Prepared Public Speaking

LDE  (rev. 10/2019)

Purpose
The Prepared Public Speaking LDE is designed to develop agricultural leadership, communication skills and promote interest in leadership and citizenship.

Eligibility
The Prepared Public Speaking LDE will be limited to 2 participants per division per chapter at the statewide preliminaries. The participant must be an active member of a chartered Delaware FFA Chapter.

Event Procedures
A. A total of four (4) participants may be submitted—2 Junior Level (7th-9th grades) and 2 Senior level (10th-12th grades) to compete at the state level preliminaries. The top 8 students from each division will move on to compete at State Convention. Ninth graders have the option of competing in either division, but it must be specified on the State Convention Registration Form.
B. Only Senior level will compete to represent the state at National Convention in the year in which the event was held.
C. Participants must wear FFA Official Dress for this event.
D. Each participant’s manuscript will be the result of his/her own efforts. It is expected that the participant will take advantage of all available training facilities at their local school in developing their speaking ability. Facts and working data may be secured from any source but must be appropriately documented.
E. Three to eight competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the event. At least one judge should have an agricultural background. Any advisor who has a student competing in a speaking event may not serve as a judge for that respective speaking event.
F. Participants will not be allowed to possess any personal electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, smart watches, airpods, etc) other than those approved by event officials.
G. No adviser of a competing student may be present in the room during an LDE presentation.

Event Format
A. Materials to be submitted by January 8th for preliminaries:
   1. Five double spaced, type written copies of the speech on 8 1/2” x 11” white bond paper
      • Cover page including the speech title, participant’s name, chapter, state and year.
      • Body of the manuscript must have 1” margins.
      • Font size must be 12 point using Arial or other sans serif font. (Times New Roman, Cambri, Calibri, etc)
      • Follow most current APA style guide for developing reference list and bibliography.
      • Do not bind, place a staple in upper left corner.

   • Manuscripts not meeting these guidelines will be penalized.
   2. A complete and accurate bibliography should be included in the manuscript. All participants in the Prepared Public Speaking LDE should give credit to others where any direct quotes, phrases, or special dates are used in the manuscript, in order not to be guilty of plagiarism. The National FFA Board of Directors at the October 1960 meeting in Kansas City, MO adopted the following: “A bibliography MUST be included as part of the public speaker’s manuscript and direct quotes from any source of information must be marked in “quotes” on the manuscript and be identified in the bibliography. Failure to so will automatically disqualify a participant. This applies to all events above the local level.”
   3. Five (5) copies of the manuscripts, per guidelines laid out in the handbook, must be sent by January 14th to: Delaware FFA Association, John G. Townsend Building, 401 Federal Street, Suite 2, Dover, DE 19901. A penalty of 20 points (10% of available manuscript points) will be assessed by the judges scoring the manuscripts for any late submissions. Manuscripts that are received later than January 14th will not be entered into the event and the speaker will be disqualified from speaking in the event.

B. Subjects
Participants may choose any current subject of an agricultural nature for their speeches. This may include agribusiness, animal systems, plant systems, environmental services, food products and processing, natural resource systems, & power, structural and technical systems. Official judges of the Prepared Public Speaking LDE shall disqualify a participant if he/she speaks on a non-agricultural subject.

C. Time Limit
Each Senior Level speech will be a minimum of six minutes in length and a maximum of eight minutes. Participants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge’s score sheet for being under six minutes or over eight minutes. Junior Level will be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes. Penalties will be given for time errors. Each participant will be allowed five additional minutes in which he or she will be asked questions relating to his or her speech. No time warnings will be given.

D. Judging
   1. Prior to the event, the content and composition of all manuscripts will be judged and scored by qualified individuals using the manuscript score sheet. Manuscript scores will be averaged and supplied to the presentation judges after they have scored the oral presentation. Manuscript comment cards will be completed by manuscript judges and presented to the participants at the awards function.
   2. Presentation judges will be furnished with typewritten copies of the participants’ manuscripts, which they will use to formulate questions. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker’s subject. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided.
   3. Event officials will randomly determine the speaking order. A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation. No props are to be used. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
Scoring

Presentation Scorecard (500 points)
Oral and Non-Verbal Communication – 500 points
1. Supporting Evidence – 75 points
2. Persuasive use of evidence – 75 points
3. Pace – 75 points
4. Command of Audience – 100 points
5. Eye Contact – 50 points
6. Mannerisms and Gestures – 50 points
7. Poise – 75 points

Response to Questions Scorecard – 300 points
1. Response to Questions – 100 points
2. Knowledge of Topic – 200 points

Tiebreakers
Ties will be broken using the following procedure, unless otherwise noted by the LDE Chair:
1. Ties will be broken based on the greatest number of low ranks. Participant’s low ranks will be counted and the participant with the greatest number of low ranks will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, then the event chair will rank the participant’s response to questions.
2. If a tie still exists, then the participant’s raw scores will be totaled. The participant with the greatest total of raw points will be declared the winner.

Awards
Awards will be presented during a session at the Delaware FFA State Convention. The first place winner will receive a plaque and pin, and sponsorship to Big E and National FFA Convention through Delaware FFA Foundation sponsor in 2019:

Delaware Association of Agriscience Educators

References
This list of references is not intended to be all inclusive. Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

- National FFA Core Catalog:
- *Figures of Speech DVD*
- Great Speeches and Presentations
- CDE Q&A’s DVD (2007-2010)
- FFA Learn—2005 & 2006 CDE Q&A’s
- Purdue’s Online Writing Lab – APA Formatting Guide: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

Factual information pertaining to agriculture is available from:
1. United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250
2. State colleges, research centers and/or experiment stations
3. The Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government
# Manuscript Content and Composition Rubric

200 points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points</th>
<th>Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points</th>
<th>Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points</th>
<th>Points Earned</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic relevance</td>
<td>Topic addresses an issue facing the industry of agriculture.</td>
<td>Topic addresses an issue that may show some relationship to the industry of agriculture.</td>
<td>Topic addresses an issue that is unrelated to the industry of agriculture.</td>
<td>x 6</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persuasive explanation of position on topic</td>
<td>Position clearly stated and ample evidence is provided.</td>
<td>Position is not obvious and evidence is not clearly provided.</td>
<td>Position is not stated and evidence is not provided.</td>
<td>x 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative viewpoints recognized</td>
<td>Identifies and counters alternative viewpoints.</td>
<td>Only identifies alternate viewpoints.</td>
<td>Does not identify alternate viewpoints.</td>
<td>x 4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logical order and unity of thought</td>
<td>Clearly organized and concise with strong introduction, body and conclusion layout.</td>
<td>Good organization with few statements out of place or lacking in clear construction.</td>
<td>Little to no organization is present; sometimes awkward and lacking construction.</td>
<td>x 4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling/grammar (sentence structure, verb agreement, etc.)</td>
<td>Spelling and grammar are extremely high quality with two or less errors in the document.</td>
<td>Spelling and grammar are adequate with three to five errors in the document.</td>
<td>Spelling and grammar are less than adequate with six or more errors in the document.</td>
<td>x 7</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of resources</td>
<td>Resources are from reputable sources.</td>
<td>Resources are from questionable sources.</td>
<td>Resources are unreliable and invalid.</td>
<td>x 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscript written according to guidelines</td>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>x 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double-spaced formatting to 8½” x 11” with 1” margins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 point serif (Times new roman, Cambria, etc.) or sans serif font (Ariel, Calibri, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>x 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cover page with speech title, participant’s name, state and year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x 3</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA style for references and citations</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL POINTS**
Presented Public Speaking

Presentation and Questions Rubric
800 points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>MEMBER NUMBER</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER</td>
<td>STATE</td>
</tr>
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<th>Weight</th>
<th>Total Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication and non-verbal communication</td>
<td>Examples (stories, statistics, etc.) are vivid, precise and clearly explained.</td>
<td>Examples are usually concrete and sometimes need clarification.</td>
<td>Examples are sometimes confusing leaving the listeners with questions.</td>
<td>x 15</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting evidence</td>
<td>Persuasive use of evidence</td>
<td>Exemplary use of evidence to persuade listeners.</td>
<td>Sufficient use of evidence to persuade listeners.</td>
<td>x 15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persuasive use of evidence</td>
<td>Pace</td>
<td>Speaks very articulately at a rate that engages audience.</td>
<td>Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations.</td>
<td>x 15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pace</td>
<td>Command of audience</td>
<td>Speaker uses appropriate emphasis and tone to captivate audience.</td>
<td>Speaker presents speech as mere repeating of facts and speech comes across as a report.</td>
<td>Speaker lacks enthusiasm and power to engage audience.</td>
<td>x 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command of audience</td>
<td>Eye contact</td>
<td>Constantly looks at the entire audience (90 to 100 percent of the time).</td>
<td>Mostly looks around the audience (60 to 80 percent of the time).</td>
<td>Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50 percent of the time).</td>
<td>x 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye contact</td>
<td>Mannerisms and gestures</td>
<td>No nervous habits are displayed. Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points.</td>
<td>Sometimes exhibits nervous habits. Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize.</td>
<td>Displays some nervous habits. Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting.</td>
<td>x 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mannerisms and gestures</td>
<td>Poise</td>
<td>Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions)</td>
<td>Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure.</td>
<td>Lacks confidence and composure.</td>
<td>x 15</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poise</td>
<td>Response to questions</td>
<td>Is able to respond with organized thoughts and concise answers.</td>
<td>Answers effectively but has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus.</td>
<td>Rambles or responds before thinking.</td>
<td>x 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response to questions</td>
<td>Knowledge of topic</td>
<td>Answer shows thorough knowledge of the subject and supports answer with strong evidence.</td>
<td>Answer shows some knowledge of the subject but lacks strong evidence.</td>
<td>Answer shows little knowledge of subject and lacks evidence.</td>
<td>x 40</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL