

## Forensics Categories 2017-18

Demonstration Speaking  
Extemporaneous Speaking  
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Oratory

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*These brief descriptions will help you choose a category to participate in this season. Be sure to get a critique sheet for more details. You are also expected to make appointments with your coach to get help, including familiarizing yourself with the rules and etiquette, making sure you have the necessary introductions and/or other components of a good presentation, and practicing ahead of each meet.*

### Demonstration Speaking

In a demonstration speech, one or two speakers explain how to do something or how something works such as an objects or physical activity. Optional visual aids may be used to enhance the demonstration – no digital aids. \*Max. Time Limit: 10 min, including set up and strike down. \* Use both sides of one 4x6 note card optional.

### Extemporaneous Speaking

This speech provides a direct response to a question drawn. You have 30 minutes preparation time to phrase an original, clear answer to the question and support it with evidence and reasoning. No prepared speeches, outlines or notes are allowed. \*Max. Time Limit: 7 min. \*Notes are limited to both sides of one 4x6 card.

### Farrago

Select material from a variety of literary genres (poetry, short stories, speeches, essays, drama, novels) on a central specific theme or emotion and interpret the material. Quality material is required. Original material is not allowed. Introduction and (optional) transitions to be memorized. \*Max. Time Limit: 10 min. Read from a manuscript.

### Four Minute Speaking

Present well-developed material with the primary intent of informing, with support material like quotations, statistics, examples, etc. Persuasive elements may be included. Students are encouraged to provide a list of works cited on request. \*Max. Time Limit: 4 min. \*The use of both sides of one 4x6 note card is optional.

### Group Interpretive Reading

Present a literary script (not a play) so that the audience imagines the action being described rather than witnessing it being performed. May be a cutting, complete work, or combination of materials from different genres; drama is prohibited. Introduction memorized. \*Groups of 2-5 people. \*Max time 12 min. Read from a manuscript. No direct eye contact or physical contact between participants.

### Impromptu Speech

Given five minutes, prepare a speech from a prompt devised from proverbs, objects, abstract words, events, quotations, hypothetical questions, and famous people. No resources may be used; speech should be original, well-organized, and imaginative and supported by personal examples. \*Max. Time Limit: 5 min. \*Optional use of both sides of one 4” x 6” note card provided by the contest host.

### Moments in History

1801-1840 and/or 1930's (either time period or combining both): Select a topic from this theme, research your topic and write an informative speech. Consider primary sources for research. Topics may include, but are not limited to: Politics, Military Activity, Historical Sites/Monuments, Natural Disasters, Ethnology/ Legends/ Folklore, Science/Inventions/ Medicine, Arts and Entertainment, Geography, Transportation, Sports, Religion, Heroes, Villains, Personalities, Fashion and Fads, Significant Speech. Visual-aids can support, not overtake, your speech. Students are encouraged to provide a list of works cited on request. Max. Time Limit: 6 min. \*May use both sides of one 4X6 note card.

### Oratory Speech

Write a thoroughly prepared, well composed, and well expressed persuasive speech on a significant topic. Include quality supporting materials. Persuade in one of three ways: Alerting the audience to the existence of a problem, affirming the existence of a problem and offering a solution, or urging the adoption of a policy. Students are encouraged to provide a list of works cited on request. \*Max. Time Limit: 10 min. \*May use both sides of one 4x6 note card.

### Play Acting

In a group of 2-5 people, memorize a scene or a cutting from one play and perform it with emphasis on character development and appropriate physical movement. Perform without any props except for available tables, desks, and/or chairs. Introduction is to be memorized. \*Max. Time Limit: 12 min.

### Poetry Reading

Select poem(s) revolving around the same theme or emotion. Original material is allowed but open to critique. Material is to be read from manuscript. Memorized introduction & transitions need to include title(s) and author(s). \*Max. Time Limit: 8 min.

### Prose Reading

A selection from short stories, cuttings from novels, dramas, essays, or other non-fiction work revolving around a theme or emotion. Original material is allowed but open to critique. Memorized introduction & transitions need to include title(s) and author(s). Material is to be read from manuscript. \*Max. Time Limit: 8 min.

### Public Address

Write a speech answering one of the following questions:

1. How involved should parents be in their child's education?
2. To what extent, if any, does immigration affect employment?
3. What, if anything, can be done to eliminate food deserts in America?
4. To what extent, if any, are prisons in the US effective?
5. To what degree, if any, should space exploration continue?

No use of visual aids. Students are encouraged to provide a list of works cited on request. \*May use both sides of one 4x6 note card. \*Max. Time Limit: 8 min.

### Radio News Reporting

Present a well-organized, clearly communicated newscast with 30 minutes preparation. Source material provided of 15-20 min. in length is to be cut and edited with special efforts made to end right at 5 min. No material may be added, except transitions, introductions and conclusions. At least one commercial is to be included.

### Solo Acting

Material is to be cut from serious or humorous drama or other literature adapted to the dramatic format with brief narrative transitions allowed. Original material may not be used; quality material is required. The material may be a monologue or a selection which includes any number of characters. The presentation is to be memorized. \*Max. Time Limit: 10 min. \*Use of single stationary chair is allowed.

### Special Occasion Speech

Write a speech appropriate to a specific occasion and its probable audience. Develop and present an original speech for one of the following situations. Visual materials optional as support; no digital materials.

1. Resignation speech
2. Hall of fame induction speech
3. Pep talk from a coach
4. Tribute to the life of an ancestor

\*Max. Time Limit: 6 min. \*Use of 4x6 note-card is optional.

### Storytelling

Tell a coherent, unified, clear, and interesting story. Use vocal variation and physical movement to suggest different characters and relationships to make the story clearer and more interesting. Demonstrate a sense of audience. Must sit in a chair. Brief introduction required to identify author, title, and intended audience as specified in the intro (young children, teenagers, or adults). \*Max. Time Limit: 8 min. \*Notes are not permitted. Must have a story for each of the topics:

1. Story about outer space
2. Story from an indigenous culture
3. Story about about something lost and/or found
4. Nautical story