



Judge Worksheet

Impromptu Mars Hill

Description

The competitor shall have a maximum of 5 minutes to present an impromptu speech that takes a culturally popular topic and creates a bridge between the themes of the topic and the truths of Christianity found in the Bible. (Topics are provided, and can include books, movies, music, etc.). The speaker identifies the themes of the topic that attract us and then transitions from the topic to an underlying biblical truth that best explains our attraction to it. The speaker's goal is to analyze the themes and ideas as they relate to human longings, relate those themes to Christianity, and ultimately show how scriptural truths better satisfy the identified human longings. The speech should be delivered in a conversational style that attracts further dialogue, even from those not sharing the speaker's truth claims.

General Rules

- A maximum of 5 minutes of preparation time is allowed.
- A maximum of 5 minutes speaking time is allowed.
- No outside notes may be used.
- The judge will hand the competitors one blank index card for use in preparation and three topic summaries. The student shall immediately choose one of the topics, and then begin prep time.
- The judge(s) should read their copy of the topic during prep time.
- The speaker shall assume in the speech that the audience knows everything described in the topic summary.
- The speaker should make a smooth and gradual shift from talking about the cultural topic towards a discussion of spiritual truths, recognizing the likelihood of some skepticism on the part of the audience.
- There should be a minimal amount of religious terminology. Religious concepts, and/or any biblically referenced stories, illustrations, etc should be explained in enough depth to make the intended application understood by an individual with no prior knowledge of the Bible.
- Above all, both the content and the delivery of the speech should communicate a humble, sincere and gracious attitude that fosters a positive rapport with those that may not share the same faith.
- Props, costumes, and visual aids are prohibited.

Violations

- Exceeding the time limit will result in a **one rank** penalty.
- Use of a script or notes will result in a **one rank** penalty.

Tabulation Form Instructions:

1. Rank speakers according to rating points assigned on the ballot (highest point speaker gets 1st place, etc.). Place rankings in Column 1. **There can be no ties in rankings.**
2. Transfer all violations from ballots to Column 2. If there are no violations, proceed to last step.
3. If violations exist, add Column 1 and 2 for each speaker and place sums in Column 3.
4. In Column 4, break any ties by advancing the speakers (e.g., from 3rd to 2nd place) with no, or fewer violations.