

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FFA

Rules for Creed Speaking CDE

Eligibility

1. The CDE is open to students who are regularly enrolled in agricultural education classes and who are active members of chartered FFA chapters in good standing with the State Association.
2. Participation in the Creed Speaking CDE is limited to FFA members who are freshman (9th grade) students at the time of competition.
3. Each chapter is entitled to one participant in a Section Career Development Event. It is suggested this member be selected in a chapter contest held prior to the Section Career Development Event.
4. Each participant must recite the Creed without any opening or closing comments. It is acceptable to introduce the FFA Creed by stating “The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany” and to conclude by stating “Thank you. Are there any questions?” Remarks beyond these comments can result in a reduction of the participant’s points.
5. Each participant must recite the Creed from memory. It is suggested that participants take advantage of all available training resources in their school to develop their speaking ability.

Method of Selecting Winner

1. Participants will draw for order of speaking. The room host will then introduce each participant by name. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
2. Three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the CDE.
3. During the presentation, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant upon the delivery of their presentation, using the score sheet provided.
4. From the “Approved List of Creed CDE Questions”, which deal with the participants’ knowledge and understanding of the Creed, the judges will select six (6) of the thirty (30) questions. A maximum of five (5) minutes will be allowed for the judges to ask the six (6) questions. Each judge shall ask the same question(s) to each participant and questions must be asked in the same order to all participants. Under no circumstances may the five-minute questioning period be exceeded and under no circumstances may more than the six questions be asked. **[Note: Some participants may not utilize the entire five minute period for their answers, while other participants may provide lengthy answers and the five minute time period for questions will elapse before all six questions are asked.]**
5. When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total their score on each participant. If a judge has a tie between two or more speakers, the judge shall be asked to re-score to eliminate the tie.
6. After a judge has broken all ties in total score they will rank all participants in numerical order without consulting any other judge. The rankings of the three judges shall then be added and the winner will be the participant whose total of rankings is the lowest. Other placings shall be determined in the same manner (Low point score method of selection).
7. If a tie occurs when adding the rankings of the three judges, the individual who has the highest grand total score shall be ranked higher.
8. The Contest Superintendent in each Section shall designate a first and second place participant.

Levels of Competitions

1. All Section and District CDEs shall be conducted alike and conform to the State Creed Speaking rules.
2. Winners are eligible to participate only in the next succeeding section, district, state and national CDEs.
3. The first and second place participant at the Section Creed Speaking CDE will advance to the District competition.
4. The first and second place participants at the District Creed Speaking CDE will advance to the State Creed Speaking Finals.
5. The State Career Development Event shall be held in conjunction with State Public Speaking preliminaries. The State winner will be selected at State Public Speaking preliminaries and the State Creed Speaking winner will present the Creed during the State FFA Convention.
6. Awards shall be the same as Public Speaking awards on all levels. It is suggested the Creed Speaking Career Development Event be held in conjunction with all levels of the Public Speaking Career Development Events.

CREED SPEAKING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT SCORING	
	Points
A. <u>OFFICIAL DRESS</u> Male - Black dress shoes(not tennis shoes), black socks, black dress pants(not jeans), white collared (or light colored), button down dress shirt, dark colored tie, and Official FFA jacket. No hats of any kind. Female - Black closed-toe dress shoes, black nylons, knee length black skirt or black dress slacks, white collared (or light colored), button down dress shirt, FFA scarf, and Official FFA jacket. No tall boots	50
A. <u>VOICE</u> Quality, pitch, force, articulation, pronunciation	100
B. <u>STAGE PRESENCE</u> Personal appearance, poise and posture, confidence, personality, ease before the audience	100
C. <u>POWER OF EXPRESSION</u> Fluency, emphasis, directness, sincerity, communicative ability, conveyance of thought and meaning	100
D. <u>GENERAL EFFECT</u> Extent to which the creed was pleasing, understandable, convincing, and held attention	100
E. <u>RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS</u> Ability to satisfactorily answer the questions to the judges, showing an understanding of the Creed	100
TOTAL	550

APPROVED LIST OF CREED CDE QUESTIONS - ILLINOIS

1. Who wrote the FFA Creed?
2. At what National Convention was the FFA Creed adopted?
3. At what National FFA Conventions was the FFA Creed revised?
4. What prompted you to participate in this career development event?
5. Why is the Creed important to the FFA?
6. What is the most important part of the Creed to you and why?
7. If you rewrote the Creed, what would you change?
8. Why must faith be born not of words but of deeds?
9. Is there a promise of better days in the future of Agriculture?
10. What are some of the "better things we now enjoy that have come to us from the struggles of former years"?
11. How do you interpret "joys and discomforts of agricultural life"?
12. How do you interpret "to work on a good farm is pleasant"?
13. How are experiences found in agriculture pursuits "pleasant as well as challenging"?
14. What is an achievement, won by past generations of agriculturalists, and how has it brought better days to the agriculture industry?
15. What achievements have been developed in your lifetime that will bring "better days through better ways" to the agriculture industry?
16. What discouragement do you expect to encounter as you become engaged in farming or another agricultural pursuit?
17. How do you interpret "I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others"?
18. How will you develop your own ability to work efficiently and think clearly?
19. How do you interpret "with such knowledge and skill as I can secure"?
20. What is a progressive agriculturist?
21. How do you interpret "to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil"?
22. What is the product of our toil?
23. How do you interpret "less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining"?
24. How do you interpret "life abundant and enough honest wealth to make it so"?
25. How do you interpret "in less need for charity and more of it when needed"?
26. How do you interpret "playing square with those whose happiness depends on me"?
27. How can American Agriculture hold true to the best traditions of our national life?
28. How do you interpret "best traditions of our national life" and why are they important to American Agriculture?
29. How can you and your fellow FFA members exert a positive influence on our homes and community?
30. How do you interpret "my part in that inspiring task"?

The FFA Creed

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds--achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so--for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

The creed was written by E. M. Tiffany, and adopted at the 3rd National Convention of the FFA. Revised at the 38th Convention and the 63rd Convention.

FINAL RANKING SHEET CREED SPEAKING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

When all contestants have finished speaking, the chairperson of the CDE will assemble the score sheets from all judges. Totals shall then be compiled. The CDE chairperson should then complete the "Final Ranking Sheet" **USING THE RANKING ONLY, NOT THE ACTUAL SCORES.**

Rankings taken from judges' score sheets

Order of Speaking										
Contestant's Name or Code Number										
Judge #1										
Judge #2										
Judge #3										
Total of Judges' Rankings										
Final Ranking										

Note: In arriving at final rankings, the lowest total of the Judges' rankings receives first place, the next lowest total is second, etc. However, if two of three judges rank any contestant first, that contestant shall receive first place regardless of the opinion of the third judge. If a tie occurs when adding the rankings of the three judges, the individual who has the highest grand total score shall be ranked higher.

Judge's Name or Number: _____

Illinois Association FFA

Judge's Score Sheet - Creed Speaking CDE

Order of Speaking

Names or Code Numbers of Participants										

Items to be Scored	Points Allowed	Points Awarded to Participants									
1. Official Dress	50										
2. Voice	100										
3. Stage Presence	100										
4. Power of Expression	100										
5. General Effect	100										
6. Response to Questions	100										
Total Points (Gross) (All ties must be broken)	550										
	Contestant Rank										

*The final ranking sheet included with the rules shall be used to summarize judges' score sheets.