



Creed Speaking

Purpose

The prepared Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event is a program designed to encourage younger students to become involved in preparing and delivering a speech related to the field of agriculture. This event will increase contestant knowledge of the concepts and values that are a part of FFA membership.

Objectives

1. To encourage students to develop their ability to present a quality speech.
2. To develop students' abilities to communicate ideas.
3. To develop students' abilities to express themselves in a clear coherent manner to an audience.
4. To increase student knowledge and understanding of key values promoted by the FFA.

Leadership Development Event Format

The Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event consists of two phases:

PHASE I Participants will verbally present the FFA Creed from memory. The Creed will be from the current year's Official FFA Manual.

PHASE II Participants will answer three questions directly related to the Creed.

Rules and Regulations

1. All general rules apply except as indicated in the specific rules of this Leadership Development Event.
2. All rules and regulations for the National LDE, as announced in the current version of the National FFA Career/Leadership Development Events Handbook will be observed in all sub-district, district, area and state events.
3. Sub-district or parish, district and area Leadership Development Events will be held as per schedule forwarded to all Agriculture Education departments.
4. Participation in this event is limited to FFA members in the 7th, 8th, and/or 9th grades.
5. The Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event will be open only to students regularly enrolled in Agriculture Education during the current calendar year, and who are active members of chartered FFA chapters in good standing with the Louisiana State Association and

the National Organization.

6. No props are to be used.
7. Each contestant shall begin the presentation by stating “The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany.” Each contestant shall end the presentation with the statement “... that inspiring task. Thank You.”
8. 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*)
9. Contestants will be held in isolation until their presentation. Contestant will not be allowed to have contact from any outside person once the contest begins.
10. Time Limit: The event will be a timed activity with four minutes for presentation. After four minutes, 1 point will be deducted for every second over the set time.
11. 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

Judges

1. At least four judges are needed for the event.
2. Three to six competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge presentation phase of the event. At least one judge should have an agricultural/FFA background.
3. The judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant on the delivery of the Creed, using the Creed Score Sheet.
4. A timekeeper shall be designated who will record the time used by each participant in delivering the Creed.
5. One or two content accuracy judges will record the number of recitation errors during delivery. The accuracy judge(s) will be seated with the timekeeper.
6. Each judge will total the score of each speaker. The judges’ score sheets, timekeeper’s time, and accuracy judge’s records will be compiled to determine final ratings of participants.
7. Participants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score determined by each judge without consultation. The judges’ ranking of each participant then shall be added, and the winner will be that participant whose total ranking is the lowest. Other rankings will be determined in the same manner (low point score method of selection)

TIEBREAKERS

Ties will be broken based on the greatest number of low ranks. The participants’ low ranks will be counted and the participant with the greatest number of low ranks will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, then the event superintendent will rank the participants’ responses to the questions. The participant with the greatest number of low ranks from the response to questions will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, then the participants’ raw score will be totaled. The participant with the greatest total of raw points will be declared the winner.(Adopted 2025)

FFA Creed Speaking LDE Presentation 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 Communication – 30 points						
Pace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience. 		X 2	
Tone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voice is upbeat, impassioned and under control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voice is somewhat upbeat, impassioned and under control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voice is not upbeat; lacks passion and control. 		X 2	
Volume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emitted a clear, audible voice for the audience present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emitted a somewhat clear, audible voice for the audience present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emitted a barely audible voice for the audience present. 		X 2	
Oral Communication Total						
Non-verbal Communication – 30 points						
Eye contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100% of the time). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. Mostly looks around the audience (60-80% of the time). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50% of the time). 		X 2	
Mannerisms and gestures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points. No nervous habits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes exhibits nervous habits. Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Displays some nervous habits. Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting. 		X 2	
Poise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lacks confidence and composure. 		X 2	
Non-verbal Communications Total						

FFA Creed Speaking LDE Rubric continued

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
Questions and Answers – 40 points						
Response to questions	•Is able to respond with organized thoughts and concise answers.	•Is able to speak effectively and sometimes gets off topic. •Answer lacks organization.	•Response fails to answer question.		X 2	
Support	• Always provides details which support answers/ basis of the question.	• Usually provides details which are supportive of the answers/basis of the question.	• Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the answers/basis of the question.		X 3	
Knowledge of agriculture	•Answer shows knowledge of agriculture.	•Answer shows limited knowledge of agriculture.	•Answer shows no knowledge of agriculture.		X 3	
Questions and Answers Total						
Gross Total Points						
(1 point per second over 4 minutes, determined by the timekeeper)						Time Deductions
(2 points per word, determined by the accuracy judges.)						Accuracy Deductions
						Net Total Points
						Rank