

Impromptu Speaking Instructions Bloomington Speech Tournament

It is our sincere hope that the students who try impromptu will not only enjoy themselves but will find the event a real learning experience.

Impromptu speaking is an event that challenges the contestant to quickly comprehend the message of another individual and translate that understanding into a coherent speech for their audience.

Time Limit

- 7 Minutes: The contestant can use as much of this time to prepare and any remaining time will be for the presentation of the speech.
- The contestant must deliver a speech of at least 1 minute in length in order to earn a ranking above a 5.

Quotations

- The contestant will be provided with 2 quotations.
- The contestant will choose 1 of the quotations to speak on in the round.
- The judge should allow approximately 20 seconds for the contestant to read both quotations before the official start of the 7 minute time limit.
- Each of the contestants in a given round will be provided with the same 2 choices of quotations.

Judging Criteria

- Comprehension -- The judge should evaluate whether the contestant understood and was able to explain the meaning of the given quotation.
- Content-- The judge should evaluate the contestant on their use of logic, reasoning and examples in support of their analysis of the quotation.
- Language-- The judge should evaluate the contestants use of language in developing our understanding of the quotation.
- Creativity-- The judge should evaluate the contestants' creativity and originality as they explore the given quotation.

Final Notes

- Contestants -- Please make all attempts to keep our schedule on time. Ask to speak at the beginning of your regular category and then make your way to your Impromptu room. You may not listen to other speakers before you speak. You must wait outside the room until called by the judge.
- Judges -- Please bear in mind that many of the students competing in Impromptu will be doing this event for the first time. Also, remember that most of the students will be double entered, so please wait for all the contestants to arrive and compete before you leave the room. Leave the door open and/or check outside the room after each speaker to keep things moving. **See separate instructions for opening the impromptu draw for the speakers.**