



Lawrence County Career and Technical Center

750 Phelps Way

New Castle, PA 16101

www.lctc.tec.pa.us

DISTRICT 10 EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING COMPETITION

Purpose:

To evaluate each contestant's ability to give a speech on an assigned topic with a minimum of advance preparation.

Clothing Requirement:

For men: SkillsUSA official attire: Official red blazer, windbreaker style jacket or sweater; black dress slacks; white dress shirt; plain black tie or SkillsUSA black tie from Midwest Trophy; black socks and black shoes.

For women: Official red blazer, windbreaker style jacket or sweater; black dress slacks or skirt with labels on the blazer; black sheer or skin-tone hosiery and black shoes.

Eligibility:

Open to active SkillsUSA members.

Observer Rules:

Observers will be allowed to hear the speeches in the presentation room provided space is available. No talking or gesturing will be permitted. No observers will be allowed in the assembly or preparation room. No one will be permitted to enter or leave the presentation room while a contestant is speaking. No photography devices will be allowed in the contest room.

Scope of the contest:

- I. Contestants should prepare for extemporaneous speaking by developing these competencies:
 - a. Demonstrate good grooming in dress and personal hygiene
 - b. Understand and practice elements of informal conversation
 - c. Prepare a 3-5 minute speech or answer to provided question with no more than five minutes of preparation.
 - d. Demonstrate effective, pleasing delivery style
 - e. Effectively use illustrations and examples
 - f. Pronounce words in a clear, understandable manner
 - g. Demonstrate good platform deportment and personal confidence
 - h. Organize speech material in a logical and coherent manner
 - i. Effectively vary voice in pitch, tone, tempo, and volume.

2. Contestants will draw numbers during the pre-contest orientation meeting to determine the order of competition.
3. The technical committee will select a speech topic based upon material in the SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook. All contestants will be assigned the same question/topic. Committee members will be of the business and/or educational fields associated with vocational education.
4. Contestants will enter the preparation room one at a time, where they will be given a speech topic. Contestants will have five minutes to determine the content and organize their speeches.
5. During preparation time, contestants may consult reference materials supplied in the preparation room and may make notes on 3x5 note cards for use during the speech. Contestants may not take any outlines, notes or reference materials into the presentation room.
6. The speech shall be at least three minutes in length but shall not exceed five minutes. A five point penalty will be deducted for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof under three minutes or for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof over 5 minutes.
7. Time limit: Time will begin when the speech begins. The timekeeper will signal the speaker at three minutes, four minutes, and five minutes. Contestants will be permitted to use a watch or clock.
8. Contestants will not mention their name, school, city, or state to the judge(s) or other contestants. A five-point penalty will be assessed for each such occurrence.

Arrangement of room:

1. Assembly room: Area where contestants wait their turns to enter the preparation room.
2. Preparation room: Area furnished with a table or desk, and chair for a five minute preparation time. All necessary reference materials and blank 3/5 note cards will be available in this room.
3. Speech presentation room: This room will be furnished with a stand or lectern facing the audience and/or judges.

