

INFORMATIVE

Section 1004: EXTEMPORANEOUS INFORMATIVE SPEAKING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) Purpose. The purpose of this contest is to stimulate an active interest in current affairs at the state, national and international levels, and to teach the student to present extemporaneously in a clear and impartial manner the facts about a subject as they appear in the best available sources of information. This contest is an exercise in clear thinking and informing the public on the issues and concerns of the American people. The objective is to present information orally in an interesting way, and an attempt should not be made to change the listener's mind beyond presenting the information.

(2) Format. Contestants draw five topics, select one and have thirty minutes to prepare an informative speech on the topic. Topics shall be based on current news events and include topics from state, national and international levels. They will be chosen from the general areas of political, social, economic, educational and cultural interests. The speaker is obligated to elicit an informative response. The limit for the oral speech is seven minutes maximum.

(b) ENTRIES.

(1) Representation. Each member school in all conferences may enter three students in the contest.

(2) Eligibility. Only students in high school are eligible for this contest. Contestants shall not compete in district in more than one extemporaneous event in the same year. See Subchapter M and Section 1000 of the C&CR, UIL Informative and Persuasive Handbook, and Eligibility Rules.

(c) RESOURCE. The contest rules and procedures are discussed in detail in the UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing this publication in advance of the contest.

(d) LENGTH OF SPEECHES. Informative speeches shall not be longer than seven minutes. There shall be no minimum time. The speaker may complete only the sentence that is in progress without disqualification, after the allotted time has expired. The responsibility of keeping within the seven-minute time limit rests with the contestant.

(e) RESTRICTION ON NOTES. A speaker is allowed to use one notecard, but not required to do so. If used, the notecard shall be no larger than 3x5" when delivering the speech. No limit is placed on the quantity of information on that one card. Use of more than one notecard shall result in disqualification. All source citations orally delivered in the speech should be legitimate.

(f) QUESTIONS. Questions shall be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is rendered. The decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.

EXTEMPORANEOUS INFORMATIVE SPEAKING

(c) PREPARATION.

(1) Sources. Students should prepare for this contest by reading a daily newspaper and any of the many news magazines, searching the Internet, and listening to radio and television news broadcasts. Schools will periodically be notified of available publications and lists of practice topics through the UIL website. Helpful magazines include *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News* and *World Report* and other news publications. Useful newspaper sources include *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Christian Science Monitor* and major Texas newspapers. There are also numerous news-oriented sites listed in the *UIL Informative and Persuasive Handbook* and on the Internet, some of which are linked from the UIL website (www.uiltexas.org/speech).

(2) Topics.

(A) Topics for extemporaneous informative speaking shall be based on current news events. They shall include topics from state, national and international levels. They will be chosen from the general areas of political, social, economic, educational and cultural interests. Practice topics will be posted from time to time on the UIL website.

(B) The topics for the extemporaneous informative speaking contest are designed to elicit an informative response from the speaker, but under no condition is it the obligation of the League to provide an "informative topic." That obligation is remanded to the speaker. All topics in this contest are intended to be treated as ones that are calling for a speech that informs. The speaker should avoid attempts to persuade the audience or judges.

- (C) Topics for the preliminary and final rounds of district, regional and state meets are provided by the League office.
- (3) Resource. The contest rules and procedures are discussed in more detail in the UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook available through the League office and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing this publication in advance of the contest.

(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.

- (1) Sections. If more than eight contestants are entered, preliminary and final rounds shall be held. See Section 1003 (b) (1) of the C&CR.
- (2) Drawings.

(A) The League office shall furnish the director in charge with topics. The district topics will be delivered in a sealed envelope. The envelope will contain enough complete sets of the topic questions for each section of preliminaries (i. e., if there are two preliminary sections, two copies will be needed; if there are three sections, three copies will be needed, etc.). A short time before the contest begins, the contest director should open the sealed envelope. A separate envelope or receptacle will be needed for each preliminary section. Each copy of the topics should be cut by the contest director, leaving one topic on each slip. One complete set of separated topic questions should be put into the envelope or receptacle for each section of preliminaries. Each contestant shall draw five topic slips and select one of the five. The topic chosen should be recorded by the director, and the remaining four slips returned to the receptacle from which they were drawn. The slips should be mixed before the next contestant draws, and so on. The speakers should be allowed to draw at approximately 10 minute intervals. For example:

<u>Order</u>	<u>Draw</u>	<u>Speak</u>
Speaker One	1:00	1:30
Speaker Two	1:10	1:40
Speaker Three	1:20	1:50

If preliminaries are necessary, the process shall be repeated for selection of topics for the final contest. Topics for preliminary and final rounds shall be provided by the League office.

- (B) In the preliminary rounds of this event all sections are to be run simultaneously. That is, if three preliminary sections are required by the sectioning rules previously mentioned, all three are to be conducted at the same time; if two are required, both are to be run at the same time, etc. All first speakers will draw at the same time; all second speakers will draw at the same time, etc. Accordingly, all speakers shall speak in their respective rooms at the same time designated for their speaking positions. This will require a number of judges as well as contest rooms equal to the number of sections required by the League rules. See Section 1003 (b) (1).
- (C) The contest director shall destroy all unused topics.
- (3) The Preparation Period: Procedure and Timing. In conducting this contest, rooms will be needed for drawing topics, preparing speeches and presenting speeches in each section. Informative speaking and persuasive speaking preparation rooms should be combined to allow students from the same school to share files. Contestants may draw topics and prepare in the same large room if necessary. A preparation room monitor shall be on duty to make certain that the contestants work quietly in preparing their speeches. After contestants draw topics, they shall not discuss them with others. At the end of half an hour the contestant shall leave the preparation room with only the topic slip and no more than one notecard that is no larger than 3 x 5 inches to go to the contest room to deliver the speech. Contestants should report directly to their contest room without conversing or consulting with anyone. In the meantime, the director will have called other speakers at about 10 minute intervals to draw topics, and so on until the contest is completed. Speakers shall leave the preparation room when their speaker order is called.
- (4) Restrictions in Preparation Room. To assist in preparing the speech, the speaker may use magazines, newspapers, journals and other published source materials, and photocopies made in compliance with copyright laws, and electronic materials saved according to the UIL Guidelines for Electronic Retrieval Devices in Extemporaneous Speaking, as long as the material cannot be considered an outline of a speech. Any source material resembling the outline of a speech shall not be used by the speaker to prepare the contest speech. Prepared notes, extemp speeches, debate evidence handbooks and briefs are not allowed. Published material from computer online data services may be used. The URL source of the published downloaded material should be included. Typed or hand-written materials may not be taken into the preparation room, except in the form of an index file which has been prepared by the student for the sole purpose of convenience in finding references to specific

topics. Speakers may use laptop and tablet computers, and other electronic retrieval devices in the preparation room in accordance with the rules published in the UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook and other official UIL Publications available through the League office, and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these rules in advance of the contest.

- (5) **Restriction on Notes.** The speaker may use only one notecard that is no larger than 3 x 5 inches when delivering the speech. No limit is placed on the quantity of information on that one card. Use of more than one notecard shall result in disqualification. All source citations orally delivered in the speech should be legitimate.
 - (6) **Speech Topic and Type.** The contestant shall deliver a persuasive speech on the topic selected.
 - (7) **Length of Speeches.** Persuasive speeches shall not be longer than seven minutes. There shall be no minimum time. The speaker may complete only the sentence in progress without disqualification, after the allotted time has expired. The responsibility of keeping within the seven-minute time limit rests with the contestant.
 - (8) **Audiences.** Speaking, by its very nature, is public. Therefore, all extemporaneous speaking rounds in League district, regional and state competition shall be open to the public.
 - (9) **Timekeeper and Signal Standards.** A timekeeper should be provided for each contest to notify the contestants of the amount of time remaining from their total allotted time. The timekeeper should sit in front of the judges and where they can be seen by contestants and should demonstrate before each contestant begins speaking the type of time signals to be used. See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b) (4).
- (e) **DUTIES OF THE CONTEST DIRECTOR.**
- (1) **Announcement of Topics.** The practice of having speakers announce their own topics before beginning to speak should be discouraged. Topics should be announced in one of two ways:
 - (A) The contestant may write the topic on the board and give the slip to the room chair or judge; or
 - (B) The chair, timekeeper, or director in charge of the contest, or a designated representative, may announce the topic drawn by each speaker in the contest room to insure that the judge or judges have the topic before the speaker begins.
 - (2) **Audiences and Interruptions.** Spectators are encouraged to attend the speeches. Contest directors should not permit any interruption of the speakers during the contest. Cheering is not permitted. Coaches and contestants may be audience members. No coaching shall be permitted during the contest.
 - (3) **Recording.** Schools and/or individuals are prohibited from recording (audio and/or video) speech contests. The UIL reserves the right to record for educational purposes.
 - (4) **Judging.** Judging shall be by an odd number of judges or by one judge. At minimum, judges should be high school graduates. A copy of the judging instructions provided by the League office shall be given to each judge. Contest directors are responsible for explaining these instructions to the judges. Judges should be instructed not to discuss their decisions with other individuals or judges while judging a given contest. See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b) (2).
 - (5) **Questions.** Questions shall be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is rendered. The decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.
 - (6) **Ranking Contestants.** See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b).
 - (7) **Unofficial Results.** Until students and coaches have had a chance to look at the rankings and the individual evaluation sheets during the announced ballot verification period, results should be announced as unofficial.
 - (8) **Ballot Verification Period.** See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b) (6). This procedure is mandatory.
 - (9) **Official Results.** See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b) (7).

PERSUASIVE

Section 1005: EXTEMPORANEOUS PERSUASIVE SPEAKING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) Purpose. The purpose of this contest is to stimulate an active interest in current affairs at the state, national and international levels and to train students to analyze a current issue, determine a point of view, and then organize and deliver extemporaneously a speech that seeks to persuade listeners to agree with that viewpoint. The objective is to reinforce the views of listeners who already believe as the speaker does, but even more so, to bring those of neutral or opposing views around to the speaker's beliefs or proposed course of action.

(2) Format. Contestants draw five topics, select one and have thirty minutes to prepare a persuasive speech on the topic. Topics shall be based on current news events and include topics from state, national and international levels. They will be chosen from the general areas of political, social, economic, educational and cultural interests. The speaker is obligated to elicit a persuasive response. The limit for the oral speech is seven minutes maximum.

(b) ENTRIES.

(1) Representation. Each member school in all conferences may enter three students in the contest.

(2) Eligibility. Only students in high school are eligible for this contest. Contestants shall not compete in district in more than one extemporaneous speaking event in the same year. See Subchapter M and Section 1000, Speech Eligibility Rules.

(c) RESOURCE. The contest rules and procedures are discussed in detail in the UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these publications in advance of the contest.

(d) LENGTH OF SPEECHES. Persuasive speeches shall not be longer than seven minutes. There shall be no minimum time. The speaker may complete only the sentence in progress without disqualification, after the allotted time has expired. The responsibility of keeping within the seven-minute time limit rests with the contestant.

(e) RESTRICTION ON NOTES. A speaker is allowed to use one notecard, but not required to do so. If used, the notecard shall be no larger than 3x5" when delivering the speech. No limit is placed on the quantity of information on that one card. Use of more than one notecard shall result in disqualification. All source citations orally delivered in the speech should be legitimate.

(f) QUESTIONS. Questions shall be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is rendered. The decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.

EXTEMPORANEOUS PERSUASIVE SPEAKING

(c) PREPARATION.

(1) Sources. Students should prepare for this contest by reading a daily newspaper and any of the many news magazines, searching the Internet, and listening to radio and television news broadcasts. Schools will periodically be notified of available publications and lists of topics through the UIL website. Helpful magazines include *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News* and *World Report* and other news publications. Useful newspaper sources include *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Christian Science Monitor* and major Texas newspapers. There are also numerous news oriented sites listed in the *UIL Informative and Persuasive Handbook* and on the Internet, some of which are linked from the UIL website (www.uiltexas.org/speech).

(2) Topics.

(A) Topics for extemporaneous persuasive speaking shall be based on current news events. They shall include topics from state, national and international levels. They will be chosen from the general areas of political, social, economic, educational, and cultural interests. Practice topics will be posted from time to time on the UIL website.

(B) The topics will be worded so as to elicit persuasive speeches rather than informative speeches but under no condition is it the obligation of the League to provide a "persuasive topic." That obligation is remanded to the speaker. The contest requires a contestant to convince or persuade the audience and judges to accept the speaker's point of view. The contestant is required to take a position in answering a specific topic question.

(C) Topics for the preliminary and final rounds at district and regional meets are provided by the League office.

- (3) Resource. The contest rules and procedures are discussed in more detail in the UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook available through the League office and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these publications in advance of the contest.
- (d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.
 - (1) Sections. If more than eight contestants are entered, preliminary and final rounds shall be held. See Section 1003 (b) (1).

- (2) Drawings.
 - (A) The League office shall furnish the director in charge with topics. The district topics will be delivered in a sealed envelope. The envelope will contain enough complete sets of the topic questions for each section of preliminaries (i. e., if there are two preliminary sections, two copies will be needed; if there are three sections, three copies will be needed, etc.). A short time before the contest begins, the contest director should open the sealed envelope. A separate envelope or receptacle will be needed for each preliminary section. Each copy of the topics should be cut by the contest director, leaving one topic on each slip. One complete set of separated topic questions should be put into the envelope or receptacle for each section of preliminaries. Each contestant shall draw five topic slips and select one of the five. The topic chosen should be recorded by the director, and the remaining four slips returned to the receptacle from which they were drawn. The slips should be mixed before the next contestant draws, and so on. The speakers should be allowed to draw at approximately 10 minute intervals. For example:

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If preliminaries are necessary, the process shall be repeated for selection of topics for the final contest. Topics for preliminary and final rounds shall be provided by the League office.

- (B) In the preliminary rounds of this event, all sections are to be run simultaneously. That is, if three preliminary sections are required by the sectioning rules previously mentioned, all three are to be conducted at the same time; if two are required, both will be run at the same time, etc. All first speakers will draw at the same time; all second speakers will draw at the same time, etc. Accordingly, all speakers shall speak in their respective rooms at the same time designated for their speaking positions. This will require a number of judges as well as contest rooms equal to the number of sections required by the League rules. See Section 1003 (b) (1).
- (C) The contest director shall destroy all unused topics.
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- on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these rules in advance of the contest.
- (5) **Restriction on Notes.** The speaker may use only one notecard that is no larger than 3 x 5 inches when delivering the speech. No limit is placed on the quantity of information on that one card. Use of more than one notecard shall result in disqualification. All source citations orally delivered in the speech should be legitimate.
 - (6) **Speech Topic and Type.** The contestant shall deliver a persuasive speech on the topic selected.
 - (7) **Length of Speeches.** Persuasive speeches shall not be longer than seven minutes. There shall be no minimum time. The speaker may complete only the sentence in progress without disqualification, after the allotted time has expired. The responsibility of keeping within the seven-minute time limit rests with the contestant.
 - (8) **Audiences.** Speaking, by its very nature, is public. Therefore, all extemporaneous speaking rounds in League district, regional and state competition shall be open to the public.
 - (9) **Timekeeper and Signal Standards.** A timekeeper should be provided for each contest to notify the contestants of the amount of time remaining from their total allotted time. The timekeeper should sit in front of the judges and where they can be seen by contestants and should demonstrate before each contestant begins speaking the type of time signals to be used. See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b) (4).
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 - (2) **Audiences and Interruptions.** Spectators are encouraged to attend the speeches. Contest directors should not permit any interruption of the speakers during the contest. Cheering is not permitted. Coaches and contestants may be audience members. No coaching shall be permitted during the contest.
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 - (5) **Questions.** Questions shall be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is rendered. The decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.
 - (6) **Ranking Contestants.** See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b).
 - (7) **Unofficial Results.** Until students and coaches have had a chance to look at the rankings and the individual evaluation sheets during the announced ballot verification period, results should be announced as unofficial.
 - (8) **Ballot Verification Period.** See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b) (6). This procedure is mandatory.
 - (9) **Official Results.** See Individual Speech Contests, General Instructions (b) (7).