will inform the Centers about whether, or not, a Data Projector and compatible Laptop Computer will be provided at MESA Day. It is the responsibility of the Advisors and students to confirm whether this optional equipment will be available before MESA Day, and to check about what format the PowerPoint Presentation should be transported and transmitted.

RULES:

1. A team consists of 3 members; each member of the team will actively, and equally, participate in the oral presentation.

2. Teams will select one topic from the official Topic list provided in advance of competitions.
3. Team members will practice their presentation before MESA Day, so all members know their presentation thoroughly. Students may speak from note card, but they will not read their presentations.
4. Teams must use at least one visual aid or materials, such as a prop, model, chart, graph, picture, overhead transparency, or simple PowerPoint to reinforce their ideas.
5. An Overhead Projector and Flip Chart Stand will be available, if teams choose to use either one to display their visual materials.
6. Teams who advance to MESA Day Finals may use the same topic they prepared for the Preliminaries.
7. Teams are expected to research their topics, and to incorporate the researched concepts into their oral presentations. Team members may choose from these samples of research methods, or select their own: interview and quote knowledgeable people; use data from written sources, including relevant websites; find relevant illustrations, data, and examples.
8. Each team will have 1 minute to prepare, and 4 – 5 minutes to present.
9. Teams will draw numbers to determine their speaking order. Once the speaking order is established, no late arrivals may join the competition.
10. Once a presentation begins, interruptions will not be permitted.

JUDGING:

1. Judges will assemble all competing teams of students in the assigned room, read the rules, explain procedures, clarify judging criteria, and answer any related questions; teams not composed of three individuals will not be allowed to compete.
2. Judges will excuse all presenters from the room, and call in each competing team one-by-one.
3. Only judges, appointed staff, and competitors will be allowed in the room.
4. Judges will provide time signals for students at these intervals: 1 minute, 30 seconds, and 5 seconds before time is called.
5. Following each presentation, judges will evaluate each team according to the Official Scoring Criteria, before the next team is allowed in the room to begin its presentation.
6. Teams must give their presentations in the order drawn. No exceptions and no late arrivals will be allowed.
7. Judges will rate each team on a graduated scale for a possible total of 100 points. The Scoring Criteria consists of a rubric that includes areas pertaining to the overall team presentation: Content, Overall Presentation, Oral Performance, and Visual Performance.

8. A 5-point deduction will be taken if a presentation is less than 4 minutes long, or more than 5 minutes. Speakers will be stopped if they exceed 5 ½ minutes.
9. In the event of a tie, duplicate awards will be given.

AWARDS: Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.

ATTACHMENTS:

Topics
Scoring Criteria

Speak Out
TOPICS FOR ORAL PRESENTATION
STUDENT COMPETITION
Grades 9-10

- Choose ONE of the 3 topics listed below.
- Prepare your Team Oral Presentation to inform an audience, in this case, a panel of Judges.
- Help support your verbal presentation through an eye-catching visual aid or materials that are effective, straightforward, and educational. Your Visual Aid or Materials may be a PowerPoint presentation, overhead transparency, slide(s), chart(s), model(s), prop, graph(s), picture(s), or other type of visual material.
- Prepare and practice your presentation before speaking, so that each team member is able to speak easily and directly to the audience. Note cards may be used for reference, but your presentation must not be read.

Topics:

- 1. Explain cloning and discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the technology.**
- 2. Explain why our oceans are considered “endangered” and discuss what can be done to improve our current problems.**
- 3. Discuss the growing demand for oil and offer two scientific solutions that will significantly lower that demand.**

ORAL PRESENTATION SCORING CRITERIA

2008-2009 MESA Student Contest – *Speak Out*, Grades 9-10

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

MESA Center: _____

| Content (Body of Talk) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Topic, Logic/Reasoning, Data, Research, and Conclusion | Overall Presentation (Order, Flow & Engagement of the Audience) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Introduction, Pace, Flow, Content, and Attention | Oral Performance (Student Voice and Presence) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Voice, Demeanor, Eye Contact, Gestures, Posture and Physical Activities, and Speaker | Visual Performance (Visual Material, Enhancement of Presentation) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Comprehension and Use |
|--|--|--|---|
| Each item in section worth 8 points each = Excellent ___ Topic: very clearly introduced, explained, and thoroughly understood ___ Logic and Reasoning: sound and well described ___ Data: (quotes, examples) very clearly analyzed, explained, and tied directly to topic ___ Research: sound, evident, and directly linked to topic ___ Conclusion: well thought out and accurate | Each item in section worth 6 points each = Excellent ___ Introduction: creative, highly unique, interesting, and well linked to topic ___ Pace: skillful use of appropriate pauses and timing ___ Flow: moves smoothly from point-to-point ___ Content: stays focused on the topic ___ Attention: presentation captures audience and judges from beginning to end | Each item in section worth 4 points each = Excellent ___ Voice: heard and understood throughout room ___ Demeanor: appearance highly suited for event, evident polish of performance (no verbal mistakes) ___ Eye Contact: distributed throughout room ___ Gestures, Poster & Physical Activities: skillfully draws attention to speaker and visual materials ___ Speaker: conveys genuine interest in topic, engages with audience, avoids use of “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking | Each item in section worth 5 points = Excellent ___ Comprehension: polished visuals skillfully ___ Use: smoothly incorporated into oral presentation |
| Each item in section worth 6 points each = Good ___ Topic: some aspects well explained and understood ___ Logic and Reasoning: most indications sound, reasonable, and well described ___ Data: presented/explained well, but not directly related to topic ___ Research: evident, but not directly linked to topic ___ Conclusion: lacks detail or includes a misconception | Each item in section worth 5 points each = Good ___ Introduction: prepared, original, of interest, and linked to topic ___ Pace: effective use of timing with few appropriate pauses ___ Flow: 1 or 2 ineffective transitions between points ___ Content: rarely strays from topic ___ Attention: presentation engages audience and judges from beginning to end | Each item in section worth 3 points each = Good ___ Voice: few situations with poor voice projection ___ Demeanor: appearance suited for event, presentation practiced, but 1 or 2 verbal mistakes made ___ Eye Contact: distributed to most, but not all audience members ___ Gestures, Poster & Physical Activities: contribute effectively to speaker and visual materials ___ Speaker: attentive to topic and audience, 1 or 2 instances using “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking | Each item in section worth 4 points = Good ___ Comprehension: good visuals contribute effectively to audience understanding ___ Use: effective use incorporated into presentation |
| Each item in section worth 4 points each = Average ___ Topic: very few aspects well explained and understood ___ Logic and Reasoning: minimal, with reasoning poorly described ___ Data: unclear, poorly analyzed or explained, not related to topic ___ Research: little, with few links to topic ___ Conclusion: unrelated to topic, or misleading | Each item in section worth 4 points each = Average ___ Introduction: somewhat prepared, lacking originality, link to topic clear, but not well done ___ Pace: timing uneven, negatively affecting comprehension of message ___ Flow: several poor transitions between points ___ Content: strays from topic repeatedly ___ Attention: some aspects of presentation do not engage audience and judges | Each item in section worth 2 points each = Average ___ Voice: repeated lapses in voice projection which impede comprehension ___ Demeanor: appearance somewhat inappropriate, presentation less practiced with 3 or 4 verbal mistakes made ___ Eye Contact: sporadic ___ Gestures, Poster & Physical Activities: not well suited for presentation ___ Speaker: slightly engaged with topic and audience, 3 or 4 instances of using “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking | Each item in section worth 3 points = Average ___ Comprehension: visual content somewhat unclear or display difficult to see, impeding audience understanding ___ Use: ineffective use incorporated into presentation (displayed, but not discussed) |
| Each item in section worth 2 points each = Poor ___ Topic: no discussion ___ Logic and Reasoning: none offered ___ Data: none offered ___ Research: none offered, or, if offered, no link to topic ___ Conclusion: none provided | Each item in section worth 3 points each = Poor ___ Introduction: unprepared, unoriginal, with like to topic obscured ___ Pace: poor timing which impedes comprehension of message ___ Flow: erratic, no clear point-to-point discussion ___ Content: off topic ___ Attention: presentation does not engage audience and judges | Each item in section worth 1 points each = Poor ___ Voice: very difficult to hear and comprehend ___ Demeanor: appearance inappropriate, presentation unrefined with many verbal mistakes made ___ Eye Contact: poor eye contact, focused on one person or none ___ Gestures, Poster & Physical Activities: inappropriate or missing ___ Speaker: appears disengaged from topic and audience, frequent use of “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking | Each item in section worth 2 points = Poor ___ Comprehension: visuals poor (in content and ability to see), or missing ___ Use: very little, or no, attempt made to use visuals |
| Score for Column: add up 5 checks /40 | Score for Column: add up 5 checks /30 | Score for Column: add up 5 checks /20 | Score for Column: add up 2 checks /10 |
| | Judge | Time 5-Point deduction for being under or over time limit | Total (100 possible points) |