

Contestant Number:_____

Judge:_____

Date:_____

P F

-NSGW/Toastmasters International

High School Public Speaking Contest

	Judging Item	Judging Criteria	Excel- lent	Very Good	Good	Fair
Content 50%	Speech Development Structure, Organization, Support material	Speech Development is the way the speaker puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. The speech is structured around a purpose, and this structure must include an opening, body, and conclusion. A good speech immediately engages the audience's attention and then moves forward towards a significant conclusion. This development of speech structure is supported by relevant examples, illustrations, facts, and figures, delivered with such smoothness that they blend into the framework of the speech to present the audience with a unified whole.	20	14-19	9-13	0-8
	Effectiveness Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception	Effectiveness is measured in part by the audience's reception of the speech, but a large part is your subjective judgment of how the speech came across. You should ask yourself such questions as "Was I able to determine the speaker's purpose?" "Did this speech relate directly to that purpose?" "Was the audience's interest held by the speaker?" "Was this speech subject appropriate for this particular audience?"	15	11-14	6-10	0-5
	Speech Value Ideas, Logic, Original Thought	Speech value justifies the act of speaking. The speaker has a responsibility to say something meaningful and original to the audience. The listeners should feel the speaker has made a contribution to their thinking. The ideas should be important ones, although this does not preclude a humorous presentation of them.	15	11-14	6-10	0-5
Delivery 30%	Physical Appearance, Body Language	Physical presentation of a speech carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. The speaker's appearance should reinforce the speech, whether profound, sad, humorous or instructional. Body language should support points through gestures, expressions, and body positioning.	10	7-9	4-6	0-3
	Voice Flexibility, Volume	Voice is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood.	10	7-9	4-6	0-3
	Manner Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm	Manner is the indirect revelation of the speaker's inner self as the speech is delivered. The speaker should speak with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in their reactions.	10	7-9	4-6	0-3
Language 20%	Appropriateness To speech purpose and audience	Appropriateness of language refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech purpose and to the particular audience hearing this speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely.	10	7-9	4-6	0-3
	Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection	Correctness of language ensures that attention will be directed toward what the speaker says, not to how it is said. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words used.	10	7-9	4-6	0-3
Total 100%		Speeches must be between 5 and 7 minutes in duration. A penalty of 1 point per half minute or fraction thereof will be assessed against the speaker if she/he fails to complete the speech within the 5-7 minute time frame.				

Judge's Code of Ethics

Judges will consciously avoid bias of any kind in selecting first, second and third place contestants. They will not consider any contestant's School or Club affiliation. Nor will they consider any contestant's age, sex, race, creed, national origin, profession or political beliefs. They will demonstrate the utmost of objectivity.

