

Judging an Impromptu Round

Quick Guidelines

1. Each competitor will draw one slip of paper from the envelope that you have been provided – each slip of paper contains three topics that the contestant may choose from. The competitor should select ONE of the three topics to speak on in the round.
2. Allow the competitor to leave the room to prepare their speech – the competitor should be allowed 5 minutes in the hallway to prepare their speech. Please start the time for preparation as soon as the competitor has exited the room – let the speaker know when the 5 minute preparation time has elapsed. This preparation time should be timed on your stopwatch or time keeping device.
3. As the first speaker in the round is preparing to speak, the next competitor should draw their topic sheet and go to the hallway to prepare their speech. If the speaker who is presenting does not use the entire 5 minute time for their speech – the competitor in the hallway preparing for the next speech should be given the remainder of the 5 minutes to prepare. I.E. the first speaker gives a speech that lasts only 3 minutes – the next presenter would be allowed 2 additional minutes to prepare once the first speaker has completed their speech.
4. Speakers may use a notecard as described on the ballot.
5. Please only disqualify speakers if they do not remotely address the topic they have chosen. Request their topic sheet before they begin speaking and ask them to tell you which topic from the sheet they have chosen.
6. As with Extemporaneous speaking, the judge may provide time signals to the competitor if they request them.
7. This event is intended to be humorous impromptu – please evaluate students using the criteria on the ballot – take structure and use of humor both into consideration when ranking students.

Thank you and have fun!!