**PF TOPIC:** **Jan-May 2025**

**“Resolved: The United States should substantially reduce its military support of Taiwan.”**

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| **Argument** | **Time (Minute)** | **Purpose** |
| Aff: Speaker 1  Constructive Argument | 2 | Present Team’s Case |
| Neg: Speaker 1  Constructive Argument | 2 | Present Team’s Case |
| Crossfire  Questioning | 1.5 | Speaker 1 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions |
| Prep Time | 2 | Teams can work together to prepare |
| Aff: Speaker 2  Rebuttal | 2 | Refute the opposing side’s arguments |
| Neg: Speaker 2  Rebuttal | 2 | Refute the opposing side’s arguments |
| Crossfire  Questioning | 1.5 | Speaker 2 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions |
| Aff: Speaker 1  Summary | 1.5 | Crystallize the round and zero-in on the most important points |
| Neg: Speaker 1  Summary | 1.5 | Crystallize the round and zero-in on the most important points |
| Grand Crossfire  Questioning | 1.5 | All 4 debaters involved in asking and answering questions at once |
| Prep Time | 1 | Teams can work together to prepare |
| Aff: Speaker 2  Final Focus | 1.5 | Explain reasons they should win the round |
| Neg: Speaker 2  Final Focus | 1.5 | Explain reasons they should win the round |

**Student Congress (CD)**

Contestants in Student Congress become legislators charged with the task of fulfilling the responsibilities of the US Legislative Branch of the federal government.

**Regulations**:

* Student speeches are up to 3 minutes (PO will announce speech times)
* After each speaker, there will be a 1-minute questioning period
* Speeches should be on appropriate topic/side

**Content**:

* Focused on topic
* Organized
* Factual accuracy
* Good composition
* Cited references and evidence

**Delivery**:

* Eye Contact
* Confidence
* Appropriate Tone
* Professional Tone

**Scoring**:

* **Speech Scores: 1 (poor) – 6 (excellent). Competitors can tie speech scores. Score each speech separately. Some competitors may speak more than once.**
* **Rank Competitors: 1 (best) - 8 (look at how many speeches they made, how many points you gave for each speech, their decorum towards the chamber, participation, questioning, etc.)**
* Make detailed & specific positive and negative comments on each ballot
* You should maintain a record for yourself as to who your top three speakers are at any given time

**Public Forum Debate (PF)**

Students work on 2 person teams to support or oppose contentions of a resolve. Teams will be assigned Aff/Neg prior to the round, as indicated on the ballot.

**Regulations**:

* The first argument, which is the constructive case, is pre-prepared and prewritten.
* The other three arguments (rebuttal, summary, and final focus) are written from the flow (notes) during the round. Those three arguments should be based on what points a team proved and link-chained to impact without being blocked.
* PF is designed to be a live debate in which

teams are trying to block and refute their

opponent's case while carrying through

their own evidence-based claims.

* Teams are allowed to bring printed

evidence and articles to use with their

arguments, and do not have to be

memorized.

* Students advocate or reject a resolution in a

manner that is clear to the judge.

* Students offer reasoning and cited evidence

to support their position.

* Students should be arguing the resolution,

and their claims made, not their opponents.

**Content and Delivery**:

* Factually accurate
* Organized
* Focused on topic
* Point of view supported
* Research referenced and evidence cited
* Response and questions in cross-fire
* Confidence
* Speaking rate

**Scoring:**

* **Teams are assigned win (W) or lose (L) with points ranging from 25 (lowest) to 30 (highest)**
* **Indicate the Reason for Decision (RFD)**
* Make detailed & specific positive and negative comments on each ballot
* Do NOT disclose the win or loss at the end of the round.

**SPEECH SCORING:**

* Rank: each student in the room with a 1 being the highest rank.
* Speaker Points: range from 90-100 and correspond with the ranking of the students.
* First place will have the highest number of speaking points and last place will have the lowest. There should be no ties in the room.

**Declamation**

**(DEC)**

Competitors memorize and deliver a portion or portions of a printed, published, & publicly delivered speech previously performed by someone else (commencement addresses, historical speeches, political speeches, celebrity speeches, etc.).

**Regulations:**

* There will be a brief introduction to the piece near the beginning of the speech.
* Time: up to 5 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch)
* Time violations cannot place first (30 second grace period).
* NO NOTES (Paper or Digital)
* Those using notes should not rank first

**Content:**

* Entertaining, relatable, & flows
* Speech choice appropriate for competition

**Delivery**:

* Eye contact
* Volume
* Speaking rate
* Confidence

**Duo Interpretation (DUO)**

Two student team memorize and perform a published scene portraying either single or multiple characters.

**Regulations**:

* Time limit is 5 minutes (please note on ballot)
* Time violations begin after a 30 second grace period
* Piece SHOULD be memorized for 1st place
* Students may not touch or have eye contact except during introduction, no props

**Content**:

* Entertaining
* Piece must be published
* Piece choice challenging and appropriate for competition

**Delivery**:

* Eye contact
* Volume
* Speaking rate
* Confidence

**Interpretation (INT)**

Students memorize and perform a dramatic or humorous piece of published poetry or prose.

**Regulations**:

* Time limit is 5 minutes (please note on ballot)
* Time violations begin after a 30 second grace period
* Piece SHOULD be memorized for 1st place
* Student may use the general area, but not step away from performance spot

**Content**:

* Entertaining
* Piece must be published
* Piece choice challenging and appropriate for competition

**Delivery**:

* Eye contact
* Volume
* Speaking rate
* Confidence

**Original Oratory (OO)**

Students write, memorize, and deliver a speech they have written themselves. This speech should include a problem, the cause and effects of the problem and a suggested solution.

**Regulations**:

* Time limit is 5 minutes (please note on ballot)
* Time violations begin after a 30 second grace period
* Piece SHOULD be memorized for 1st place

**Content**:

* Organized, flows, easy to follow
* Clear message
* Entertaining
* Good composition

**Delivery**:

* Eye contact
* Volume
* Speaking rate
* Confidence

**Impromptu Speaking (IMP)**

Students are given 7 minutes to prepare and speak on a given topic. Students may use the provided index card (they may not use their own or paper) during their speech but should not be reading directly from it.

**Regulations**:

* Time limit is 7 minutes (to plan and speak) (please note speaking time on ballot)
* Time violations begin after a 30 second grace period

**Content**:

* Factually accurate
* Organized
* Focused on topic
* Point of view supported

**Delivery**:

* Eye contact
* Volume
* Speaking rate
* Confidence