

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING



PURPOSE

To evaluate each contestant's ability to give a speech on an assigned topic with a minimum of advance preparation.

First, download and review the General Regulations at: <http://updates.skillsusa.org>.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA members.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

Class A: SkillsUSA Official Attire

- Red SkillsUSA blazer, windbreaker or sweater, or black or red SkillsUSA jacket.
- Button-up, collared, white dress shirt (accompanied by a plain, solid black tie), white blouse (collarless or small-collared) or white turtleneck, with any collar not to extend into the lapel area of the blazer, sweater, windbreaker or jacket.
- Black dress slacks (accompanied by black dress socks or black or skin-tone seamless hose) or black dress skirt (knee-length) (accompanied by black or skin-tone seamless hose).
- Black dress shoes.

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at: www.skillsusastore.org. If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 1-888-501-2183.

Note: Contestants must wear their official contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting.

OBSERVER RULE

No observers allowed.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the technical committee:
 - a. Reference materials: *SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook*, *Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary*, *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations* and *Roget's Thesaurus*.
 - b. Blank 3"x5" cards.
 - c. Copies of selected speech topic in sealed envelopes.
 - d. Stopwatches as required
 - e. Time cards.
2. Supplied by the contestant:
 - a. Pencil or pen.
 - b. All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit a hard copy to the technical committee chair at orientation. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point penalty.

Note: An iPad or similar device may be used while in the preparation room as a reference tool, but it will not be provided by the technical committee.

Note: Your contest may also require a hard copy of your résumé as part of the actual contest. Check the Contest Guidelines and/or the updates page on the SkillsUSA website at: <http://updates.skillsusa.org>.

ARRANGEMENT OF ROOMS

1. Assembly room: An area where contestants wait their turns to enter the preparation room will be provided.
2. Preparation room: A room furnished with a chair and a table or desk will be provided for the five-minute preparation time. All necessary reference materials and blank 3"x5" cards will be available in this room.
3. Speech presentation room: This room will be furnished with a speaker's stand (lectern) facing the audience and judges.

SCOPE OF THE CONTEST

Knowledge Performance

There is no written knowledge test required for this contest.

Skill Performance

This contest evaluates each contestant's ability to give a speech on an assigned topic with a minimum of advance preparation. A three- to five-minute speech will be delivered with a preparation time of five minutes.

Contest Guidelines

1. Contestants will draw numbers during the pre-contest orientation meeting to determine the order of competition.
2. The technical committee will select a speech topic based upon material in the *SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook*. All contestants will be assigned the same topic.
3. Contestants will enter the preparation room, where they will be given a speech topic. Contestants will have five minutes to determine the content and organize their speeches.
4. During preparation time, contestants may consult reference materials supplied in the preparation room and may make notes on 3"x5" cards for use during the speech. Contestants may not take any outlines, notes or reference materials into the preparation room.
5. The speech shall be at least three minutes in length but shall not exceed five minutes. Penalty: Five points will be deducted for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof under three minutes, or for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof over five minutes.
6. Time limit: Time will be started when the speech begins. The timekeeper will signal the speaker at three minutes, four minutes and five minutes. Contestants will be permitted to use a watch or clock.
7. Contestants will not mention their name, school, city or state at any time in the presentation room. A five-point penalty will be assessed for each occurrence.

Standards and Competencies

ES 1.0 — Design and organize a speech that meets the topical and time requirements as outlined by the technical committee.

- 1.1 Prepare a speech on a leadership topic that lasts three to five minutes in length.
- 1.2 Organize speech in a logical and coherent manner.

ES 2.0 — Deliver the speech in a professional manner meeting the standards outlined by the technical committee.

- 2.1 Make a formal and effective introduction to the presentation that clearly identifies the scope of the speech.
- 2.2 Demonstrate an effective and pleasing delivery style.
- 2.3 Effectively use verbal illustrations and examples.
- 2.4 Pronounce words in a clear and understandable manner.
- 2.5 Use a variety of verbal techniques, including: modulation of voice, changing volume, varied inflection, modifying tempo and verbal enthusiasm.
- 2.6 Demonstrate poise and self-control while presenting.
- 2.7 Demonstrate good platform deportment and personal confidence.
- 2.8 Communicate the primary points of the speech in a compact and complete manner.
- 2.9 Tie organizational elements together with an effective ending.
- 2.10 Complete the speech within the time limits set by contest requirements.

ES 3.0 — Wear appropriate clothing for the national contest.

- 3.1 Display clothing that meets national standards for competition.
- 3.2 Demonstrate good grooming in dress and personal hygiene.

ES 4.0 — SkillsUSA Framework.



The SkillsUSA Framework is used to pinpoint the Essential Elements found in Personal Skills,

Workplace Skills and Technical Skills Grounded in Academics. Students will be expected to display or explain how they used some of these Essential Elements. Please reference the graphic above, as you may be scored on specific elements applied to your project. For more, visit: www.skillsusa.org/about/skillsusa-framework/.

Committee Identified Academic Skills

The technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in this contest.

Math Skills

None Identified

Science Skills

None Identified

Language Arts Skills

- Provide information in oral presentations.
- Demonstrate use of verbal communication skills: word choice, pitch, feeling, tone and voice.
- Demonstrate use of nonverbal communication skills: eye contact, posture and gestures using interviewing techniques to gain information.
- Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational texts.
- Use text structures to aid comprehension.
- Identify words and phrases that signal an author's organizational pattern to aid comprehension.
- Understand source, viewpoint and purpose of texts.
- Organize and synthesize information for use in written and oral presentations.
- Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate reference materials.

Connections to National Standards

State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

Math Standards

None Identified

Source: NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. For more information, visit: www.nctm.org.

Science Standards

None Identified

Source: McREL compendium of national science standards. To view and search the compendium, visit: <http://www2.mcrel.org/compendium/browse.asp>.

Language Arts Standards

- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
- Students use a variety of technological and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, video) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge.
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion and the exchange of information).

Source: IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts. To view the standards, visit: www.ncte.org/standards.