

Impromptu Speech Guidelines

1. Impromptu speech allows the participant to creatively share ideas and information regarding a chosen topic.
2. Ten topics will be presented. The participants will select three of the ten. (Topics will not be seen by the participants; they will be kept secret until selected.) After reviewing the three topics chosen, participants will select one.
3. A 15 minute preparation time is allowed.
4. The participant is permitted to list 50 words on a note card. (Provided by the Impromptu room coordinator.)
5. The following information is suggested to assist the participant in preparing his/her impromptu topic.
 - The approach may be serious, humorous, philosophical, or analytical. A combined approach is also permitted.
 - The topic should be stated for the judge prior to the presentation
 - A “Lead in” to capture the attention of the audience can be included.
 - The topic should be interpreted by the participant
 - The participant should concentrate on his/her creative point of view
 - Examples to support opinion and idea can be provided
 - A statement of purpose / outline of reasoning allows the judge to assess the development of topic
 - A clear conclusion should be presented.
6. Presentations must be at least 2 minutes in time but not over 5 minutes in order to receive a first place award.
7. The participant should demonstrate all the important qualities of a forensic speaker (enunciation, projection, voice, eye contact, poise, posture).
8. Participants will present topic before one to three judges. This type of tournament will determine the number of judges.
9. A lottery system will be used for the “order” of contestants.