

Virtual 4-H Contest Invitational

4-H Impromptu Speech - updated 8/2021

Adapted from the Western National Roundup Guidelines

Contest Eligibility



- A. Each state will determine senior division eligibility based on their own state guidelines. This contest is for senior age youth only.
- B. Each States may enter 2 individual contestants in the Impromtu Speech competition.
- C. This is NOT a nationally sanctioned 4-H event. This is a Utah 4-H sponsored event that is open to the senior age 4-H youth in every state. Therefore this does not affect eligibility to compete in any state or national 4-H contest in the future.
- D. All contestants must be enrolled in 4-H in their state in order to compete.

CONTEST RULES

1. Contestants must provide their own writing utensil and paper/note cards for this competition.
2. Contestant will select a number. Each number represents an envelop with three topics randomly selected from the pool of topics. The three topics will be read to the contestant. The contestant can writes down the three topics. Contestant has a maximum of one minute to determine which topic they would like to present. Topics will be relative to today's youth and may include current events, 4-H, and/or social issues. Examples of the type of topics include:
 - a. If I were an author, I would write about...
 - b. One issue facing teenagers today is...
 - c. If I could describe my personality as a tree, which tree would I be...
 - d. What has being involved in 4-H taught me?
3. Topics will be at the discretion of the contest facilitator. Only the facilitator will know the topics prior to the contest. No two contestants will speak on the same topic in the same year.
4. Contestants may not use any costumes, posters, visual aids, or props for their presentations.
5. Contestants are not allowed to present any items to the judges.
6. Contestants will be allowed 3 minutes to organize their thoughts before beginning their presentation. Time will begin when they select their topic.
7. Each speech will be timed and must be between 3-5 minutes in duration. Two points will be deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit.
8. Contestants will be allowed to organize their thoughts on paper/note cards. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
9. Contestants will be presenting their speech to the judges over zoom. Please arrange your background, camera position, etc. which will best represent yourself to give your speech.
10. Contestants will wait in the zoom waiting room and will be admitted into their competition room when the judges are ready for them to present.

11. Contestant order will be pre-determined and emailed to the contestant and coach prior to the competition date. Please enter the zoom waiting room 15 minutes before your competition so you are available when the judges are ready to admit you to the competition room.
12. Depending on the number of contestants, there might be preliminary rounds and the top 2 finalists from each of those rounds will come back for the final impromptu speech competition to select the winner.
13. Ties will be broken by the judges.

Awards

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion winners will be recognized for the Prepared Speech:

- Grand Champion - Certificate and Award
- Reserve Grand Champion - Certificate and Award

Winners will be announced at the virtual awards ceremony Saturday night. All certificates will be emailed to contestants and awards will be mailed to the contestants home after the the Virtual 4-H Contest Invitational.

**Virtual 4-H Contest Invitational
4-H Imprompt Speech
Score Sheet**

CONTESTANT NAME:

SPEECH TOPIC:

STATE:

BASIS FOR SCORING

Points
Value

Points
Earned

Comments:

A. Organization

1. Introduction: (Attention getting, indicates direction and purpose of speech)	9	
2. Body: (Main Points clearly stated, important point were easy to follow)	12	
3. Conclusion: (Stresses Important points, has definite closing)	9	
4. Overall Quality (Did not repeat content to fill time, originality, topic coverage)	10	
5. Related topic to 4-H and/or today's youth	10	

B. Delivery

1. Bodily Action: (Poise, eye contact, gestures, speaker;s attitude)	15	
2. Voice: (Pitch, quality, force rate articulation, pronunciation)	15	
3. Language Effectiveness:: (Appropriate words, skillful in using meaningful quotes/ facts/research)	10	

D. General

1. Personal Appearance	10	
Total Points:	100	0
deduction of points for time limit violations if needed		
Speech Time:		

Time limit is 3-5 minutes. Participants will be given a 30 second reminder before the minimum time is met and a 30 second warning before the end of time period. Penalty of 2 points for each 30 seconds over or under on time. (Example seconds 1-29 over or under time limit will not be penalized but 30 seconds or more will have points deducted)

Final Score:

0

Virtual 4-H Contest Invitational Impromptu Speech Contest Score Sheet Explanation

A. Organization

1. **Introduction:** Does the introduction catch the interest of the audience while presenting both the purpose and subject of the speech?
2. **Body:** Are the main points clearly stated? Does the speaker follow through with the purpose of the speech? Do ideas center around a central theme in a logical order, easily followed and understood by listeners?
3. **Conclusion:** Does the conclusion tie the main points of the speech to the purpose in an interesting way that makes the audience remember the speech?
4. **Overall Quality:** Does the presentation include specific pertinent information about the subject in specific detail? Is information repeated to fill time? Is the information shared creative and original?
5. **Related Topic to 4-H and/or Today's Youth:** Does the speaker relate the answer to the question back to 4-H, their experience in 4-H or explain how it relates to today's youth?

B. Delivery

1. **Bodily Action:** Is the speaker poised and confident? Does the speaker maintain eye contact with the audience? Are movements and gestures natural, purposeful, and spontaneous?
2. **Voice:** Is the speaker pleasant to listen to and loud enough to be heard? Is the speaker's voice clear, steady, rich, and full? Does the speaker vary the pitch of his/her voice for interest? Does the speaker use the rate at which he/she speaks effectively?
3. **Language Effectiveness:** Does the speaker chose appropriate words to share: Are any quotes, facts, or figures used to explain the topic? Does the speaker use a variety of examples to explain the topic?

C. General

1. **Personal Appearance:** Is the speaker clean, fresh, tidy, neat, and well groomed? Hairstyle, jewelry, makeup, etc., should not distract the audience or the presenter.

Deduction for time: Time limit is 3-5 minutes. Participants will be given a 30 second reminder before the minimum time is met (at 5 minutes 30 seconds) and a 30 second warning before the end of time period (at 7 minutes 30 seconds). Penalty of 2 points for each 30 seconds over or under on time. (Example seconds 1-29 will not be penalized but 30 seconds or more will have points deducted)