



ORIGINAL ORATORY BALLOT

Student Name _____ Round _____ Section _____
 Student Code / School _____ Judge Name / Affiliation _____
 Topic _____ Length of Speech _____

Please comment on the following areas using the questions as guides. See reverse for OSAA rules.

Introduction

- Did the introduction catch your interest and clearly indicate the belief and/or action that the speech would support?

Content

- Was the speech clearly organized?
- Were there effective transitions between ideas?
- Did the speech contain compelling reasoning and clear evidence of critical thinking by the speaker?
- Did the speaker provide evidence, examples and/or analysis to support the ideas expressed?
- When used, were sources appropriately cited?
- Was the word choice selective and discriminating?

Delivery

- Was the speaker's delivery fluent, natural and communicative?
- Were unmotivated gestures, random movement and artificial vocal variety avoided?

Overall Effectiveness

- What was the total impression of the speech and speaker upon you, the critic, as compared to other speakers in the round?

CIRCLE THE NUMBER BELOW THAT INDICATES THE RATING OF THIS SPEAKER. TIES ARE PERMITTED.

EXCELLENT					GOOD					FAIR									
50	49	48	47	46	45	44	43	42	41	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31

RANK THE SPEAKER COMPARED TO THE OTHER SPEAKERS. NO TIES ARE PERMITTED.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

OSAA ORIGINAL ORATORY RULES

1. **Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.
2. **Subject.** No limitation is placed on subject matter, other than that it be significant and worthy. The composition is to be the student's original work. No more than one hundred and fifty quoted words including all short words such as "a," "an," "the", etc., may be used.
3. **Length.** Each speech is limited to 10 minutes presentation time with no grace period.
 - a) Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.
 - b) If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.
 - c) Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.
4. **Manuscript.** A copy of the speech, including the bibliography, must be available if requested by the Speech State Championships Director at the District or Speech State Championships. Failure to provide a manuscript if requested may be used as a basis for disqualification from the Speech State Championships.
5. **Memorization.** Verbatim memorization is optional. However, departures from the manuscript may not add to the length of the speech.
6. **Changing Speeches.** The oration used in the District Tournament must be used in the Speech State Championships.
7. **Notes.** No notes are permitted and no promptings are allowed.
8. **Instructions to the Judges.** In this contest, the students have chosen their own subjects, written their speeches, and committed them to memory. They are, however, permitted to deviate from the original script in order to make a better adjustment to the speaking situation. Students are expected to choose a significant subject. They may discuss a problem of social, economical, moral, or political importance, or they may praise (eulogize) a person or idea, or inveigh against an immoral practice, law, group, or person. Ordinarily, the student combines argument with emotional appeal. Speakers employ materials and language that are graphic, striking, and sometimes dramatic - but always with the desire to put the speaker's idea across, not to call attention to the speaker's techniques. The oration is a speech, not a dramatic reading.