

Original Oratory

Round: _____ Competitor: _____ School: _____

Event Rules

Orations may deal with a current problem and propose a solution OR they may alert the audience to a threatening danger, strengthen its devotion to an accepted cause, or eulogize a person. Give the orator free choice of subject and judge him/her solely on the effectiveness of its development and presentation. The use of appropriate figures of speech, similes and metaphors, balanced sentences, allusions, and other rhetorical devices should be noted. Delivery should be judged for mastery of the mechanics of speech: poise, quality and use of voice and bodily expressiveness, and for qualities of directness and sincerity.

1. The presentation must be memorized.
2. The speech must be the original work of the speaker. No more than 150 words of quoted and/or paraphrased material may be included in the oration and must be designated in the manuscript.
3. A copy of the oration must be available from the student upon the judge's request.
4. The time limit for this event is Eight (8) MINUTES.. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant may not be awarded first place in the round. No minimum timelimit.

	Superior	Excellent	Average	Unprepared
Effective Development Of Topic	1	2	3	4
Rhetoric/Diction	1	2	3	4
Persuasiveness	1	2	3	4
Clear/Coherent Organization	1	2	3	4
Effective Use Of Voice	1	2	3	4
Use Of Body Action	1	2	3	4

Rank in Round (No Ties Except 5)	Time

Rate This Speaker

20 – exemplary in every way – best competitor ever

19 – almost the best speech I have ever seen

18 – outstanding performance; superior work

17 – fantastic speech; minimal flaws

16 – clearly very good work – minor technical flaws emerge

15 – work is good, but shows technical flaws

14 – work is good, but shows some flaws with fluency or organization

13 – work is good, but lacks direction

12 – work is sound, but more practice could improve performance

11 – work is sound, but organizational flaws detract from the performance

10 – speech shows promise, but improvement is necessary – delivery may have been off

9 – significant improvement is needed

8 – speech is very short or major improvements are necessary

I Enjoyed...	Work On...	Overall...
		Judge: _____