



# MESA DAY CONTEST RULES 2014-2015

## Speak Out

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>LEVEL:</b>               | 11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> grades   |
| <b>TYPE OF CONTEST:</b>     | <b>Team</b>  |
| <b>COMPOSITION OF TEAM:</b> | A team = <b>3</b> students per team (teams are school-site based and must be composed of <b>three</b> members to participate in competition) |
| <b>NUMBER OF TEAMS:</b>     | 3 teams per Center   |
| <b>SPONSORS:</b>            | Dr. Maria Garcia-Sheets, University of the Pacific, MSP Center   |

**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.

**MATERIALS:** The Host Center will provide the following:

- Presentation Topics (to be received in advance)
- Overhead Projector
- Flip Chart Stand

The Team 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.

## **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 Criteria 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 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Topics  
Scoring Criteria



# MESA DAY CONTEST RULES 2014-2015

## **Speak Out** **TOPICS FOR ORAL PRESENTATION** **TEAM COMPETITION** **Grades 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 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. **Explain cloning and discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the technology.**
2. **Explain why our oceans are considered “endangered” and discuss what can be done to improve our current problems.**
3. **Discuss the growing demand for oil and offer two scientific solutions that will significantly lower that demand.**

# ORAL PRESENTATION SCORING CRITERIA

## 2014-2015 MESA Student Contest – *Speak Out*, Grades 11-12

**STUDENT  
NAME:**

**GRADE:  
SCHOOL:**

**MESA  
CENTER:**

| <b>Content</b><br>(Body of Talk)<br>Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Topic, Logic/reasoning, Data, Research, and Conclusion   | <b>Overall Presentation</b><br>(Order, Flow & Engagement of the Audience)<br>Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Introduction, Pace, Flow, Content, and Attention   | <b>Oral Performance</b><br>(Student Voice and Presence)<br>Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Voice, Demeanor, Eye contact, Gestures, posture, & physical activities, and Speaker   | <b>Visual Performance</b><br>(Visual Material, Enhancement of Presentation)<br>Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Comprehension and Use   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <u>Each item in section worth 8 points each = Excellent</u><br>___ <b>Topic:</b> very clearly introduced, explained, and thoroughly understood<br>___ <b>Logic and reasoning:</b> sound and well described<br>___ <b>Data:</b> (quotes, examples) very clearly analyzed, explained, and tied directly to topic<br>___ <b>Research:</b> sound, evident, and directly linked to topic<br>___ <b>Conclusion:</b> well thought out and accurate | <u>Each item in section worth six points = Excellent</u><br>___ <b>Introduction:</b> creative, well linked to topic, each member clearly discusses responsibilities<br>___ <b>Pace:</b> skillful use of appropriate pauses and timing<br>___ <b>Flow:</b> moves smoothly from point-to-point<br>___ <b>Content:</b> stays focused on the topic<br>___ <b>Attention:</b> presentation captures audience & judges from beginning to end                          | <u>Each item in section worth 4 points = Excellent</u><br>___ <b>Voice:</b> all voices heard and understood throughout room<br>___ <b>Demeanor:</b> all appearance highly suited for event, evident polish of performance (no verbal mistakes)<br>___ <b>Eye contact:</b> distributed throughout room by all<br>___ <b>Gestures, posture &amp; physical activities:</b> skillfully draw attention to speakers and visual materials<br>___ <b>Speakers:</b> conveys genuine interest in topic, engages with audience, avoids use of “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking. | <u>Each item in section worth 5 points = Excellent</u><br>___ <b>Comprehension:</b> polished visuals skillfully contribute to audience understanding<br>___ <b>Use:</b> smoothly incorporated into oral presentation  |
| <u>Each item in section worth 6 points each = Good</u><br>___ <b>Topic:</b> some aspects well explained and understood<br>___ <b>Logic:</b> most indications sound, reasonable, and well described<br>___ <b>Data:</b> presented/explained well, but not directly related to topic<br>___ <b>Research:</b> evident, but not directly linked to topic<br>___ <b>Conclusion:</b> lacks detail or includes a misconception                     | <u>Each item in section worth 5 points = Good</u><br>___ <b>Introduction:</b> prepared, linked to topic, each member's responsibilities discussed<br>___ <b>Pace:</b> effective use of timing with few appropriate pauses<br>___ <b>Flow:</b> 1 or 2 ineffective transitions between points<br>___ <b>Content:</b> rarely strays from topic<br>___ <b>Attention:</b> presentation engages audience & judges from beginning to end                              | <u>Each item in section worth 3 points = Good</u><br>___ <b>Voice:</b> few situations with poor voice projection<br>___ <b>Demeanor:</b> appearances suited for event, presentation practiced, but 1 or 2 verbal mistakes made<br>___ <b>Eye contact:</b> distributed to most, but not all audience members by some members<br>___ <b>Gestures, posture &amp; physical activities:</b> contribute effectively to speakers and visual materials<br>___ <b>Speakers:</b> attentive to topic and audience, 1 or 2 instances of using “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking   | <u>Each item in section worth 4 points = Good</u><br>___ <b>Comprehension:</b> good visuals contribute effectively to audience understanding<br>___ <b>Use:</b> effective use incorporated into presentation  |
| <u>Each item in section worth 4 points each = Average</u><br>___ <b>Topic:</b> very few aspects well explained and understood<br>___ <b>Logic:</b> minimal, with reasoning poorly described<br>___ <b>Data:</b> unclear, poorly analyzed or explained, not related to topic<br>___ <b>Research:</b> little, with few links to topic<br>___ <b>Conclusion:</b> unrelated to topic, or misleading   | <u>Each item in section worth 4 points = Average</u><br>___ <b>Introduction:</b> Somewhat prepared, somewhat linked to topic, not all member responsibilities discussed<br>___ <b>Pace:</b> timing uneven, negatively affecting comprehension of message<br>___ <b>Flow:</b> several poor transitions between points<br>___ <b>Content:</b> strays from topic repeatedly<br>___ <b>Attention:</b> some aspects of presentation do not engage audience & judges | <u>Each item in section worth 2 points = Average</u><br>___ <b>Voice:</b> repeated lapses in voice projection which impede comprehension<br>___ <b>Demeanor:</b> appearances somewhat inappropriate, presentation less practiced with 3 or 4 verbal mistakes made<br>___ <b>Eye contact:</b> sporadic<br>___ <b>Gestures, posture &amp; physical activities:</b> not well suited for presentation<br>___ <b>Speakers:</b> slightly engaged with topic and audience, 3 or 4 instances of using “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking                                       | <u>Each item in section worth 3 points = Average</u><br>___ <b>Comprehension:</b> visual content somewhat unclear or display difficult to see, impeding audience understanding<br>___ <b>Use:</b> ineffective use incorporated into presentation (displayed, but not discussed) |
| <u>Each item in this section worth 2 points each = Poor</u><br>___ <b>Topic:</b> no discussion<br>___ <b>Logic:</b> none offered<br>___ <b>Data:</b> none offered<br>___ <b>Research:</b> none offered, or, if offered, no link to topic<br>___ <b>Conclusion:</b> none provided  | <u>Each item in section worth 3 points = Poor</u><br>___ <b>Introduction:</b> unprepared, link to topic obscured, members do not discuss responsibilities<br>___ <b>Pace:</b> poor timing which impedes comprehension of message<br>___ <b>Flow:</b> erratic, no clear point-to-point discussion<br>___ <b>Content:</b> off topic<br>___ <b>Attention:</b> presentation does not engage audience & judges  | <u>Each item in section worth 1 point = Poor</u><br>___ <b>Voice:</b> very difficult to hear and comprehend<br>___ <b>Demeanor:</b> appearances inappropriate, presentation unrefined with many verbal mistakes made<br>___ <b>Eye contact:</b> poor eye contact, focused on one person or none<br>___ <b>Gestures, posture &amp; physical activities:</b> inappropriate or missing<br>___ <b>Speakers:</b> appear disengaged from topic and audience, frequent use of “um, like,” and “you know” while speaking  | <u>Each item in section worth 2 points = Poor</u><br>___ <b>Comprehension:</b> visuals poor (in content and ability to see), or missing<br>___ <b>Use:</b> very little, or no, attempt made to use visuals  |
| Score for Column: add up five checks<br><div style="text-align: center;"><b>/40</b></div>   | Score for Column: add up five checks<br><div style="text-align: center;"><b>/30</b></div>  | Score for Column: add up five checks<br><div style="text-align: center;"><b>/20</b></div>   | Score for Column: add up 2 checks<br><div style="text-align: center;"><b>/10</b></div>  |
|   | <b>Judge</b>   | <b>Time</b><br><u>5 point deduction for being under or over time limit</u>  | <b>Total</b><br>(possible 100 points)   |