



# Public Speaking Contest



## How long?

4 <sup>th</sup> grade	1-3 minutes
5 <sup>th</sup> grade	3-5 minutes
6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grades	3-7 minutes
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grades	3-7 minutes

## On what?

4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades: The topic is OPEN to the discretion of the speaker. It DOES NOT have to relate to 4-H.

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades: All speeches should relate in some way to the Member's experiences in 4-H and/or the things learned in 4-H. (In other words, it should be a PROMOTIONAL speech for 4-H.)

**Winners:** Those that receive a golden ticket in class clubs will be invited to compete at the county wide contest. \*Please note that this may be in a virtual format this year.

Sponsored by



McMinn County Farm Bureau

Programs in agriculture and natural resources,  
4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences,  
and resource development.

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.  
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

## Include the three parts of a speech:

- 1. Introduction** - Use your introduction to get the audience's attention and provide the main idea. Famous quotes, questions, or personal reasons for choosing your topic are effective tools for introductions. The length of the introduction for a 1-2 min speech is 3 - 4 sentences.
- 2. Body** - The body of your speech should provide 3-5 main points that relate to your topic. Points should be interesting and have a logical order. Why are these points important? The body of a 1-2 minute speech is 3-4 paragraphs.
- 3. Conclusion** - Re-emphasize the main point stated in your introduction and end with a final thought. What do you want the audience to remember? The conclusion is short, like the introduction.

### Helpful Hint

Don't use big words just to try to impress your audience. The listeners want to hear the real you, not some talking machine reciting facts, figures and dates.

### Practice, Practice, PRACTICE!!!

- By yourself
- In front of a mirror
- In front of others
- On audio and video tape

**Presentation** - Be prepared to deliver your speech on November Club meeting day.

Remember the importance of your:

- Speaking voice
- Proper use of note cards
- no visuals!
- Eye contact
- Body language



### Helpful Hint

## **Speeches are written to be heard, not read.**

Your speech should sound good as well as look good on paper. Speeches should be written using vivid, concrete words, which create a clear, colorful picture for the audience. Words should bounce and glide rather than plod along.

## 4-H Public Speaking Scorecard

Points to Consider	Points
<b>A. Speaker</b>	
1. Appearance: Good posture, neat clothing and grooming.	10
2. Use of language: Understandable, pleasing, meaningful, vivid. Proper grammar.	20
3. Projection to audience: Eye contact. Volume. Pleasing voice. Presented with expression and enthusiasm - instead of a memorized or "read" report.	10
4. Well prepared: Is the speaker well prepared? Proper use of notes. Logical flow throughout the presentation.	15
<b>B. Subject Matter and Composition</b>	
1. Well organized: Ideas and thoughts relate to main topic and presented in logical order, easily followed and understood by listeners.	10
2. Information: Accurate, up-to-date information. Topic is narrow enough to be covered in the presentation. Relate topic to 4-H.	10
3. Good introduction and conclusion: Does the introduction create interest while presenting the theme for the entire speech? Does the conclusion tie important points to the theme in a way that the audience will remember the speech topic?	10
<b>C. Results</b>	
1. Effect on audience: Was the audience stirred, enthused, saddened, amused, motivated and awakened?	15
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>