

# Living & Learning Impromptu Speaking Competition

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## Guidelines

The Impromptu Speaking competition is to be held at the Fall State Convention each year. The guidelines for the competition are:

- A selection of Impromptu topics will be prepared in advance by the competition facilitator.
- Participant will blindly select a topic that they will speak on. They can choose to select an alternate topic, but they must present on the second topic selected.
- Participants are allowed 30 seconds for preparation of their thoughts. They will then speak on the selected topic for 30 seconds to 2 minutes.
- Entry fee is \$5 or as indicated in the state bylaws/policies.
- Winners will be announced and awarded at the Fall State Awards Banquet.
- There is no limit to entries per chapter

## Judging Criteria

All speakers are evaluated based on the development of the theme as well as the originality of their response and their overall presentation.

Criteria	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Score	Comments
Development – <i>logical pattern, organization</i>	20	16	12	8	4		
Language – <i>pronunciation, articulation</i>	5	4	3	2	1		
Originality	5	4	3	2	1		
Effectiveness – <i>audience response</i>	10	8	6	4	2		
Voice – <i>pitch, volume, rate, emphasis, flexibility</i>	10	8	6	4	2		
Appearance – <i>gestures, poise, eye contact</i>	10	8	6	4	2		

TOTAL Possible: 60

Your Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## Impromptu Speaking Topics

The competition facilitator will provide speaking topics on note cards or slips of papers for participants to blindly draw from. The list below is intended as a starting point and is not an exhaustive list of all topics.

- One thing I can always depend on...
- The most unforgettable person I've ever met
- Share something unusual about yourself
- What is your greatest challenge?
- Talk about four things you do well.
- Tell us about a New Year's resolution you made and why.
- Advice I would give my daughter/son/niece/nephew.
- How I fight the winter blahs.
- When I was 18, I...
- How do you unwind?
- If you could try anything once, what would it be and why?
- I am most thankful for...
- If you had a chance to do something over again in your life, what would you do?
- Best advice your parents ever gave you and why?
- What qualities do you most value in a friend?
- Do you think crying is a sign of weakness or strength?
- What would you do differently if you knew no one would judge you?
- Which is worse: failing or never trying? Why?
- If we learn from our mistakes, why are we always so afraid to make a mistake?
- What small act of kindness were you once shown that you will never forget?
- If happiness was the national currency, what kind of work would make you rich?
- What would you not give up for one million dollars in cash? Why?
- If you were forced to eliminate every physical possession from your life with the exception of what could fit into a single backpack, what would you put in it?
- If you could invent any holiday, what would it be?
- If you didn't have to work for money, what would you do instead?
- You are a salesperson attempting to sell the shirt you have on.
- If I were invisible for a day, I would...
- What would your dream home have that your current house doesn't have?
- What is the one subject you wish you would have learned more about in school?
- What goals have you set for yourself this year?