



General Contest Rules

Categories:

The contest consists of four categories

- Prepared Speech
- Radio Spot
- Interpretations
- Extemporaneous

Contestants:

Speeches are given by individuals, not teams.

Each of the above categories includes three age groups (Age as of Jan. 1) :

- Junior: 8-10
- Intermediate: 11-13
- Senior: 14-18

Introduction:

Contestants can introduce themselves as part of their presentation or include it as part of the video creation. This time will not count toward the time allotment of each category.

Time Limits:

Each category has specific time expectations, some will be based on the youth's age group. Judges will deduct points for presentations not meeting or exceeding time limits.

Scripts and Notecards:

Please upload scripts and notecards with videos submissions.

Category Specific Rules

Prepared Speech:

- Time Limits: Junior: 3 to 5, Intermediates & Seniors: 4 to 6 minutes.
- Contestants may speak on any topic.
- Note cards containing a key word outline are permitted.
- Juniors may use a complete script.
- [Contestants are to upload a copy of the script or note cards with their video submission.](#)
- Contestants may introduce themselves and share the title of their speech as an introduction but it will not be included in the time limit.
- Memorization is not encouraged.

Radio Spots:

- Time Limits: 30 seconds for all age groups.
- [Contestants are to upload a copy of the script with their video submission.](#)
- Radio Spots should not include a spoken introduction or “tag” by anyone other than the contestant.
- Contestants may introduce themselves and share the title of their speech as an introduction but it will not be included in the time limit.
- Musical/sound effect introductions and endings are considered a part of the radio spot and must not cause the 30 second time limit to be exceeded.
- The radio spot should **relate to 4-H**, be **original** and be **created by the contestant**.
- [Think of this as a commercial for 4-H, don't forget to consider including important info like how to join, a phone number to call, what county or state.](#)

Interpretations:

- Time Limits: Juniors: 1 ½ to 3 mins, Intermediates: 2 to 4 mins, Seniors: 3 to 5 mins.
- An Interpretation is a memorized oral presentation of selected narrative from published works.
- Permitted works include dramatic or humorous plays or books or poetry, but not the script of a television show or any unpublished source.
- For interpretation, contestant may choose to wear a costume and opt to sit for the presentation.
- Contestants may introduce themselves and share the title of their speech as an introduction but it will not be included in the time limit.
- [Contestants are to upload a copy of the script with their video submission.](#)

Extemporaneous – Via Zoom (this will be LIVE):

- Time Limits: Juniors and Intermediates: 2 to 3 mins, Seniors: 3 to 5 mins.
- This category will be completed LIVE over Zoom on Friday, October 1st at 6:30 pm.
- Extemporaneous speakers will be given a selection of topics and choose one topic for their speech.
- Juniors and Intermediates may have up to 30 minutes and seniors up to 15 minutes to prepare their talks. They will be required to sit with their web cameras on during this time.
- Contestants may use one side of up to four, or both sides of up to two, 5 x 8 inch note cards for their **key word outline**. If you do not have index cards lined paper can be used.
- Directly following this writing period, the contest will resume, and contestants will deliver their speeches live for judging.
- Contestants may introduce themselves and share the title of their speech as an introduction but it will not be included in the time limit.
- Extemporaneous speakers will be told via Zoom at the timed intervals indicating a remaining time of "1 MINUTE " , remaining time of "30 SECONDS", and then "STOP".

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If you need special assistance to participate in this program, contact the 4-H Program at least 7 days in advance.