

2025 - 2026 District Speech Contest Theme

This year's theme for our speech contest:
"Unite for Good: Together, We Make Dreams Come True"

CHECKLIST

Section 4: Judge/Teller Instructions and Score Sheets

- Checklist
- Teller's Instructions
- Judges Ballot
- Tiebreaking Ballot
- Timer's Instructions

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2025 – January 2026 – Flyers and notices sent to schools

January – March 2026 – Club level contests held

March – April 15, 2026 – Area level contests held

April 20, 2026 - Area winners' names and contact information due to District Chairman

May 2, 2026, 9:00 am – District Conference Contest, Grand Sierra Resort - Reno, NV

District 5190's Speech Contest Teller's Instructions

This year's theme for our speech contest:
"Unite for Good: Together, We Make Dreams Come True"

- Contestants receive a point score of:
 - 30 for First Place
 - 20 for Second Place
 - 10 for Third Place
- Record the point scored by each judge for each contestant. (30, 20 or 10)
- Total the scores for each contestant.
- Subtract timekeeper's penalties, if any.
- Calculate the judges' total placement score.
- If there is a tie, use the tiebreaker ballot to determine the winner.
 - Example: If contestants 1 & 2 both score the highest @ 100 points each, the one that places highest on the tiebreaker ballot wins, and the other comes in second.
- Sign the sheet at the bottom and give to the Master of Ceremonies.

Keep all copies of judges scores. Under no circumstances are the judges' scored sheets or your tally sheet to be shown to contestants, coaches or parents. Thank you for helping us today.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th
Judge #1 Placement Score											
Judge #2 Placement Score											
Judge #3 Placement Score											
Judge #4 Placement Score											
Judges' Total of Placement											
Minus Timekeeper Points											
Judges' Total Score											
Place Awarded											

Contest Location: _____ Date: _____

Teller's Signature: _____

		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				Speech Contest Judge's Ballot										
Judging Items (See Descriptions)		E X C E L L E N T	V E R Y G O O D	G O O D	F A I R	This year's theme for our speech contest: <i>"Unite for Good: Together, We Make Dreams Come True"</i>										
						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DEVELOPMENT Structure, Organization, Support Material	C O N T E N T 50	20	14 - 19	9 - 13	0 - 8											
EFFECTIVENESS Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5											
SPEECH VALUE Ideas, Logic, Original Thought		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5											
PHYSICAL Appearance, Body Language	D E L I V E R Y 30	10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
VOICE Flexibility, Volume		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
MANNER Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
APPROPRIATENESS To Speech Purpose and Audience	L A N G U A G E 20	10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
CORRECTNESS Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
TOTAL SCORE (100 POINTS POSSIBLE)																

Rotary Judge's Ballot (Must be ranked first, second and third to be valid)

PLACE	CONTESTANT NUMBER	POINTS
FIRST		30
SECOND		20
THIRD		10

		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				Speech Contest Judge's Tiebreaker Ballot This year's theme for our speech contest: <i>"Unite for Good: Together, We Make Dreams Come True"</i>										
		E X C E L L E N T	V E R Y G O O D	G O O D	F A I R											
Judging Items (See Descriptions)						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DEVELOPMENT Structure, Organization, Support Material	C O N T E N T	20	14 - 19	9 - 13	0 - 8											
EFFECTIVENESS Achievement of Purpose, Interest, Reception		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5											
SPEECH VALUE Ideas, Logic, Original Thought		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5											
PHYSICAL Appearance, Body Language	D E L I V E R Y	10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
VOICE Flexibility, Volume		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
MANNER Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
APPROPRIATENESS To Speech Purpose and Audience	L A N G U A G E	10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
CORRECTNESS Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3											
TOTAL SCORE (100 POINTS POSSIBLE)																

Rotary Judge's Tiebreaker Ballot (Must be ranked to be valid)

PLACE	CONTESTANT	PLACE	CONTESTANT	PLACE	CONTESTANT
First		Fourth		Seventh	
Second		Fifth		Eighth	
Third		Sixth		Ninth	

District 5190's Speech Contest Timekeeper's Instructions

1. On the sheet below, record the minutes and seconds each speaker lasts. Begin timing after the speaker has addressed the audience and stated the title of his or her speech. If the contestant begins without addressing the audience or stating the title, begin timing immediately. After each speech ends, time one minute for the judges to complete their score sheets. No talking by the audience during this minute.
2. After recording the time, calculate the number of penalty points. Speeches are limited to a minimum of five minutes and a maximum of seven minutes.
Participants lose 3 points for each minute or fraction thereof under 5 or over 7 minutes. Enter zero (0) if there is no time penalty.

Example: If a contestant's time is 8:05, the contestant has a penalty of 6 points, 3 points for the minute over and 3 points for the additional fraction of a minute over the limit.

3. Turn this sheet in to the teller after the last contestant has spoken.

CONTESTANT	TIME		PENALTY POINTS
1	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
2	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
3	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
4	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
5	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
6	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
7	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
8	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
9	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
10	Min _____	Sec _____	_____
11	Min _____	Sec _____	_____