



MESA DAY CONTEST RULES 2011-2012

Speak Easy

LEVEL:	11 th & 12 th grades
TYPE OF CONTEST:	Individual Impromptu Oral Presentation
NUMBER OF STUDENTS:	3 students per Center
SPONSORS:	Maria Garcia-Sheets, University of the Pacific MSP Center

OVERVIEW: Students will randomly choose one official topic prior to speaking. Students will think about and deliver short, focused, impromptu oral presentations.

MATERIALS: The Host Center will provide the following:
A quiet space for students to prepare their presentation

RULES:

- 1) Students randomly select **one** question from the official three (3) Topic Areas: **Hydraulic Fracturing, Cryosphere, and Industrialized World Waste**. Each student has the same chance of selecting one of 12 questions created for the competition (four questions created for each Topic Area).
- 2) Topics are selected one minute (60 seconds) before speaking.
- 3) Students who advance to MESA Day Finals will have 12 new questions from which to choose created from the same Topic Areas used in the Prelims.
- 4) Students will draw numbers to determine their speaking order. Once the speaking order is established, no late arrivals may join the competition.
- 5) Each student presenter will have one (1) minute to think about his or her topic, and two-and-one-half to three (2-1/2 to 3) minutes to speak and conclude the talk.
- 6) Presenters may jot down notes for reference during the 1-minute preparation time, but they will not read their presentations.

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

JUDGING:

- 1) Judges will assemble all competing students in the assigned room, read the rules, explain procedures, clarify judging criteria, and answer any related questions.
- 2) Judges will excuse all speakers from the room, and call in each competitor one-by-one.
- 3) Only Judges, assigned staff, and competitors 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 speaker according to the Official Evaluation Criteria, before the next speaker is allowed in the room to begin his or her presentation.
- 6) Student must give their presentations in the order drawn. No exceptions and no late arrivals allowed.
- 7) Judges will rate each student on a graduated scale for a possible total of 100 points. The Scoring Criteria consists of a rubric that includes areas pertaining to the student's overall presentation: Content, Overall Presentation, Oral Performance, and Improvisation.
- 8) A five-point (5) deduction will be taken if a presentation is less than two and a half (2-1/2) minutes long, or more than three (3) minutes. Speakers will be stopped if they exceed 3-1/2 minutes.
- 9) In the event of a tie, duplicate awards will be given.

AWARDS: Awards will be given to students for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

ATTACHMENTS: Scoring Criteria



ORAL PRESENTATION SCORING CRITERIA

2011-2012 MESA Student Contest – *Speak Easy*, Grades 11-12

**STUDENT
NAME:**

**GRADE:
SCHOOL:**

**MESA
CENTER:**

Content (Body of Talk) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Topic, Logic/reasoning, Interpretation of question, Examples, and Conclusion	Overall Presentation (Order, Flow & Engagement of the Audience) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Introduction, Pace, Flow, Content, and Attention	Oral Performance (Student Voice and Presence) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Voice, Demeanor, Eye contact, Gestures, posture, & physical activities, and Speaker	Improvisation (Ad Hoc Clarity and Presence) Provide ONE check for each of the evaluation categories: Presentation and Delivery
<u>Each item in section worth 8 points each = Excellent</u> ___ Topic: very clearly introduced, explained, and thoroughly understood ___ Logic and reasoning: sound and well described ___ Interpretation of question: creative, original, student well informed and prepared ___ Examples: sound, evident, and directly linked to topic ___ Conclusion: well thought out and accurate	<u>Each item in section worth six points = Excellent</u> ___ Introduction: creative, highly unique, interesting, and well linked to topic ___ Pace: skillful use of appropriate pauses and timing ___ Flow: moves smoothly from point-to-point ___ Content: stays focused on the topic ___ Attention: presentation captures audience & judges from beginning to end	<u>Each item in section worth 4 points = Excellent</u> ___ Voice: heard and understood throughout room ___ Demeanor: appearance highly suited for event, evident polish of performance (no verbal mistakes) ___ Eye contact: distributed throughout room ___ Gestures, posture & physical activities: skillfully draw attention to speaker ___ Speaker: 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> ___ Presentation: extraordinary and skillfully developed, contributing widely to audience understanding ___ Delivery: impressively poised, eloquent, and polished
<u>Each item in section worth 6 points each = Good</u> ___ Topic: some aspects well explained and understood ___ Logic: most indications sound, reasonable, and well described ___ Interpretation of question: plausible, student informed and prepared ___ Examples: evident, but not directly linked to topic ___ Conclusion: lacks detail or includes a misconception	<u>Each item in section worth 5 points = Good</u> ___ Introduction: original, of interest, and linked to topic ___ Pace: effective use of timing with few appropriate pauses ___ Flow: 1 or 2 ineffective transitions between points ___ Content: rarely strays from topic ___ Attention: presentation engages audience & judges from beginning to end	<u>Each item in section worth 3 points = Good</u> ___ Voice: few situations with poor voice projection ___ Demeanor: appearance suited for event, obvious practice, but 1 or 2 verbal mistakes made ___ Eye contact: distributed to most, but not all audience members ___ Gestures, posture & physical activities: contribute effectively to speaker ___ Speaker: 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> ___ Presentation: accomplished and well developed, contributing effectively to audience understanding ___ Delivery: confident, articulate, and well practiced
<u>Each item in section worth 4 points each = Average</u> ___ Topic: very few aspects well explained and understood ___ Logic: minimal, with reasoning poorly described ___ Interpretation of question: implausible, student poorly informed and prepared ___ Examples: few, with few links to topic ___ Conclusion: unrelated to topic, or misleading	<u>Each item in section worth 4 points = Average</u> ___ Introduction: lacking originality, link to topic clear, but not well done ___ Pace: timing uneven, negatively affecting comprehension of message ___ Flow: several poor transitions between points ___ Content: strays from topic repeatedly ___ Attention: some aspects of presentation do not engage audience & judges	<u>Each item in section worth 2 points = Average</u> ___ Voice: repeated lapses in voice projection which impede comprehension ___ Demeanor: appearance somewhat inappropriate, presentation less practiced with 3 or 4 verbal mistakes made ___ Eye contact: sporadic ___ Gestures, posture & physical activities: not well suited for presentation ___ Speaker: 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> ___ Presentation: commonplace and somewhat developed, contributing fairly to audience understanding ___ Delivery: competent, efficient, and somewhat practiced
<u>Each item in this section worth 2 points each = Poor</u> ___ Topic: no discussion ___ Logic: none offered ___ Interpretation of question: none offered, student uninformed and unprepared ___ Examples: none offered, or, if offered, no link to topic ___ Conclusion: none provided	<u>Each item in section worth 3 points = Poor</u> ___ Introduction: unoriginal, with link to topic obscured ___ Pace: poor timing which impedes comprehension of message ___ Flow: erratic, no clear point-to-point discussion ___ Content: off topic ___ Attention: presentation does not engage audience & judges	<u>Each item in section worth 1 point = Poor</u> ___ Voice: very difficult to hear and comprehend ___ Demeanor: appearance inappropriate, presentation unrefined with many verbal mistakes made ___ Eye contact: poor eye contact, focused on one person or none ___ Gestures, posture & physical activities: inappropriate or missing ___ Speaker: appears 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> ___ Presentation: inadequate and unprepared, does not contribute to audience understanding ___ Delivery: unskilled, inefficient, and unpracticed
Score for Column: add up five checks /40	Score for Column: add up five checks /30	Score for Column: add up five checks /20	Score for Column: add up 2 checks /10
	Judge	Time <u>5 point deduction for being under or over time limit</u>	Total (possible 100 points)