



LOUISIANA FFA

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT
PREPARED PUBLIC
SPEAKING

Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event

Purpose:

The prepared public speaking program is a Leadership Development Event designed to involve students in preparing and delivering a speech related to the field of agriculture.

Objectives:

1. To encourage students to pursue in depth study of agricultural interests.
2. To develop students' ability to prepare and organize a speech.
3. To develop students' abilities to communicate ideas.
4. To develop students' abilities to express themselves in a clear coherent manner to an audience.

Event Format:

The Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event consists of three phases:

PHASE I Participants organize, prepare, and write a six to eight minute speech.

PHASE II Participants present their prepared speech to a panel of judges.

PHASE III Judges are allowed to ask the participant questions related to the speech for five minutes.

Rules and Regulations:

1. All rules and regulations for the National LDE, as announced in the current National FFA LDE Handbook will be observed in all sub-district, district, area and State LDEs.
2. All general rules apply except as indicated in the specific rules of this LDE.
3. Sub-district or parish, district and area contests will be held as per schedule forwarded to all Agriculture Education departments. The top **four** competitors from Sub-District and District competitions will move on to the Area competition. The top **two** competitors from Area will advance to the State competition. *Revised 2010*
4. A contestant may participate in only one of the speaking contests on the local, district, area, and state levels during any one year. Gulf of Mexico speakers are allowed to compete in both the Prepared Speaking LDE and the Gulf of Mexico Speaking LDE as is specified in the Gulf LDE rules.
5. First place winners in any previous State Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event are ineligible to compete in succeeding events.
6. Contestants are required to wear FFA jackets and ties or scarves. Members are required to wear official dress at all levels of competition. *(Revised 2010)*
7. Each participant's manuscript will be the result of his or her own efforts. It is expected that the participant will take advantage of all available training facilities at his or her local school in developing his or her speaking ability. Facts and working data may be secured from any source but must be

appropriately documented. Subjects: Participants may choose any current subject of an agricultural nature for their speeches. This may include the areas of agribusiness, animal systems, plant systems, environmental services, food products and processing, natural resource systems and power, structural and technical systems. Official judges of the Louisiana FFA Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event shall disqualify a participant if he or she speaks on a non-agricultural subject.

8. MANUSCRIPT

- Manuscripts are to be submitted in PDF or Word format by the designated deadline.
 - A penalty of 20 points (10 percent of available manuscript points) will be assessed by the judges scoring the manuscripts for any late submissions.
 - Manuscripts received later than the deadline will not be entered into the event and the speaker may be disqualified from speaking in the event.
- Manuscript requirements:
 - Formatted to 8 1/2" x 11" double spaced with a 1" margin
 - Cover page including the speech title, participant's name, state and year
 - Font size must be 12 point using a serif (Times New Roman, Cambria, etc.) or sans serif font (Ariel, Calibri, etc.)
 - Follow most current APA style guide for developing reference list and in text citations
- Manuscripts not meeting these guidelines will be penalized.
- A complete and accurate reference list should be included in manuscript.
- All participants in the FFA Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event should give credit to others where any direct quotes, phrases or special dates are used in the manuscript, in order not to be guilty of plagiarism.
- A bibliography MUST be included as part of the public speaker's manuscript and direct quotes from any other source of information must be marked in "Quotes" on the manuscript and be identified in the bibliography. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify a contestant.

9. Time Limit:

- Each speech shall be a minimum of six (6) minutes in length and maximum of eight (8) minutes.
- Each contestant will be allowed five (5) minutes additional time in which he or she will be asked questions relating to his or her speech.
- Contestants are to be penalized on point per second on each judge's score sheet for being under six minutes or over eight minutes.
- No time warnings will be given

10. Three competent and impartial persons with agricultural backgrounds will be selected to judge the LDE

11. Scoring

- Prior to the sub district, district, & area competitions, judges will be furnished with typewritten copies of the contestants' manuscripts, which they will read and grade on content and composition, recording their judgment on a score sheet which will also be provided.
- Speech manuscripts for the state Leadership Development Event must be turned in to the state advisor by their designated deadline. (*Revised 2010*)
- Each judge shall formulate and ask questions. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided. Judges will score each

contestant on the ability to answer all questions asked by all judges. (Rev. 95)

- Judges shall meet prior to the LDE to prepare and clarify the questions to be asked.
- The full five minutes for questions should be used.
- Event officials will randomly determine the speaking order.
- A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.
- No props are to be used.
- A designated timekeeper will record the time used by each participant in delivering his or her speech, noting under time or over time, if any, for which deductions will be made.
- At the time of the event, the judges will use the official rubric to score each participant on the delivery of the speech. They will also complete a judge's comment card which will be presented to the participant upon completion of the event.
- The timekeeper(s) record will be used in computing the final score for each participant.
- One timekeeper shall be designated who will record the time used by each contestant, noting under time or overtime, if any, for which deductions should be made.
- ~~Participants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score to be determined by each judge.~~
- The scoring method for LDEs with more than one set of judgments (manuscripts + presentations) shall use a method of Scoring by Average. **(Please refer to the general rules for a detailed explanation of the process.)**
(Revised 2023)

TIEBREAKER

1. Grand total of scores (manuscripts + presentations)
2. Sum of ranks
3. Response to Questions

(Revised 2023)

12. More information relative to the sub-regional, regional and national LDEs are found in the National FFA Leadership Development Events Handbook. Participants in these LDEs should familiarize themselves with all rules and regulations prior to submitting speeches, etc.



Prepared Public Speaking Manuscript Content and Composition Rubric

Name _____ School/Chapter _____

INDICATORS	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
Manuscript Content and Composition Rubric – 200 points						
Topic relevance	• Topic addresses an issue facing the industry of agriculture.	• Topic addresses an issue that may show some relationship to the industry of agriculture.	• Topic addresses an issue that is unrelated to the industry of agriculture.		X 6	
Persuasive explanation of position on topic	• Position clearly stated and ample evidence is provided.	• Position is not obvious and evidence is not clearly provided.	• Position is not stated and evidence is not provided.		X 8	
Alternative viewpoints recognized	• Identifies and counters alternative viewpoints.	• Only identifies alternate viewpoints.	• Does not identify alternate viewpoints.		X 4	
Logical order and unity of thought	• Clearly organized and concise with strong introduction, body and conclusion layout.	• Good organization with few statements out of place or lacking in clear construction.	• Little to no organization is present; sometimes awkward and lacking construction.		X 4	
Spelling/grammar (sentence structure, verb agreement, etc.).	• Spelling and grammar are extremely high quality with two or less errors in the document	• Spelling and grammar are adequate with three to five errors in the document.	• Spelling and grammar are less than adequate with six or more errors in the document.		X 7	
Quality of resources	• Resources are from reputable sources.	• Resources are from questionable sources.	• Resources are unreliable and invalid.		X 6	
Manuscript written according to guidelines	5 points		0 points			
Double-spaced formatted to 8½” x 11” with 1” margins 12 point serif (Times new roman, Cambria, etc.) or sans serif font (Ariel, Calibri, etc.)					X 1	
Cover page with speech title, participant’s name, state and year					X 1	
APA style for references and citations					X 3	
Total Points						



Prepared Speaking Presentation and Questions Rubric

Name _____ School/Chapter _____

INDICATORS	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
Oral and Non-verbal Communication – 500 points						
Supporting evidence	• Examples (stories, statistics, etc.) are vivid, precise and clearly explained.	• Examples are usually concrete and sometimes need clarification.	• Examples are sometimes confusing leaving the listeners with questions.		X 15	
Persuasive use of evidence	• Exemplary use of evidence to persuade listeners.	• Sufficient use of evidence to persuade listeners.	• Has difficulty using evidence to persuade listeners.		X 15	
Pace	• Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience.	• Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations.	• Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience.		X 15	
Command of audience	• Speaker uses appropriate emphasis and tone to captivate audience.	• Speaker presents speech as mere repeating of facts and speech comes across as a report.	• Speaker lacks enthusiasm and power to engage audience.		X 20	
Eye contact	Constantly looks at the entire audience (90% – 100% of the time).	Mostly looks around the audience (60%-80% of the time).	Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50% of the time).		X 10	
Mannerisms and gestures	• No nervous habits are displayed. • Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points.	• Sometimes exhibits nervous habits. • Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize.	• Displays some nervous habits. • Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting.		X 10	
Poise	• Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions)	• Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure.	• Lacks confidence and composure.		X 15	
Total Oral and Non-verbal Communication						
Response to questions – 300 points						
Response to questions	• Is able to respond with organized thoughts and concise answers.	• Answers effectively but has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus.	• Rambles or responds before thinking.		X 20	
Knowledge of topic	• Answer shows thorough knowledge of the subject and supports answer with strong evidence.	• Answer shows some knowledge of the subject but lacks strong evidence.	• Answer shows little knowledge of subject and lacks evidence.		X 40	
Total Response to Questions						
Presentation and Questions Total Points						
Manuscript Total Points						
(1 point per second under 6 minutes or over 8 minutes, determined by the timekeeper)				Time Deductions		
Net Total Points						
Rank						