



humanity in motion

Rotary in London/District 1130
Youth Opportunities

ROTARY YOUTH SPEAKS RULES 2008 - 2009

Aims

This competition offers young people:

- an experience of speaking in public as a member of a team
- an incentive to formulate ideas on significant subjects
- the discipline of dealing with a topic in a limited time
- the impartial criticism and assessment of performance by experienced adjudicators
- the opportunity of learning and practising high standards of expression, presentation and appearance

Competitors

The competition is open to teams of young people entered by schools, colleges or youth groups within the local area. Teams will be grouped into two sections: -

Intermediates 11- 13 years old on August 31st 2008 representing school years 7/8/9

Seniors 14 – 17 years old on August 31st 2008 representing school years 10/11/12/13

Consequently, in the Intermediate Competition some Intermediate entrants may be aged 14 years at the time of the Finals and in the Senior Competition some entrants may be 18 years of age at the time of the Finals. No entrant may be a member of more than one team.

Teams

Each team shall consist of three members, as follows:

The Chairperson – will have a maximum of **TWO** minutes to welcome the audience and introduce the Speaker and the subject of his or her speech. When the Speaker has finished, the Chairperson will invite a question from the **designated Questioner** and ensure that the question is clear to the Speaker. When the Speaker has answered, the Chairperson will briefly introduce the Proposer of the Vote of Thanks. After the Vote of Thanks and applause, the Chairperson should close the proceedings.

The Speaker – will be allowed **SIX** minutes for the address in both the Intermediate and Senior Sections, with extra time to answer the question. The Speaker is free to choose any subject approved by the organisers, with the exception of Religion and Party Politics

The Proposer of the Vote of Thanks – will have **TWO** minutes in which to propose the Vote of Thanks, remarking on both the content of the address and the Speaker's answers to the questions. The audience should then be invited to show its appreciation of the Speaker.

The overall time for each team's presentation will be approximately **FIFTEEN** minutes, including question and answer time.

Questions

A designated Questioner will ask each Speaker one relevant question. The Speaker will not be given prior knowledge of the question.

Procedure

Before each Competition takes place, a draw will be held to determine the order in which teams will make their presentations. This order will be notified to the teams upon arrival.

At each event the Master of Ceremonies will welcome the participants and guests, introduce the adjudicators and run through the procedures. He or she will then invite each team in turn to come onto the stage to make its presentation.

The team should be ushered onto the stage by the Chairperson, who should sit down with the Speaker to the right and the Proposer of the Vote of Thanks to the left, awaiting the green light before starting the presentation. Once the green light has been given, the Chairperson is in control until the Vote of Thanks has been given.

The team will be aware of the passage of time by a system of green, yellow and red lights as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| The Chairperson | GREEN to start YELLOW after 1.5 minutes RED after 2 minutes |
| The Speaker | GREEN following introduction by Chairperson YELLOW after 5 minutes RED after 6 minutes |
| Proposer of Vote of Thanks | GREEN following introduction by Chairperson YELLOW after 1.5 minutes RED after 2 minutes |

Adjudication

There will be three qualified adjudicators who will take into account:

- The Chairperson's management of the meeting (**25 points**)
- The Speaker's ability to present and develop an argument and to answer the question (**50 points**)
- The quality and courtesy of the Vote of Thanks (**25 points**)

Over-running and under-running the allotted timings will be penalised (1 point for each complete fifteen seconds of over-run and 1 point for each complete thirty seconds of under-run). The time-keeper will notify the Adjudicators.

After all the teams have made their presentations and the adjudicators have completed their marking, the Chief Adjudicator will comment constructively on the performance of the teams in general and announce the result. They will not discuss the marks or how they have been allotted. The decision of the adjudicators will be final. No correspondence will be entered into following the event.

Awards

All participants will receive a Certificate at each stage of the Competition. At the District Finals a gift voucher will be presented to each member of the winning team in each category and a small commemorative cup will be presented to their school additionally the Best Chairperson, Best Speaker and Best Vote of Thanks in each category will receive a gift voucher.

District, Regional and National Finals

The winning teams from both the Intermediate and Senior sections of each of the Area competitions will go on to participate in the District Final, The winning teams from the Intermediate and Senior sections of the District Final will go forward to the Regional Finals and, if successful there the Finals for Great Britain and Ireland.

Notes for guidance of participants and adjudicators

In assessing the presentations, attention will be paid to the following:

All team members: Effective use of voice, easy manner, natural gestures and whether the personality of the individual comes over to the audience.

Humour, in the right context, will be appreciated. Notes can be used, but they should not be too obvious; **simply reading written content will be penalised.** Audio-visual aids are **NOT** permitted. Dual presentations are not permitted. Participants should concentrate on teamwork, voice production, audibility, clear diction, projection, body language and use of emphasis (pause, pitch and inflection).

Chairperson: Adjudicators will be looking for a business-like, yet courteous handling of the meeting; attention to the duties specified above; and the creation of a friendly and receptive atmosphere.

Speaker: The construction of the address should include an introduction, the main subject matter and a conclusion. Adjudicators will attach great importance to the logic and weight of the arguments developed, and the impact created on the audience. The answers to the questions should be courteous, to the point, full but not unduly wordy.

Proposer of the Vote of Thanks: The duty of the Proposer is to express to the Speaker the appreciation of the audience. Reference should be made to the content of the address and the answers to the questions. Finally, the Proposer should invite the audience to express their appreciation of the Speaker.

For further clarification please contact: Rotary in London's Youth Opportunities Chairman Alan O'Neill 29 Lanark Close, Ealing, London W5 1SN, TEL 020 8 810 4770 or 07879 848574. or Email: youth@rotaryinlondon.org

GUIDELINES FOR THE ROLE OF CHAIRPERSON:

When your team has been called, walk together onto the stage and sit down with the **Speaker** on your right and the **Proposer of the Vote of Thanks** on your left.

Key points: You are there to encourage and support your team, and to act as a link or bridge between the team and audience, putting both at ease whilst maintaining a friendly atmosphere.

Timing: 2 minutes is allowed to welcome the audience and introduce the Speaker. Wait for the green light to commence. The yellow light will appear after 1 ½ minutes; the red light after 2 minutes.

Welcome the audience:

Dignitaries or special guests, Rotarians, Ladies and Gentlemen, fellow pupils:

“I am happy/delighted/honoured/ to welcome you on behalf of our team/school today. My name is and I am acting as Chairperson

Explain procedure of your presentation:

Our Speaker today is (name) and look at him/her and, he/she will be speaking on the subject of Add one or two sentences about the Speaker.

After his/her talk I will be inviting a question from the designated Questioner.

A vote of thanks will then be proposed by

Ladies and Gentlemen please join me in giving a warm welcome to our Speaker name.

Note: After the Speaker has concluded you will invite a question on behalf of the Speaker from the designated Questioner. **Listening is vital** as you will need to repeat the question to the Speaker.

After the Speaker has answered the question you will thank the Questioner for the question and you will then introduce the Proposer of the Vote of Thanks:

“It is my pleasure to introduce to you(name) and look at person, who will propose the Vote of Thanks to our Speaker(name)”.

After the **Vote of Thanks** wait for the applause to cease and close the proceedings:

“Finally I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the organisation todayRotarians (mention Club or Group of Clubs which has sponsored you, Teachers, Parents etc.” Mention your own team for their efforts and, the audience/adjudicators. **Then sit down.**

Extra notes:

Timing for Speaker - 6 minutes for both Intermediate and Senior teams

As the whole presentation takes 14/15 minutes, you as Chairperson will have at least 5 minutes for requesting a question, the Speaker to respond and the various points mentioned above.

The chairperson should maintain a calm presence on behalf of the team and remain courteous throughout. It is useful to have a wide view of the whole proceedings and to show the adjudicators that you are listening to everyone.

Check pronunciation of names carefully.

As well as the above Adjudicators will be looking for the following:

Effective use of voice - audibility, clear diction, projection, body language, use of emphasis (pause, pitch and inflection) easy manner, personality and humour.

GUIDELINES FOR THE ROLE OF SPEAKER:

This is central to the teams' presentation and it is important that you are well prepared.

Postcards on which can be written key prompt notes, are preferable to sheets of paper on which the entire speech is written. Too many words written down can cause confusion, as the Speaker has a tendency to read his / her notes rather than give a speech.

Timing:

6 minutes - for both the Intermediate and Senior teams
(Extra time is given for answering the question put by the Questioner)

After introduction by the Chairman a **green light** will come on. Commence
A **yellow light** follows after 5 minutes
A **red light** after 6 minutes

Introduction:

Thank the Chairperson for his/her introduction of you as Speaker. Announce the title of your talk.

Tips: Tell the audience why you chose this subject. Be clear of the purpose of your talk - what you want to convey. What do you want to achieve in 6 minutes i.e. to inspire, to inform, to share insights, to ask something of your audience.

Here you are building a bridge to the main structure of your speech. Start with a compelling statement, a story, some humour.

Body of talk:

Develop your ideas. Present both sides of an argument - for and against. Use human stories to illustrate and support your ideas.

Ask rhetorical questions: i.e. is this what we want in our society? Would you consider this to be relevant in the year 2009?

Keep to one theme and do not put forward too many ideas. Keep it simple. Ensure that your information is accurate - particularly when citing statistics.

Conclusion of talk:

This is where you summarise the points of your talk and bring it to an end.

Tips: Link back to the beginning of your talk and speak of the purpose and aim. Tie all strands together for the benefit of the audience. Do not introduce any new ideas. Challenge audience (in a good-humoured way) - ask them to consider your views, even if they disagree with them. Appeal to the audience to act on some aspect of your talk. Use a famous quotation (leave the audience with some memorable words). Finish slowly and clearly, thanking the audience for listening to you and sit down.

Answering Question:

The Chairperson will relay a question from the designated questioner to the Speaker:

Listen carefully
Be brief in your replies
Be courteous

General Note:

When constructing your talk, gather information from as many sources as possible: i.e. your teachers, books, articles, newspapers, libraries, television, radio, observation, internet etc. Any topical news is always relevant. Have a brainstorming session. Use all information and gradually discard what is not relevant and construct an outline which you feel covers the subject matter comprehensively.

As well as the above Adjudicators will be looking for the following:

Effective use of voice - audibility, clear diction, projection, body language, use of emphasis (pause, pitch and inflection) easy manner, personality and humour.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROPOSER OF THE VOTE OF THANKS:

Your purpose is to thank the Speaker on behalf of the audience.

Timing: 2 minutes

After introduction from the Chairperson a **green light** will come on. Commence.

A **yellow light** follows after 1½ minutes.

A **red light** after 2 minutes.

“On behalf of us all I would like to thank (name of person) for giving us his/her talk on(mention title/subject of talk & look at speaker).

- 1) Comment positively on the content of the speech (logic, argument, language).
- 2) Mention a couple of the specific points to show you have been listening.
- 3) Respond to how the question was handled by the Speaker.

“Finally I would like to invite the audience to thank the Speaker in the usual way”.

TIPS: Look at the Speaker from time to time; use gesture if appropriate; check pronunciation of Speaker’s name.

As well as the above Adjudicators will be looking for the following:

Effective use of voice - audibility, clear diction, projection, body language, use of emphasis (pause, pitch and inflection) easy manner, personality and humour.

ROTARY YOUTH SPEAKS 2008 - 2009 ENTRY FORM

XX Area Semi Final

Name and Address of School

Telephone Number:

Teacher Contact Name:

Teacher e-mail Address:

YEARS 7/8/9 INTERMEDIATES

(Must not be younger than 11+ years or older than 13+ years on 31st August 2008)

YEARS 10/11/12/13 SENIORS

(Must not be younger than 14+ years or older than 17+ years on 31st August 2008)

PLEASE PRINT NAMES:

Team 1. TEAM MEMBERS

Chairperson _____ DOB _____

Speaker _____ DOB _____

Vote of Thanks _____ DOB _____

Subject Title _____

Team 3. NAMES OF TEAM

Chairperson _____ DOB _____

Speaker _____ DOB _____

Vote of Thanks _____ DOB _____

Subject Title _____

Team 2. TEAM MEMBERS

Chairperson _____ DOB _____

Speaker _____ DOB _____

Vote of Thanks _____ DOB _____

Subject Title _____

Team 4. NAMES OF TEAM

Chairperson _____ DOB _____

Speaker _____ DOB _____

Vote of Thanks _____ DOB _____

Subject Title _____

The parents, guardians or carers of the team members have given permission for the team members to take part and for photographs to be taken and used for appropriate publicity purposes.

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has adopted a Protection Policy in respect of its work with children, the elderly, the vulnerable and those with a disability.

Please return this form to the person listed below no later than, '17th October 2008:

Insert name, address, telephone/fax no. or e-mail address of Club/s Contact here:.....