



NCFCFA

CHRISTIAN SPEECH & DEBATE

SPEECH GUIDE

2022

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- Added Apologetics Topic List
- Added sample ballots

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- Minor correction of typos in Apologetics Topic List
- Correction of sample ballots to include a space for judge name
- Improved navigation—links to return to Table of Contents



Table of Contents

[Click Entries to Navigate](#)

- Speech Guide Overview** ----- 5
- Speech Categories and Events** ----- 6
 - Limited Preparation Speeches ----- 6
 - Interpretation Speeches ----- 6
 - Platform Speeches ----- 6
- NCFA Mission Statement** ----- 7
- Competition Material Policy** ----- 7
- Ethics Statement** ----- 7
- I. General Speech Rules**----- 8
 - A. Content ----- 8
 - B. Academic Integrity ----- 8
 - C. Presentation ----- 8
 - D. Audience Interaction ----- 9
 - E. Speaking Schedule and Competition-Room Protocols ----- 9
- II. Timekeeping Rules**----- 10
 - A. Timepiece Requirements ----- 10
 - B. Preparation Time in Limited Preparation Events ----- 10
 - C. Timekeeping for Speeches ----- 10
- III. Limited Preparation Speeches** ----- 11
 - A. Limited Preparation Category Rules ----- 11
 - B. Apologetics Event-Specific Rules ----- 11
 - C. Extemporaneous Event-Specific Rules ----- 12
 - D. Impromptu Event-Specific Rules ----- 13
- IV. Interpretation Speeches**----- 15
 - A. Definitions ----- 15
 - B. Interpretation Category Rules ----- 15



SPEECH GUIDE 2022

C. Biblical Presentation Event-Specific Rules	15
D. Duo Event-Specific Rules	16
E. Open Event-Specific Rules	17
F. Interpretation Script-Submission and Script-Use Rules	18
V. Platform Speeches	21
A. Platform Category Rules	21
B. After Dinner Speaking Event-Specific Rules	21
C. Digital Presentation Event-Specific Rules	21
D. Informative Event-Specific Rules	23
E. Persuasive Event-Specific Rules	23
F. Platform Script-Submission and Script-Use Rules	23
Appendix A: Summary of Rule Changes for 2022	25
Appendix B: Apologetics Topics	27
Foundational Questions	27
Application Questions	28
Appendix C: 2022 Ballots	30



Speech Guide Overview

Competitors must adhere to all of the following for every speech event:

NCFCA Mission Statement	NCFCA’s Mission Statement expresses the purpose that should drive all NCFCA activity.
League Handbook	The League Handbook covers the overarching policies and rules for participation in NCFCA tournaments.
Competition Material Policy	The Competition Material Policy sets the standard for material used in both speech and debate competition.
Ethics Statement	The Ethics Statement is every competitor’s commitment to compete with Christ-like integrity.
General Speech Rules	The General Speech Rules apply to all ten speech events unless a specific exception is noted.
Timekeeping Rules	The Timekeeping Rules address the self-timing requirements for all speech events.
Category Rules	The rules for each speech category—limited preparation, interpretation, and platform—apply to all speech events within the category.
Event-Specific Rules	Event-Specific Rules convey the rules unique to each speech event within a category.

Other Resources

Competitors are also encouraged to make use of the following resources:

- The ballots judges will use to evaluate competition rounds
- The Comprehensive Guide to NCFCA Speech curriculum
- Training and coaching available throughout the season in the form of webinars, special events, and local clubs

Questions

- Competitors, families, and coaches with questions regarding speech rules in preparation for competition season should contact the Speech Committee at SpeechCommittee@NCFCA.org.
- Questions regarding potential rule violations during a tournament should be submitted to Tournament Administration immediately following the speech round.



Speech Categories and Events

Limited Preparation Speeches

Speakers draw two topic options in each competition round and have a limited amount of time to prepare a speech on one of the topics.

Apologetics	Presents a well-reasoned defense and thoughtful application of basic tenets of the Christian faith.
Extemporaneous	Analyzes news and other sources to prepare an evidence-based speech on a current-events topic.
Impromptu	Presents a unique and meaningful speech on a topic drawn from abstract words, phrases, quotations, or table topics.

Interpretation Speeches

Speakers explore literature selections to creatively develop and present a unique and original performance.

Biblical Presentation	Develops one or two selections of Scripture and presents the selection(s) using a designated visual aid, if desired.
Duo	Explores a published literature selection and is presented by a team of two competitors.
Open	Explores a published or self-authored selection.

Platform Speeches

Speakers present an original speech scripted word-for-word in advance.

After Dinner Speaking	Informs, inspires, and/or attempts to persuade the audience on a noteworthy topic with humor being central to the performance.
Digital Presentation	Informs or persuades the audience, accompanied by digital visual aids.
Informative	Explains a significant topic.
Persuasive	Influences the audience to consider a particular point of view or course of action.



NCFCFA Mission Statement

To challenge and equip ambassadors for Christ to communicate truth with integrity and grace

Competition Material Policy

Competition material in both speech and debate should conform to the NCFCFA mission and uphold each competitor’s witness for Christ. Great care and sensitivity should be given as sources and content for use in competition are considered and presented.

- While we live in a world that is often messy and broken, as Christian communicators, we value messages of redeeming truth. We have both the privilege and responsibility to discover, meditate upon, and communicate whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent, and praiseworthy in all areas of life (Philippians 4:8). This does not mean that every source or presentation needs to have an overtly Christian theme, but all dark themes must provide a redemptive element.
- Any speech or debate content which contains potentially intense or sensitive themes or examples must be preceded by this disclaimer: “This speech (or debate content) contains potentially intense or sensitive material.”
- Any speech or debate content which advocates a position counter to the Foundational Beliefs of the league will not be allowed in competition. (Please see the League Handbook for information on the Foundational Beliefs.)
- Vulgarity is never acceptable. Vulgarity includes explicit or implied language or gestures which are inappropriate, obscene, or profane.

Ethics Statement

Competitors will be required to affirm the NCFCFA Ethics Statement during the online check-in process for each tournament.

As an NCFCFA competitor, I am committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and ethical behavior in all areas of competitive forensics. I will comply with all tournament policies and rules whether competing in person or online. I understand that through my participation in NCFCFA, I serve as a witness of Christ and will seek to reflect this in both word and deed at all times.

[Back to Table of Contents](#) 



I. General Speech Rules

A. Content

1. Speeches must be prepared by the student and, with the exception of Apologetics, must be delivered during the current competitive season only.
2. Speech content must be in alignment with the NCFCA Mission Statement, League Handbook, Competition Material Policy, Ethics Statement, General Speech Rules, applicable Category Rules, and applicable Event-Specific Rules.

B. Academic Integrity

1. Plagiarism is prohibited.
 - a. Speakers must either present original content or present the source(s) for any supporting material.
 - i. Supporting material includes any information, details, research, theories, stories, or ideas obtained from another person or source—whether directly quoted, paraphrased, or summarized.
 - ii. Common knowledge that is known to most people does not need to be cited in any way.
 - b. In delivery, any blocking, characterization, cutting, etc. should be original and developed primarily by the speaker.
2. Specific guidelines for documenting and presenting sources are included where relevant in the Category Rules and Event-Specific Rules.

C. Presentation

1. For all tournaments
 - a. Only feet are permitted to intentionally touch the floor at any time in any speech event except in Biblical Presentation.
 - b. Gymnastics are not permitted. Gymnastics include acrobatic-type blocking such as flips, cartwheels, leapfrogging, etc.
 - c. Lecterns may not be used.
 - d. Costumes are not permitted. Costumes include any item(s) worn in addition to the speaker's tournament attire.
 - e. Visual aids are not permitted except for the cloth in Biblical Presentation and the slides for Digital Presentation. Visual aids are items used to enhance the speech.
2. At in-person tournaments
 - a. All speeches should take place center stage, and speakers should not infringe on the judges' table or personal space during the speech.
 - b. Room lighting may not be altered for a speech.



3. In online tournaments
 - a. Internet access and a device with a microphone and a webcam are required. The camera and microphone may be integrated or external.
 - b. Competitors may choose to stand or sit at a desk or table while presenting but may not alternate between the two positions.
 - c. A single, stationary camera must be used (i.e., no zooming or panning is permitted).
 - d. Except for permissible audio in Digital Presentation, only audio presented live from the competitor(s) is permitted (i.e., audio that is computer-generated, recorded, generated by a third-party, etc. is not permitted).
 - e. Competitors may not use green screens, virtual backgrounds, or on-screen text.
 - f. Lighting may not be intentionally altered during the speech.

D. Audience Interaction

1. Audience members, including judges, may not prompt the speaker.
2. Requesting participation from audience members, including judges, is not permitted.
3. In online tournaments, other individuals may be present during the speech but may not be visible on screen.

E. Speaking Schedule and Competition-Room Protocols

1. Competitors will be assigned speaking times within the rounds. Multi-entered competitors will be accounted for in order to avoid conflicting times for each student.
2. Competitors should be present and ready to begin at the start of their assigned speaking time or will risk losing the ability to present their speech in its entirety.
3. Competitors are not permitted to infringe on the next speaker's scheduled presentation time or the scheduled end of the 15-minute time slot.
4. A pre-show is not permitted. A pre-show refers to rehearsed blocking, synchronized movement, or additional performance prior to the beginning of the submitted, scripted speech.
5. In online tournaments
 - a. Competitors may not turn on their cameras or microphones while another competitor is presenting a speech.
 - b. Competitors should turn on their camera and microphone when it is their turn to speak, introduce themselves by name to the judges, and begin promptly.
 - c. Competitors must turn off their cameras and microphones after thanking the judges at the conclusion of their speech.
 - d. Competitor technical difficulties are accounted for by allowing 15-minute time slots. Speakers experiencing technical difficulties are not eligible for additional time or accommodations, or re-addition at the end of the round.
 - e. Competitors should keep their cameras on while presenting except when experiencing significant technical difficulties.



II. Timekeeping Rules

A. Timepiece Requirements

1. Speakers must provide their own timepieces and are responsible for timekeeping.
 - a. The timepiece must display minutes and seconds and have an audible alarm.
 - b. For platform and interpretation events, the timepiece must have functionality to count up.
 - c. For limited preparation events, the timepiece must have functionality to both count up and count down.
 - d. Electronic devices, such as phones, may be used for timekeeping, provided that competitors adhere to all other rules and limitations regarding the use of electronic devices.

B. Preparation Time in Limited Preparation Events

1. For preparation time in Apologetics, the speaker must
 - a. set the timepiece to count down for four minutes,
 - b. show it to the Head Judge for confirmation, and
 - c. start it immediately upon drawing the topic.
2. For preparation time in Extemporaneous, the speaker must
 - a. set the timepiece to count down for twenty minutes, and
 - b. start it immediately upon drawing the topic at the assigned draw time.
3. For preparation time in Impromptu, the speaker must
 - a. set the timepiece to count down for two minutes,
 - b. show it to the Head Judge for confirmation, and
 - c. start it immediately upon drawing the topic.

C. Timekeeping for Speeches

1. For speech time in all events
 - a. The timepiece must be set to count up.
 - b. The speech time begins when the speaker starts the timepiece and ends when the speaker stops the timepiece.
 - c. At the beginning of the speech, the speaker must start the timepiece and place it facing the speaker.
 - d. At the conclusion of the speech, the speaker must stop the timepiece and show it to the judges to record the exact time displayed.
2. Tournament Administration will apply a four-rank penalty to each judge's final rank for any speech that exceeds the maximum time limit by more than 15 seconds. The prescribed penalty should not be reflected in the judge's original rank.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



III. Limited Preparation Speeches

A. Limited Preparation Category Rules

1. Speakers must prepare for and speak on one of the two topic options assigned to them in the round.
2. The chosen topic must be stated early in the speech.
3. Unused preparation time may not be added to the speech time.
4. At in-person tournaments, no notes may be written on the assigned topic card, but speakers may hold the topic card during their speech.
5. In online tournaments, a minimum of the competitor's head and shoulders must be visible throughout the speech, but competitors are not required to remain visible on camera during preparation time.

B. Apologetics Event-Specific Rules

In addition to these Event-Specific Rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, and the Limited Preparation Category Rules.

1. Apologetics topics will be taken from the Apologetics Topic List available in Appendix B.
2. Preparation time is limited to a four-minute maximum.
3. Speech time is limited to a six-minute maximum.

Research Prior to the Competition

4. Research is permitted prior to the competition.
5. Notes may be written, printed, or affixed on notecards up to 5" x 6" and stored in the speaker's file box(es). The speaker may come into the event with as much preparation, research, and topic organization as desired.
6. Notecards and file box(es) may not be shared during a tournament.

In-Round Preparation Time

7. Only notecards and the Bible may be used for reference.
8. Phones, computers, and other electronic devices may not be used to research, to request, send, or receive information, or to view materials, except the assigned topics during online rounds, nor are these devices to be used to research, or to request, send, or receive information.
9. Notes may be written on additional blank notecards up to 5" x 6".

Delivery of the Speech

10. Scriptural support, including chapter and verse(s), must be presented in each speech.
11. Sources for supporting material used within the speech, including chapter and verse(s) for Scriptural support, must be verbally mentioned in the speech.



12. Notecards prepared previously or during preparation time may be held during the speech. No other written or printed material may be held except the topic card during in-person tournaments.
13. Competitors are not required to present the gospel but may choose to do so.

C. Extemporaneous Event-Specific Rules

In addition to these Event-Specific Rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, and the Limited Preparation Category Rules.

1. Topics for the 2022 competition season will refer to newsworthy domestic events from the past 90 days, including questions about politics and policy, business, culture, and entertainment.
2. A unique speech must be prepared and delivered during each competition round.
3. Preparation time is limited to a twenty-minute maximum.
4. Speech time is limited to a seven-minute maximum.

Research Prior to the Competition

5. Research is permitted prior to the competition.
6. Published articles or other materials (e.g., books, magazines, newspapers) must be downloaded or stored offline via cloud-based files, on a laptop or other electronic device, or printed and stored in a personal or club file box(es).
7. Shared club file boxes must have a label affixed to the outside that includes the club name and the individual names of all speakers who have permission to use the box at that tournament.

In-Round Preparation Time

8. Speakers should report for preparation at their assigned time and remain until the assigned speech time.
9. A single 3"x 5" notecard provided by the speaker must be prepared for use during the speech to document verifiable support and ensure accurate verbal citations. Speakers must include their names on the card.
10. Additional notes for speech construction may be taken but may not be used during the speech.
11. Competitors may not use internet access to conduct new research during the round.
12. No help, advice, or information about the topic may be requested, sent, or received during the round.
13. Previously prepared notes or analysis, including debate briefs or speech outlines, may not be accessed from a computer or a personal or club box(es).
14. Previously printed, published articles or other material (e.g., books, magazines, newspapers) may be accessed from a personal or club file box(es).
15. Published articles or other material (e.g., books, magazines, newspapers), which have been previously downloaded or stored offline via cloud-based files may be accessed from a laptop or other electronic device.



16. Special accommodations will not be granted for equipment failure.
17. At in-person tournaments
 - a. Wi-Fi or other cellular capability must be disabled prior to the beginning of preparation time.
 - b. Power cords may not be plugged into outlets in the Extemp Prep Room.
 - c. Devices must be muted, and headphones of any variety may not be used.
 - d. A device may only be used by the speaker who brings it into the Extemp Prep Room.
18. In online tournaments
 - a. Competitors should enter their assigned competition room a minute or two before their assigned draw time.
 - i. Competitors must not turn on their camera or microphone as other students will be preparing and/or speaking.
 - ii. Competitors should mute the audio coming from the room during prep time in order for the competitors who are preparing to avoid being distracted by speakers or judges.
 - b. Competitors should view the assigned topics at the assigned draw time and then prepare according to the rules.
 - c. At the conclusion of preparation time, competitors should unmute the audio coming from the room, confirm that the previous speaker has concluded, and then turn on their own camera and microphone.

Delivery of the Speech

19. The prepared 3" x 5" notecard must be held.
 - a. At in-person tournaments, the topic card may also be held, but no other written or printed materials may be held.
 - b. In online tournaments, no other written or printed materials may be held.
20. Verifiable support for analysis must be provided by the speaker.
21. Sources for supporting material used within the speech must be verbally mentioned in the speech.

After the Speech

22. The speaker must retain the required 3" x 5" notecard until the end of the tournament.

D. Impromptu Event-Specific Rules

In addition to these Event-Specific Rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, and the Limited Preparation Category Rules.

1. Topics will be taken from abstract words, phrases, quotations, or table topics.
2. A unique speech must be prepared and delivered during each competition round.
3. Preparation time is limited to a two-minute maximum.
4. Speech time is limited to a five-minute maximum.



In-Round preparation time

5. Notes may be taken but the speaker may not use the notes during the speech. For in-person tournaments, notes may only be taken on blank paper provided by the speaker.
6. Previously written or printed materials must not be accessed.
7. Phones, computers, and other electronic devices may not be used to research, to request, send, or receive information, or to view materials, except the assigned topics during online rounds, nor are these devices to be used to research, or to request, send, or receive information.

Delivery of the speech

8. No written or printed materials may be held except the topic card during in-person tournaments.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



IV. Interpretation Speeches

A. Definitions

1. "Literature" includes plays, prose, or poetry. Comics (regardless of publication format), stand-up comedy acts, and strings of jokes are not considered literature and must not be used.
2. "Single literature selection" indicates that only one selection may be used. Even when published in one volume or written by the same author, only one selection may be used (e.g., a single short story or poem from a collection, an individual book of the Bible etc.).
3. "Non-original" indicates that the literature selection is not written by the speaker.
4. "Published" indicates a work of an author which is available to the public. Published does not include material from blogs or social media, or works which are solely audio or video recordings, movies, TV, or radio.
5. "Self-authored" indicates an original work of the speaker (i.e., not an adaptation of an existing piece from another author).
6. "Unique and original performance" indicates that cutting, blocking, characterizations, etc. should be developed primarily by the speaker(s).

B. Interpretation Category Rules

1. A unique and original performance must be presented.
2. Speech time is limited to a ten-minute maximum.
3. Singing is permitted if motivated by the selection.
 - a. Singing may comprise up to 60 total words in the entire piece.
 - b. Published tunes from another source are permitted in the literature section only if the song lyrics and/or published tune are specifically included in the literature selection.
4. Limited dancing is permitted if motivated by the literature selection.
5. Sound effects are permitted.

C. Biblical Presentation Event-Specific Rules

In addition to these Event-Specific Rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, Interpretation Definitions, and the Interpretation Category Rules.

Scripture Selections

1. Competitors must present either one or two selections of Scripture:
 - a. A selection of Scripture is defined as one continuous biblical passage. It may span more than one book of the Bible, provided that the books are consecutive (e.g., the last verses of Titus and the first verses of Philemon may be considered one selection as they are consecutive books).



- b. If two Scripture selections are used, each selection must be separate, not woven together.
2. When choosing selections:
 - a. Scripture selection(s) must remain unaltered.
 - b. Only traditional Bibles may be used (i.e., chronological or topical Bibles may not be used).
 - c. Only KJV, NKJV, ESV, NIV, or NASB translations may be used.
 - d. Chapter headings, commentary, and other words added by the publisher are not considered to be Scripture and must not be included in the selection(s) of Scripture.

Narrative Sections

3. Up to three optional narrative sections may be added.
 - a. Up to 300 total words may be added as introduction, transitional analysis, and/or conclusion.
 - b. The biblical reference(s) for the selection(s) of Scripture must be verbally mentioned immediately before the selection(s). However, the biblical reference of the first selection may follow a short teaser. The biblical reference(s) are not included in the 300-word count.
 - c. Clear distinction must be made between the narrative sections and the selection(s) of Scripture.
 - d. Sources for supporting material must be verbally stated, parenthetically cited following the material in the script, and listed on the Works Cited page.
 - e. Characterization and blocking are permitted.
 - f. Original dialogue must not be assigned to a biblical character.

Delivery of the Speech

4. A plain, one-colored cloth may be used as a visual aid once the speech begins.
 - a. The cloth may not exceed 40" x 40".
 - b. It may not have any design, writing, or fringe.
5. In online tournaments, a minimum of each competitor's head and shoulders must be visible at the beginning and end of the speech. Some portion of the speaker must remain visible during the majority of the speech.

D. Duo Event-Specific Rules

In addition to these Event-Specific Rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, Interpretation Definitions, and the Interpretation Category Rules.

1. Competitors must present a single, non-original, published literature selection.

Cutting a Published Literature Selection

2. Combining phrases from several sentences is permitted.



3. Adding single words from nearby sentences is permitted for transition or character identification, but single words from separate sentences may not be strung together to create new sentences.
4. Repeating an author's words is permitted even when the author does not do so.
5. Changing an author's words is only permitted for pronoun substitution, verb tense, and subject-verb agreement.
6. Reassigning one character's lines to another existing character from the literature selection is permitted, but new characters may not be created.

Introduction and/or Conclusion

7. Up to 150 total words may be added.
 - a. An introduction may follow immediately after a short teaser from the literature selection.
 - b. Any words added as a conclusion must be the final words presented.
8. Clear distinction must be made from the literature selection.
9. The title and author of the literature selection must be included in the introduction but are not included in the 150-word count.
10. Sources for supporting material must be verbally stated, parenthetically cited following the material in the script, and listed on the Works Cited page.
11. Original dialogue must not be assigned to an author's character.

Delivery of the Speech

12. Participation should be balanced between the two speakers.
13. Intentional touching and/or eye contact between the two speakers is not permitted.
14. In online tournaments
 - a. A minimum of each competitor's head and shoulders must be visible at the beginning and end of the speech. Some portion of the speaker(s) must remain visible throughout the speech.
 - b. Duo partners may choose to present their speech from the same location using a single device when feasible.
 - c. Duo partners may also choose to present their speech from separate locations and/or using two devices. The competitor whose last name comes first alphabetically will appear in the video box on the left when facing the screen and the partner on the right.

E. Open Event-Specific Rules

In addition to these Event-Specific Rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, Interpretation Definitions, and the Interpretation Category Rules.

1. Competitors may present either a single, non-original, published literature selection or a single, self-authored literature selection.



Cutting a Published Literature Selection

2. Combining phrases from several sentences is permitted.
3. Adding single words from nearby sentences is permitted for transition or character identification, but single words from separate sentences may not be strung together to create new sentences.
4. Repeating an author's words is permitted even when the author does not do so.
5. Changing an author's words is only permitted for pronoun substitution, verb tense, and subject-verb agreement.
6. Reassigning one character's lines to another existing character from the literature selection is permitted, but new characters may not be created.

For a self-authored literature selection

7. Sources for supporting material do not necessarily need to be verbally stated in the selection but must be parenthetically cited with the material in the script and listed on the Works Cited page.

Introduction and/or conclusion:

8. Up to 150 total words may be added.
 - a. An introduction may follow immediately after a short teaser from the literature selection.
 - b. Any words added as a conclusion must be the final words presented.
9. Clear distinction must be made from the literature selection.
10. The title and author of the literature selection must be included in the introduction but are not included in the 150-word count.
11. Sources for supporting material must be verbally stated, parenthetically cited following the material in the script, and listed on the Works Cited page.
12. Original dialogue must not be assigned to an author's character.

Delivery

13. In online tournaments, a minimum of each competitor's head and shoulders must be visible at the beginning and end of the speech. Some portion of the speaker must remain visible throughout the speech.

F. Interpretation Script-Submission and Script-Use Rules

Script Submission

1. An interpretation script must be uploaded electronically during the designated timeframe for each tournament. Scripts must be submitted in .pdf (preferred), .doc, .docx, .jpg, or .png format.
2. During the check-in process for each tournament, competitors and a parent or coach must complete an online script submission form and certify compliance with all applicable rules for each scripted speech.



3. An interpretation script must include both a Format 1 (typed script) and a Format 2 (highlighted pages from the original source); however, self-authored scripts require only a Format 1 script.
4. NCFCA's receipt of a submitted script does not ensure rule compliance.

Script Formatting

5. Format 1: Typed Script
 - a. The Format 1 script must be typed in black font, but colored URLs are acceptable.
 - b. Single-spaced scripts are not permitted.
 - c. A script-style format (i.e., added stage directions, character names to identify lines, etc.) may not be used.
 - d. Added words for introductions, conclusions, or narrative sections must be set apart in bold font.
 - e. The title and author of the selection(s) should not be included in the added word count.
 - f. Words of singing must be set apart in italicized font.
 - g. Citations
 - i. Sources for any supporting material must be:
 - a) underlined where the speaker verbally mentions them, and
 - b) cited parenthetically following the material, and
 - c) listed on the Works Cited page.
 - ii. Directly quoted supporting material in an introduction, conclusion, and/or narrative section(s) must be included in the added word count and set apart in both bold font and quotation marks.
 - iii. A Works Cited page must be submitted if supporting material is used.
 - a) Citation elements such as author, title, publisher, date, website URL, etc. should be included if available.
 - b) Suggested Works Cited page formats may be found on library or university websites.
6. Format 2: Original Source Material
 - a. All pages from the original source material containing lines used in the typed script must be included.
 - b. All words included in the typed script must be highlighted on the submitted pages.
 - c. All words must be legible, and no words may be crossed out.
 - d. Many copyrighted works may be used under the "fair use" doctrine for the purposes of interpretive competition events in an educational setting. Speakers are responsible for satisfying any requirements set forth by the publisher. For more information on copyright law, visit www.copyright.gov.



Script Use

7. The submitted script must be recited during all competition rounds.
8. Tournament Administration will apply a four-rank penalty to the judges' final ranks for any competitor who uses a script or notes during an interpretation speech at any tournament other than a Regional or National Championship.
9. Script or note use at a Regional or National Championship will result in disqualification from the event.
10. In online tournaments, competitors must announce the use of any scripts or notes in interpretation speeches to the judges prior to the start of the speech.

[Back to Table of Contents](#) 



V. Platform Speeches

A. Platform Category Rules

1. An original work must be presented. Original indicates that the speech is scripted word-for-word by the speaker.
2. Speech time is limited to a ten-minute maximum.
3. Sources for supporting material must be verbally stated in the speech, cited parenthetically following the material in the script, and listed on a Works Cited page.
4. Characterization may comprise up to 150 total words in the speech. Characterization refers to acting or speaking in a manner other than that of the speaker (e.g., spoken word poetry, singing, accents, etc.).
5. Direct quotations may comprise up to 350 words of the total words in the speech.
6. In online tournaments, a minimum of the competitor's head and shoulders must be visible throughout the speech.

B. After Dinner Speaking Event-Specific Rules

In addition to the following Event-Specific rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, and the Platform Category Rules.

1. Humor must be central to the performance and must be in alignment with the NCFCA Mission Statement and the Competition Material Policy.
2. Stand-up comedy acts or strings of unrelated jokes must not be used.

C. Digital Presentation Event-Specific Rules

In addition to these Event-Specific Rules, competitors must also follow the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, and the Platform Category Rules.

Slides

1. A digital presentation must accompany the speech.
2. A minimum of five slides must be used, not including the introductory and concluding slides.
 - a. The presentation must begin with an introductory slide with a topic or title visible to the judges.
 - b. The presentation must conclude with no words, graphics, or images visible to the judges.
 - c. The digital presentation must be uploaded in addition to the script during the specified script submission period.
 - d. Videos, GIFs, audio, and/or audiovisual clip(s) may be used in the presentation and must not exceed a combined total of 30 seconds.
 - i. Videos, GIFs, audio, and/or audiovisual clip(s) must be embedded into the presentation.



3. Sources for non-original images or graphics; or video, audio, and/or audiovisual clip(s) do not necessarily need to be verbally stated but must be visible on the slide(s).

Equipment Requirements and Limitations

4. The presentation must be downloaded on a single device (laptop, tablet, or phone) provided by the speaker.
5. The device must connect to Wi-Fi for both in-person and online tournaments.
6. No equipment will be provided by Tournament Administration.
7. Special accommodations will not be made for a speaker's equipment failure.
8. Assistance with a speaker's setup or equipment is not permitted once the speaker has entered the competition room.
9. At in-person tournaments
 - a. Equipment must be limited to:
 - i. One device (laptop, tablet, or phone)
 - ii. A wireless presenter remote, if desired
 - iii. External speakers, if desired
 - b. External monitors, projectors, screens, TVs, etc. are not permitted.
 - c. Speakers must set up, present, and break down within their designated 15-minute time slot.
 - d. Tournament Administration will provide a single table for device staging. The table may not be relocated.
 - e. Power cords for a speaker's device and/or any optional external speakers may not be plugged into outlets in the competition room.
 - f. Prior to the start of the speech, speakers may choose to advance through two to three slides to confirm that judges see the slides advancing.
10. In online tournaments
 - a. Setup should primarily take place prior to entering the competition room.
 - b. A wireless presenter remote and/or external speakers may be used.
 - c. Prior to the start of the speech, speakers may confirm with judges that both the speaker and presentation are visible and may choose to advance through two to three slides to confirm that judges see the slides advancing.

During the delivery of the speech:

11. For both in-person and online competition, speakers will display their presentation on judges' individual devices via screen sharing through the NCFCA electronic system.
 - a. In the case of technical difficulties with screen sharing only:
 - i. The speaker's device may be used for judges to view the presentation.
 - ii. The speaker's device may be held by the speaker during the speech.
12. In online tournaments



- a. Both the speaker and the digital presentation must be visible throughout the speech.
- b. The speaker and presentation will be displayed side by side in equal-sized boxes with the speaker on the left when facing the screen and the presentation on the right.

D. Informative Event-Specific Rules

No additional rules apply beyond the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, and the Platform Category Rules.

E. Persuasive Event-Specific Rules

No additional rules apply beyond the General Speech Rules, Timekeeping Rules, and the Platform Category Rules.

F. Platform Script-Submission and Script-Use Rules

1. A platform script must be uploaded electronically during the designated timeframe for each tournament.
 - a. Scripts must be submitted in .pdf (preferred), .doc, .docx, .jpg, or .png format.
 - b. Digital presentation competitors must upload their digital presentation in addition to the script.
2. During the check-in process for each tournament, competitors and a parent or coach must complete an online script submission form and certify compliance with all applicable rules for each scripted speech.
3. NCFCA's receipt of a submitted script does not ensure rule compliance.

Script Format

4. Platform scripts must be typed in black font, but colored URLs are acceptable.
5. Single-spaced scripts are not permitted.
6. Characterized words must be set apart in the script by italicized font.
7. Citations
 - a. Sources for supporting material must be:
 - i. underlined where the speaker verbally mentions them, and
 - ii. cited parenthetically following the material, and
 - iii. listed on the Works Cited page.
 - b. Direct quotations
 - i. Direct quotations must be set apart in the script by bold font and quotation marks.
 - ii. If direct quotations are characterized, they must be set apart in bold, italicized font and quotation marks.
 - c. A Works Cited page must be submitted if supporting material is used.
 - i. Citation elements such as author, title, publisher, date, website URL, etc. should be included if available.



- ii. Suggested Works Cited page formats may be found on library or university websites.

Script Use

8. The submitted script must be recited during all competition rounds.
9. Tournament Administration will apply a four-rank penalty to the judges' final ranks for any competitor who uses a script or notes during a platform speech, with the exception of Digital Presentation slides, at any tournament other than a Regional or National Championship. The prescribed penalty should not be reflected in the judge's original rank.
10. Script or note use at a Regional or National Championship will result in disqualification from the event.
11. In online tournaments, competitors must announce the use of any scripts or notes in platform speeches to the judges prior to the start of the speech.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



Appendix A: Summary of Rule Changes for 2022

The following summary highlights key changes in the speech rules for the 2022 season. Competitors must adhere to all rules; therefore, this summary should not be considered a substitute for careful study of the 2022 Speech Guide.

Category	Notable Changes
Rules Documents	All speech rules are consolidated in the 2022 Speech Guide.
General Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some rules previously published as general speech rules have been incorporated into the Competition Material Policy.• Competitors may not use speeches delivered in prior seasons, with the exception of Apologetics.• Clarification is provided regarding the use of electronic devices for timekeeping.• During online competition, some portion of the speaker(s) must remain visible on screen with exceptions outlined for Biblical Presentation.
Apologetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scriptural support, including chapter and verse(s) must be presented in each speech.• Revised topics will be published before the end of August 2021.
Digital Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Both in person and online, speakers will display their presentation on judges' individual devices via screen sharing through the NCFCA electronic system. Therefore, devices must connect to Wi-Fi.• In person: speakers must set up, present, and break down within their designated 15-minute time slot. Within parameters, speakers may confirm that judges see presentation slides advancing.• Online: within parameters, speakers may confirm with judges that both the speaker and presentation are visible, and that judges see presentation slides advancing.



Extemporaneous	Topics for the 2022 season will refer to newsworthy domestic events only, not both domestic and international events.
Duo, Impromptu, Informative, Open, Persuasive	No significant changes have been introduced for these events.
After Dinner Speaking and Biblical Presentation	New events for 2022
Biblical Thematic and Humorous	Retired events for 2022

Minor Changes

Updates to clarify wording, improve organization, and adapt protocols for both in-person and online competition are not mentioned in this summary.

2021 Speech Rules

For reference and comparison, the [2021 Speech Rules](#) are available in the Resource Library on the NCFCA website.

[Back to Table of Contents](#) 



Appendix B: Apologetics Topics

Foundational Questions

In preliminary rounds, competitors will be presented with a topic choice between two of the forty-eight Foundational Questions listed below. Topics presented will not be limited to any subcategories of the list.

WHAT IS THE WORD OF GOD?

1. What is the purpose of Scripture?
2. What is the biblical canon and why is it significant?
3. What is Scripture's inerrancy and why is it significant?
4. What is Scripture's divine inspiration and why is it significant?
5. What evidence supports the historical reliability of the Old Testament?
6. What evidence supports the historical reliability of the New Testament?
7. What evidence shows that Jesus believed in the authority of Scripture?

WHO IS GOD?

8. What is the Trinity and why is it significant?
9. What is God's omniscience and why is it significant?
10. What is God's omnipotence and why is it significant?
11. What are God's transcendence and immanence and why are they significant?
12. What is God's righteousness and why is it significant?
13. What is God's sovereignty and why is it significant?
14. What is God's grace and why is it significant?
15. What is God's holiness and why is it significant?
16. What is God's immutability and why is it significant?
17. What is the Holy Spirit's role and why is it significant?

WHO IS MAN?

18. What does it mean to be made in the image of God and why is it significant?
19. What is the fall of man and why is it significant?
20. What is the depravity of man and why is it significant?
21. What is the purpose of man?
22. What does it mean to know God?
23. What is sin and why is it significant?
24. What is hell and why is it significant?

WHO IS JESUS?

25. What is the Incarnation of Christ and why is it significant?
26. What is the deity of Christ and why is it significant?
27. What is the humanity of Christ and why is it significant?
28. What evidence supports the historical existence of Jesus?



29. What is the resurrection of Jesus and why is it significant?
30. What evidence supports Jesus as the promised Messiah?
31. In what ways did Jesus fulfill His role as prophet?
32. In what ways did Jesus fulfill His role as priest?
33. In what ways did Jesus fulfill His role as king?
34. What passages show that Jesus claimed to be God?
35. What is Christ's atonement and why is it significant?

HOW ARE WE SAVED?

36. What is the gospel and why is it significant?
37. What is regeneration and why is it significant?
38. What is repentance and why is it significant?
39. What is faith in Christ and why is it significant?
40. What is justification and why is it significant?
41. What is adoption into God's family and why is it significant?
42. What is sanctification and why is it significant?
43. What is redemption and why is it significant?
44. What is reconciliation and why is it significant?

HOW SHOULD WE LIVE?

45. What is prayer and why is it significant?
46. What is the church and why is it significant?
47. What is worship and why is it significant?
48. What is Bible study and why is it significant for Christ followers?

Application Questions

In elimination rounds, competitors will be presented with a topic choice between two of the thirty-two Application Questions listed below.

1. Why does the Old Testament God seem different than the New Testament God?
2. How can someone know what God's plan is for their life?
3. Respond to the person who says, "The Bible is full of contradictions."
4. Respond to the person who says, "I believe I will go to heaven because I have lived a good life."
5. Respond to the assumption that says, "All religions say pretty much the same thing."
6. Does God care if I am involved in a local church as long as I pray and read my Bible?
7. Respond to the common phrase, "You do you."
8. Should I keep a commitment if I'm unhappy?
9. Should Christians stand for love or truth in the public square?



10. Respond to the friend who says, "I pray and hear nothing. I must be doing something wrong."
11. Respond to a common perception that Christianity is responsible for oppression and injustice.
12. Isn't the Bible irrelevant to the 21st century?
13. Respond to the generalization, "Everything is relative."
14. Respond to the person who says, "God made me this way."
15. Respond to the popular slogan, "My body, my choice."
16. Is traditional Christianity homophobic?
17. Is artificial intelligence our hope for saving mankind?
18. Why does it matter what I believe as long as I'm sincere?
19. Is God a Republican?
20. Respond to the person who says, "My life is not worth living."
21. Respond to the person who says, "I hate my brother for what he did. I could never forgive him for that!"
22. How can a loving God let my mom die of cancer?
23. Respond to the person who says, "I'm not sure I'm saved because I never had a dramatic conversion experience."
24. Respond to the person who asks, "Why would I want to be a Christian when Christians are such a mess?"
25. Hasn't science disproven Christianity?
26. Why do so many Christians live lives that look no different than non-believers?
27. Respond to the question "If the Bible has all the answers, why are there so many denominations?"
28. Do miracles like the ones in the Bible still happen today?
29. If God is good, why is there so much evil in the world?
30. Why would a loving God send people to hell?
31. Respond to the person who asks, "Isn't it arrogant to claim to know the truth?"
32. Respond to a friend who doesn't understand the need for a "new birth."

[Back to Table of Contents](#) 



Appendix C: 2022 Ballots

The following pages contain sample ballots provided for reference and practice to show competitors, parents, and coaches the evaluation criteria judges will see on the electronic ballots during competition rounds. Official competition ballots must be completed in the electronic ballot system.

[Back to Table of Contents](#) 



AFTER DINNER SPEAKING BALLOT

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	Script or notes were used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informs, inspires, and/or persuades the audience on a noteworthy topic with humor being central to the speech Presents a clear thesis and develops it throughout the speech Supports assertions with credible sources (including citations when necessary), sound logic, and/or relevant examples 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆</div> Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Captivates the audience with an engaging introduction and a compelling conclusion Balances the development of each main point and integrates fluid transitions Demonstrates a coherent flow and uses time effectively 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆</div> Comments
Vocal Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates sincerely and conversationally Demonstrates accurate pronunciation and articulation Varies volume, rate, and pitch 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆</div> Comments
Physical Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears professional, poised, and passionate Exhibits good posture, movement, and gestures Displays appropriate eye contact and facial expressions 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆</div> Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates the relevance of the topic Discusses the topic using humor and well-reasoned analysis Establishes rapport with the audience 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆</div> Comments

Speech Comments

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States the chosen topic and adheres to it Relates a clear thesis and presents a well-reasoned defense of the topic Supports assertions with Scripture and other credible sources (including citations when necessary), sound logic, and/or relevant examples 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆☆☆☆☆</div> Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Captivates the audience with an engaging introduction and a compelling conclusion Balances the development of each main point and integrates fluid transitions Demonstrates a coherent flow and uses time effectively 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆☆☆☆☆</div> Comments
Vocal Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates sincerely and conversationally Demonstrates accurate pronunciation and articulation Varies volume, rate, and pitch 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆☆☆☆☆</div> Comments
Physical Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears professional, poised, and passionate Exhibits good posture, movement, and gestures Displays appropriate eye contact and facial expressions 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆☆☆☆☆</div> Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates the relevance of the topic Discusses the topic with well-reasoned analysis Establishes rapport with the audience, expressing conviction in a winsome manner 	<div style="text-align: center;">☆☆☆☆☆</div> Comments

Speech Comments



BIBLICAL PRESENTATION BALLOT

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	Script or notes were used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents a unique and original performance using one or two selections of Scripture • Develops depth with rich characters and vivid scenes • Cites the biblical reference of the Scripture selection(s) and other sources if used 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the necessary context to understand the actions and events • Presents a coherent plot with a clear beginning, climax, and resolution • Uses time effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Characterization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently portrays distinct, realistic, and relatable characters and transitions smoothly between them • Expresses vocal accent, volume, rate, and pitch for each character • Exhibits the posture, gestures, and facial expressions of each character 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Blocking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates distinct, realistic scenes in the mind of the audience and transitions smoothly between them • Positions characters effectively on stage • Incorporates creative, deliberate movements that enhance the performance 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents a meaningful theme • Provokes the audience to thought • Establishes rapport with the audience 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments



DIGITAL PRESENTATION BALLOT

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	Script or notes were used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informs or persuades with originality and creativity • Presents a clear thesis and develops it throughout the speech • Supports assertions with credible sources (including citations when necessary), sound logic, and/or relevant examples • Enhances the speech with visually appealing and effective slides 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captivates the audience with an engaging introduction and a compelling conclusion • Balances the development of each main point and integrates fluid transitions • Demonstrates a coherent flow and uses time effectively • Integrates information on the slides naturally into the speech 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Vocal Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates sincerely and conversationally • Demonstrates accurate pronunciation and articulation • Varies volume, rate, and pitch 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Physical Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appears professional, poised, and passionate • Exhibits good posture, movement, and gestures • Displays appropriate eye contact and facial expressions • Manages equipment smoothly and effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates the relevance of the topic • Discusses the topic with well-reasoned analysis • Establishes rapport with the audience 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitors	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	Script or notes were used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents a selection with literary merit that demonstrates excellence in substance and style • Develops depth with rich characters and vivid scenes, balancing participation between speakers • Cites the title and author of the literature selection and other sources if used 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the necessary context to understand the actions and events • Presents a coherent plot with a clear beginning, climax, and resolution • Uses time effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Characterization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently portrays distinct, realistic, and relatable characters and transitions smoothly between them • Expresses vocal accent, volume, rate, and pitch for each character • Exhibits the posture, gestures, and facial expressions of each character 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Blocking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates distinct, realistic scenes in the mind of the audience and transitions smoothly between them • Positions characters effectively on stage • Incorporates and coordinates creative, deliberate movements that enhance the performance 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents a meaningful theme • Provokes the audience to thought • Establishes rapport with the audience 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments	
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EXTEMPORANEOUS BALLOT

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States the chosen topic and adheres to it Relates a clear thesis and presents an evidence-based response to the topic Supports assertions with credible sources (including citations when necessary), sound logic, and/or relevant examples 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Captivates the audience with an engaging introduction and a compelling conclusion Balances the development of each main point and integrates fluid transitions Demonstrates a coherent flow and uses time effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Vocal Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates sincerely and conversationally Demonstrates accurate pronunciation and articulation Varies volume, rate, and pitch 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Physical Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears professional, poised, and passionate Exhibits good posture, movement, and gestures Displays appropriate eye contact and facial expressions Uses notecard 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates the relevance of the topic Discusses the topic with supporting material and well-reasoned analysis Establishes rapport with the audience, expressing assertions in a winsome manner 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States the chosen topic and adheres to it Relates a clear thesis and presents unique and meaningful speech Supports assertions with credible sources (including citations when necessary), sound logic, and/or relevant examples 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Captivates the audience with an engaging introduction and a compelling conclusion Balances the development of each main point and integrates fluid transitions Demonstrates a coherent flow and uses time effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Vocal Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates sincerely and conversationally Demonstrates accurate pronunciation and articulation Varies volume, rate, and pitch 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Physical Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears professional, poised, and passionate Exhibits good posture, movement, and gestures Displays appropriate eye contact and facial expressions 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates the relevance of the topic Discusses the topic with well-reasoned analysis Establishes rapport with the audience 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments



INFORMATIVE BALLOT

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	Script or notes were used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains a significant topic with originality and creativity Presents a clear thesis and develops it throughout the speech Supports assertions with credible sources (including citations when necessary), sound logic, and/or relevant examples 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Captivates the audience with an engaging introduction and a compelling conclusion Balances the development of each main point and integrates fluid transitions Demonstrates a coherent flow and uses time effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Vocal Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates sincerely and conversationally Demonstrates accurate pronunciation and articulation Varies volume, rate, and pitch 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Physical Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears professional, poised, and passionate Exhibits good posture, movement, and gestures Displays appropriate eye contact and facial expressions 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates the relevance of the topic Discusses the topic with well-reasoned analysis Establishes rapport with the audience 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	Script or notes were used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presents a selection with literary merit that demonstrates excellence in substance and style Develops depth with rich characters and vivid scenes Cites the title and author of the literature selection and other sources if used 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the necessary context to understand the actions and events Presents a coherent plot with a clear beginning, climax, and resolution Uses time effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Characterization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently portrays distinct, realistic, and relatable characters and transitions smoothly between them Expresses vocal accent, volume, rate, and pitch for each character Exhibits the posture, gestures, and facial expressions of each character 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Blocking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates distinct, realistic scenes in the mind of the audience and transitions smoothly between them Positions characters effectively on stage Incorporates and coordinates creative, deliberate movements that enhance the performance 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presents a meaningful theme Provokes the audience to thought Establishes rapport with the audience 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments

This form is provided for reference and practice only. Official competition ballots must be completed within the electronic ballot system.

Competitor	Judge
Topic	
Speech Length	Script or notes were used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th <input type="checkbox"/> 6 th <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th	

Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influences the audience to consider a particular point of view or course of action Presents a clear thesis and develops it throughout the speech Supports assertions with credible sources (including citations when necessary), sound logic, and/or relevant examples 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Captivates the audience with an engaging introduction and a compelling conclusion Balances the development of each main point and integrates fluid transitions Demonstrates a coherent flow and uses time effectively 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Vocal Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates sincerely and conversationally Demonstrates accurate pronunciation and articulation Varies volume, rate, and pitch 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Physical Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears professional, poised, and passionate Exhibits good posture, movement, and gestures Displays appropriate eye contact and facial expressions 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates the relevance of the topic Discusses the topic with well-reasoned analysis Establishes rapport with the audience 	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ Comments

Speech Comments
