Speak Out

LEVEL: Grades 9 - 12

TYPE OF CONTEST: Team

COMPOSITION OF TEAM: 3 students per team

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: Preliminary – As determined by your local MESA Center Regional – 3 for 9th/10th Grade; 3 for 11th/12th Grade per Center

SPONSOR: Dr. Maria Garcia-Sheets, Director, University of the Pacific MSP

OVERVIEW: Students will work as a team to choose a topic from the official presentation topic options. Team members will prepare and deliver a short oral presentation that clearly expresses their collective ideas. The competition is designed to encourage teamwork. The visual materials will reinforce the team’s points. All team members will participate in the organization, preparation, and delivery of presentation. Participation logistics, limits, and competition facilities may vary by host site. Advisors and students are responsible for verifying this information with their Center director.

MATERIALS: The Host Center will provide the following:
• Presentation Topics (to be received in advance)
• Overhead Projector
• Flip Chart Stand

The student presenter will provide the following:
• Visual Material (Aid)

Before MESA Preliminaries, the Host Center will inform the Centers about whether, or not, a Data Projector and compatible Laptop Computer will be provided at MESA Day. It is the responsibility of the Advisors and students to confirm whether this optional equipment will be available before MESA Day, and to check about what format the Power Point Presentation should be transported and transmitted.

GENERAL RULES:
1) A team consists of 3 members; each member of the team will actively, and equally, participate in the oral presentation.
2) Teams will select one topic from the official Topic list provided in advance of competitions.
3) Team members will practice their presentation before MESA Day; so all members know their presentation thoroughly. Students may speak from note cards, but they will not read their presentations.

4) Teams must use at least one visual aid or materials, such as a prop, model, chart, graph, picture, overhead transparency, or simple Power Point to reinforce their ideas.

5) An Overhead Projector and Flip Chart Stand will be available, if teams choose to use either one to display their visual materials.

6) Teams who advance to MESA Day Finals may use the same topic they prepared for the Preliminaries.

7) Teams are expected to research their topics, and to incorporate the researched concepts into their oral presentations. Team members may choose from these samples of research methods, or select their own: interview and quote knowledgeable people; use data from written sources, including relevant websites; find relevant illustrations, data, and examples.

8) Each team will have one (1) minute to prepare, and four to five (4 to 5) minutes to present.

9) Teams will draw numbers to determine their speaking order. Once the speaking order is established, no late arrivals may join the competition.

10) Once a presentation begins, interruptions will not be permitted.

JUDGING:

1) Judges will assemble all competing teams of students in the assigned room, read the rules, explain procedures, clarify judges’ scoring criteria, and answer any related questions; teams not composed of three individuals will not be allowed to compete.

2) Judges will excuse all presenters from the room, and call in each competing team one-by-one.

3) Only Judges, appointed staff, and competing teams will be allowed in the room.

4) Judges will provide time signals for students at these intervals: One (1) Minute, Thirty (30) Seconds, and Five (5) Seconds before time is called.

5) Following each presentation, judges will evaluate each team according to the official Scoring Rubric before the next team is allowed in the room to begin its presentation.

6) Teams must give their presentations in the order drawn. No exceptions and no late arrivals allowed.

7) Judges will rate each team on a graduated scale for a possible total of 100 points. The Scoring Criteria consists of a rubric that includes areas pertaining to the overall team presentation: Content, Overall Presentation, Oral Performance, and Visual Performance.

8) A five-point (5) deduction will be taken if a presentation is less than four (4) minutes long, or more than five (5) minutes. Teams will be stopped if they exceed 5-1/2 minutes.

9) In the event of a tie, duplicate awards will be given.

AWARDS:

- Awards will be given per grade level: 9th/10th grade and 11th/12th grade.
- Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDIX:

- Topics for Oral Presentation
- 9th/10th Grade Oral Presentation Scoring Rubric
- 11th/12th Grade Oral Presentation Scoring Rubric
Speak Up
TOPICS FOR ORAL PRESENTATION
STUDENT COMPETITION
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

• Choose ONE of the three (3) topics listed below.
• Prepare your Team Oral Presentation to inform an audience, in this case, a panel of Judges.
• Help support your verbal presentation with evidence and research, as well as through an eye-catching visual aid or materials that are effective, straightforward, and educational. Your Visual Aid or Materials may be a Power Point presentation, overhead transparency slide(s), chart(s), model(s), prop, graph(s), picture(s), or other type of visual material.
• Prepare and practice your presentation before speaking, so that each team member is able to speak easily and directly to the audience. Note cards may be used for reference, but team members must not read their presentations.

Topics:

1. Discuss toxin and pesticide use in California; explain why their use is both an environmental and health issue.

2. Explain why Engineers should find a replacement for oil and oil based products and identify one promising renewable source that would take the place of oil.

3. Explain the computer science used in developing self-driving cars, discuss how the technology can be used in other devices in the future.
# Speak Up 10th/11th Grade
## Oral Presentation Scoring Rubric

Student name: ____________________________________________________________

Grade: __________________________________________________________________

School: __________________________________________________________________

MESA Center: ____________________________________________________________

**Rate the speaker on each point:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent = 5</th>
<th>Good = 4</th>
<th>Average = 3</th>
<th>Fair = 2</th>
<th>Poor = 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction gained attention and interest</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Main points clearly organized and easy to follow</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Main points supported with sufficient evidence</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Evidence from qualified sources</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Reasoning clear and sound</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Need issue dealt with convincingly</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Speaker’s plan clearly explained</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Practicality of plan demonstrated</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Connectives used efficiently</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Language is clear and concise</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Conclusion reinforced the central idea</td>
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<td>12. Sufficient eye contact</td>
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<td>13. Voice used to add impact</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Physical action effective</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Speech well adapted to the audience</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Visuals used to support and enhance ideas discussed</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Comments:**

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**Presentation Length:** ____ mins & ____ sec **Time Deduction:** YES/NO

**Total Score:** ____/80 **Judge:** ____________________________

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Master Set

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# Speak Up $11^{th}/12^{th}$ Grade
## Oral Presentation Scoring Rubric

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**Grade:** _____________________________  
**School:** _____________________________  
**MESA Center:** _____________________________  

**Rate the speaker on each point:**

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**Presentation Length:** _____ mins & _____ sec  
**Time Deduction:** YES/NO

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**Judge:** _____________________________  

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