

# ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FFA

## Rules for Extemporaneous Public 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. Each chapter may enter one FFA member.
3. Props or equipment are not to be used in this CDE.
4. A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking.
5. All participants are required to wear official FFA dress when delivering their speech.

### Subject

1. Prior to the event, the participant should select an area of agriculture from the list below and gather research and references to assist them in composing their speech. The four major agriculture areas are:
  - Agriscience & Technology
  - Agrimarketing & International Agriculture Relations
  - Food & Fiber Systems
  - Urban Agriculture
2. Approximately twenty-five (25) minutes prior to their scheduled speaking time, each participant will draw two topics, which have not been publicized, from their agriculture area. [**Note:** Sample topics are included in these rules, but the topics used in the CDE are not limited to these examples]
3. The participant will speak on the one of the topics chosen and both topics will be placed back in the pool for possible use by a succeeding participant.
4. Each participant will have twenty (20) minutes in which to prepare their speech. The participant may use any reference material brought by themselves to the preparation room. No handwritten reference materials of any type will be allowed.
5. Uniform note cards will be provided each participant. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 20-minute preparation period. Notes may not be prepared prior to the CDE.
6. Each participant's speech is to be the result of his or her own efforts. Training in both composition and delivery are limited to the resources of the school from which the participant comes, but facts and working data may be secured from any source.

### Time Limit

1. Two timekeepers shall be designated to record the time used by each participant in delivering their speech, noting under-time or over-time, if any, for which deductions should be made. Timekeepers should be seated together.
2. Each participant must speak a minimum of three minutes without penalty. At the end of this time, the timer will stand or otherwise signal. The participant may then have two additional minutes to summarize and complete the presentation.
3. Participants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being over five minutes or under three minutes.
4. Time commences when the speaker begins talking.
5. The participant's speech will be followed by a five (5) minute period, during which the judges will ask them questions relating to their speech. The time for the question period will begin when the first judge begins asking a question.

6. At the end of the five-minute question period, the timekeeper(s) will call time. When time is called the speaker, if interrupted, may complete the sentence they were saying or they may stop in mid-sentence with no penalty.

### Method of Selecting Winner

1. Participants will draw for order of speaking. The room host will then introduce each participant by name and topic. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
2. Three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the CDE. When possible, the judges should have an agricultural background.
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. Each judge shall formulate and ask questions that pertain directly to the speaker's subject. All judges will ask at least one question.
5. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided.
6. Judges will score each participant on their ability to answer all questions asked by all judges.
7. The full five minutes for questions should be used.
8. When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total their score on each participant. The timekeepers' records will be used in computing the final score for each participant.
9. Participants shall be ranked in numerical order by each judge without consultation with any other judge.
10. If any judge's scoring results in a tie between two or more speakers, the judge shall be asked to re-score so as to avoid the tie.
11. 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).
12. 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.

### LEVELS OF COMPETITION

1. All section and district CDEs shall be conducted alike and conform with the State Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE 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 Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE will advance to the District competition.
4. The first and second place participants at the District Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE will advance to the State Extemporaneous Public Speaking Semi-Finals.
5. The top three finalists from the semi-finals will compete for the state award at the State FFA Convention.
6. Awards shall be the same as Public Speaking awards on all levels.

## Sample Topics for Extemporaneous Public Speaking

*(These are samples. Additional topics maybe used for the actual CDE)*

### Agriscience & Technology

Using Hydroponics to Produce Food  
Crops  
Using the Earth's Resources  
Reproducing Plants  
Using Biotechnology to Improve Life  
Applying Principles of Soil Science  
Applying Science to Food Preservation  
Designing and Conducting Agricultural  
Research  
Controlling Electrical Current: Circuits,  
Conductors & Insulators  
Soil and Water Relationships: Permeability  
and Drainage  
Animal Breeding and Reproduction

### Agrimarketing & International Agriculture Relations

Selecting a Marketing Strategy  
Establishing Prices for Meat Animals  
Careers in Agriculture Sales  
Using Commodity Futures  
Manufacturing and Distributing  
Agricultural Equipment  
Marketing Horticultural Products and  
Services  
Understanding the World Food and  
Fiber Chain  
United States Policies Affecting World  
Markets  
The Effect of Tariffs and Embargoes on  
World Trade  
How Foreign Competition Affects U.S.  
Trade Opportunities

### Food & Fiber Systems

Methods of Harvesting Timber  
Selecting Seed  
Developing Conservation Plan  
Managing the Cow-Calf Herd  
Managing Market Hogs  
Maximizing Your Crop Harvest  
Conservation Tillage  
The Use of Chemicals in Livestock Feed  
Principles of Field Scouting  
Maintaining Animal Health

### Urban Agriculture

Improving Life with Companion  
Animals  
Urban Encroachment on Farmland  
Developing a Community Garden  
Managing a Pet Store  
Lawn Chemicals and the Urban  
Environment  
Indoor Landscaping  
Managing a Greenhouse  
Developing Community Parks  
Establishing a Farmers Market  
Ag Literacy Activities for Urban  
Residence

## EXPLANATION OF SCORE SHEET POINTS

<b>Extemporaneous Public Speaking</b>		<b>Points</b>
<p>A. Official Dress:</p> <p><b>Male</b> - 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.</p> <p><b>Female</b> - Black closed-toe dress shoes (no tall boots), 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.</p>		100
<p>B. Knowledge of Subject includes:</p>	<p>Importance and appropriateness of the subject Suitability of the material used Accuracy of the statements included Evidence of purpose</p>	200
<p>C. Organization of Material includes:</p>	<p>Relevance to the topic selected Organization of the content Unity of thought Logical development Language used Sentence structure Accomplishment of purpose -- conclusions</p>	150
<p>D. Power of expression includes:</p>	<p>Fluency Emphasis Directness Sincerity Communicative ability Conveyance of thought and meaning</p>	150
<p>E. Voice includes:</p>	<p>Quality Pitch Articulation Pronunciation Force</p>	100
<p>F. Stage presence includes:</p>	<p>Personal appearance Poise and body posture Attitude Confidence Personality Ease before audience</p>	100
<p>G. General effect includes:</p>	<p>Extent to which the speech was interesting Extent to which the speech was understandable Extent to which the speech was convincing Extent to which the speech was pleasing Extent to which the speech held attention</p>	100
<p>H. Response to questions includes:</p>	<p>Originality of response Demonstrates a familiarity with the subject An ability to think quickly</p>	200
<b>Total</b>		<b>1100</b>

**Note:** Judges should meet prior to the CDE to prepare and clarify the questions to be asked.

## FINAL RANKING SHEET

### EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC SPEAKING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

When all contestants have finished speaking, the chairperson of the CDE will assemble the score sheets from all judges and timekeepers. 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 – Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE**

		Order of Speaking												
		Names or Code Numbers of Participants												
Items to be Scored	Points Allowed	Points Awarded to Participants												
1. Official Dress	100													
2. Knowledge of Subject	200													
3. Organization of Material	150													
4. Power of Expression	150													
5. Voice	100													
6. Stage Presence	100													
7. General Effect	100													
8. Response to Questions	200													
Total Points (Gross) (All ties must be broken)	1100													
Less over-time or under-time deductions	1 Point per Second													
Total Points (Net)														
Contestant Rank														

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