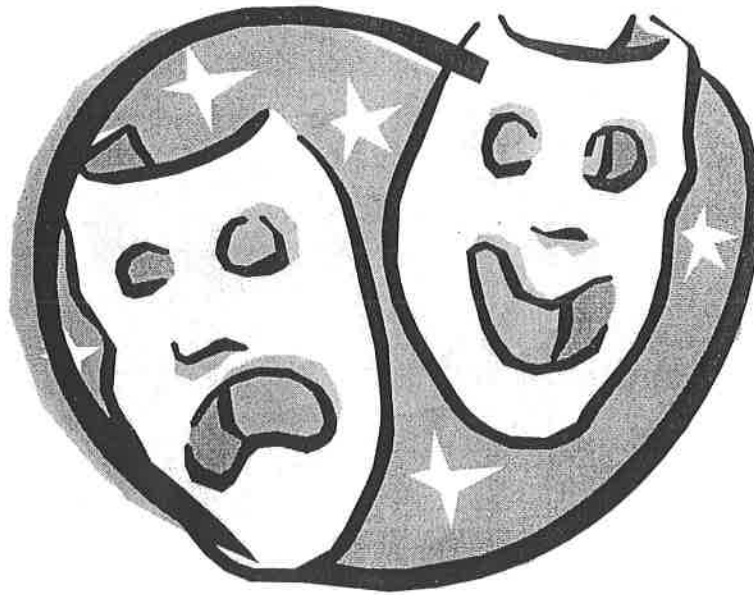


Coaching and Judging Speech:

The 14 IHSA Individual Events



Presented at the Illinois Speech &
Theatre Association Convention

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Coaching and Judging Speech: The 14 IHSA Individual Events

Each event includes the IHSA rules, the SCOTIE standards of excellence, and some basic questions to use when judging

Compiled and Developed by
Rino C. Dellavedova, Rock Island High School

Updated to Reflect Rule Changes, September 2009, by
Adam Jenkins, Belleville West High School

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Dramatic Duet Acting

Time: 8:00

1. The introduction should name the work, the author, and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
2. Eye contact should be direct and comprehensive during the introduction.
3. This event is acting as distinguished from interpretation.
4. A table and two chairs are the only props allowed. Costumes, make-up, and sound effects are not permitted. The use of an article of apparel as a prop is not permitted. *Actors cannot stand on the table or chairs.*
5. Characters may speak to off-stage or silent characters but must not portray more than one character. *It is acceptable for a performer to play more than one character if an author assigns multiple characters to one actor.*
6. There should be clear communication of the mood or idea of the work as a whole.
7. Movement should flow naturally from the characters, giving proper focus on action and reaction.
8. Character should be maintained.
9. The memorization should be natural and effective.
10. The actors should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication.
 - A. They should change pitch.
 - B. They should change pace or rate.
 - C. They should change vocal quality.
 - D. They should use the pause for dramatic effect or clarity.
11. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
12. The actors should demonstrate an awareness of the rise and fall of emotional sub text.

EVALUATE

Blocking

- Are the characters moving with purpose?
- Is the movement motivated by the text?
- Does the movement enhance the scene?

Characters

- Are the characters real?
- Are their actions motivated?
- Do they listen to each other?
- Do they act and react to what is happening in the scene?
- Are characters consistent?
- Do the characters grow throughout the scene?

Text

- Does the scene make sense?
- Does it build to a climax?

General

- If a "teaser" is used, did it set the tone and draw you into the performance?
- Introduction
 - Did the performer state the author and title?
 - Did the performer give background information to set up the selection if needed?
 - Was the delivery natural and conversational?
 - Did the performers show contrast in delivery between their intro and the cutting?
- Is acting taking place or are the actors simply saying the words and moving about?
- Are the actors working together?
- Is the duet balanced, or is one partner stronger than the other?
- Does the scene show a progression and move from point A to point B?

Dramatic Interpretation

Time: 8:00

1. The introduction should name the work and the author and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
2. Eye contact should be direct and comprehensive during the introduction and transitions.
3. The memorization should be natural and effective.
4. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
5. The selection should contain a reasonable depth of character and theme.
6. The Interper should demonstrate an awareness of the rise and fall of emotional sub text.
7. Characters should be distinct from each other.
8. Character should be maintained.
9. Bodily suggestions should be used.
10. The contestant should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication.
 - A. They should change pitch.
 - B. They should change pace or rate.
 - C. They should change vocal quality.
 - D. They should use the pause for dramatic effect or clarity.
11. There should be clear communication of the mood or idea of the work as a whole.
12. The performance should be an interpretation, not an example of acting. Interpers may perform either monologue and multiple character work.

EVALUATE

Technique

- Are the characters "popping" or does the performer slide from characters to character?
- Is there distinct vocal and physical developed for each of the characters?
- Is the contrast between the characters?

Characters

- Are the characters stylized to the type of literature being performed?
- Are the character's actions motivated?
- Do the characters listen to each other?
- Do the characters act and react to what is happening in the scene?
- Are the characters consistent vocally and physically?
- Do the characters grow throughout the scene?

Text

- Does the scene make sense?
- Does it build to a climax?
- Does the scene show resolution?

General

- If a "teaser" is used, did it set the tone and draw you into the performance?
- Introduction
 - Did the performer state the Author and Title?
 - Did the performer give background information to set up the selection if needed?
 - Was the delivery natural and conversational?
 - Did the performers show contrast in delivery between their intro and the cutting?
- Has the performer established and maintained continuity with their character(s)?
- Does the scene show a progression and move from point A to point B?

Extemporaneous Speaking

Time: 6:00

1. The speaker should use his/her introduction to establish ethos, introduce the topic, and identify the organization of the speech.
2. The speaker should adapt to the question/topic drawn.
3. Organization should be a logical expression of ideas.
4. The speaker should exhibit effective use of language in the choice of words and phrasing.
5. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
6. The contestant should demonstrate vocal variety.
 - A. Pace or rate should be understandable and varied.
 - B. Pause should be used to indicate organization and for dramatic emphasis.
 - C. Pitch should be varied.
 - D. Tone should vary in relation to content.
7. Gestures should be used to enhance meaning.
8. Facial expressions and eye contact should be natural, appropriate and in communication.
9. The speaker should be poised but enthusiastic.

EVALUATE

Writing

- Is the speaker addressing the topic?
- Does the speaker answer the question by taking a position?
- Is there a THESIS STATEMENT and a PREVIEW present in the introduction?
- Is there a logical progression to the speech?
- Does the speaker use support for their argument?
- Does the support prove the points?
- Do the points prove the argument?
- Does the speech make sense?
- Does the speech include basic speech mechanics?

Delivery

- Is the speaker talking *to* you in a conversational style or are they talking *at* you?
- Does the speaker engage their audience with eye contact?
- Does the speaker use movement that is logical to the progression of the speech?
- Does the speaker use gestures to enhance their presentation?
- Did the writing allow the speaker to speak comfortably about the topic?
- Was the performer a credible speaker?

Humorous Duet Acting

Time: 8:00

1. The introduction should name the work, the author, and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
2. Eye contact should be direct and comprehensive during the introduction.
3. This event is acting as distinguished from interpretation.
4. A table and two chairs are the only props allowed. Costumes, make-up, and sound effects are not permitted. The use of an article of apparel as a prop is not permitted. **Actors cannot stand on the table or chairs.**
5. Characters may speak to off-stage or silent characters but must not portray more than one character. ***It is acceptable for a performer to play more than one character if an author assigns multiple characters to one actor.***
6. There should be clear communication of the mood or idea of the work as a whole.
7. Movement should flow naturally from the characters, giving proper focus on action and reaction.
8. Character should be maintained.
9. The memorization should be natural and effective.
10. The actors should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication.
 - A. They should change pitch.
 - B. They should change pace or rate.
 - C. They should change vocal quality.
 - D. They should use the pause for dramatic effect or clarity.
11. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
12. The actors should demonstrate an awareness of the rise and fall of emotional sub text.

EVALUATE

Blocking

- Are the characters moving with purpose?
- Is the movement motivated by the text?
- Does the movement enhance the scene?

Characters

- Are the characters real?
- Are their actions motivated?
- Do they listen to each other?
- Do they act and react to what is happening in the scene?
- Are characters consistent?
- Do the characters grow throughout the scene?

Text

- Does the scene make sense?
- Does it build to a climax?

General

- If a "teaser" is used, did it set the tone and draw you into the performance?
- Introduction
 - Did the performer state the author and title?
 - Did the performer give background information to set up the selection if needed?
 - Was the delivery natural and conversational?
 - Did the performers show contrast in delivery between their intro and the cutting?
- Is acting taking place or are the actors simply saying the words and moving about?
- Are the actors working together?
- Is the duet balanced, or is one partner stronger than the other?
- Does the scene show a progression and move from point A to point B?

Humorous Interpretation

Time: 8:00

1. The introduction should name the work and the author and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
2. Eye contact should be direct and comprehensive during the introduction and transitions.
3. The memorization should be natural and effective.
4. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
5. The selection should contain a reasonable depth of character and theme.
6. The Interpreter should demonstrate an awareness of the rise and fall of emotional sub text.
7. Characters should be distinct from each other.
8. Character should be maintained.
9. Bodily suggestions should be used.
10. The contestant should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication.
 - A. They should change pitch.
 - B. They should change pace or rate.
 - C. They should change vocal quality.
 - D. They should use the pause for dramatic effect or clarity.
11. There should be clear communication of the mood or idea of the work as a whole.
12. The performance should be an interpretation, not an example of acting. Interpreters may perform either monologue and multiple character work.

EVALUATE

Technique

- Are the characters "popping" or does the performer slide from characters to character?
- Is there distinct vocal and physical developed for each of the characters?
- Is the contrast between the characters?

Characters

- Are the characters stylized to the type of literature being performed?
- Are the character's actions motivated?
- Do the characters listen to each other?
- Do the characters act and react to what is happening in the scene?
- Are the characters consistent vocally and physically?
- Do the characters grow throughout the scene?

Text

- Does the scene make sense?
- Does it build to a climax?
- Does the scene show resolution?

General

- If a "teaser" is used, did it set the tone and draw you into the performance?
- Introduction
 - Did the performer state the Author and Title?
 - Did the performer give background information to set up the selection if needed?
 - Was the delivery natural and conversational?
 - Did the performers show contrast in delivery between their intro and the cutting?
- Has the performer established and maintained continuity with their character(s)?
- Does the scene show a progression and move from point A to point B?

Standards for Excellence: The organization of the speech should be such that the introduction gains attention and previews the main points which are clear and in logical order. The conclusion should be satisfactory. Speakers should demonstrate reasonable creativity in analysis, logic, and exposition of the topic and literary devices. In delivery, the speaker should be poised, hold attention, use language effectively, and demonstrate variety in mechanics.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

TIME: 2 min prep, 6 min speech

1. The speaker should use his/her introduction to establish ethos, introduce the topic, and identify the organization of the speech.
2. The speaker should adapt to the question/topic drawn.
3. Organization should be a logical expression of ideas.
4. The speaker should exhibit effective use of language in the choice of words and phrasing.
5. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal variety should enhance communication.
6. The contestant should demonstrate vocal variety.
 - A. Pace or rate should be understandable and varied.
 - B. Pause should be used to indicate organization and for dramatic emphasis.
 - C. Pitch should be varied.
 - D. Tone should vary in relation to content.
7. Gestures should be used to enhance meaning.
8. Facial expressions and eye contact should be natural and appropriate.
9. The speaker should be poised but enthusiastic.

EVALUATE

Content

- Is the speaker addressing the topic?
- Is there a THESIS STATEMENT and a PREVIEW in the introduction?
- Is there a logical progression to the speech with examples that relate to the topic?

Delivery

- Does the speaker talk to the audience in a conversational style?
- Does the speaker engage the audience with eye contact?
- Does the speaker use movement that is logical to the progression of the speech?
- Does the speaker use gestures to enhance the presentation?
- Does the speaker speak comfortably and with credibility about the topic?

INFORMATIVE SPEAKING

**As of 9/09, no SCOTIE standards of excellence exist for this event because it was just added to the IHSA series

EVALUATE

Content

- Does the speaker use an effective attention getter (story, statement, rhetorical question, or some similar technique)?
- Does the speaker use a THESIS STATEMENT and PREVIEW in the introduction?
- Is there a logical progression of ideas?
- Does the speaker explain the topic of the speech in a clear, concise way?
- Does the speech contain pertinent, relevant data to support its ideas?
- Overall, is the speech informative (rather than persuasive)?

Delivery

- Does the speaker talk to the audience in a conversational style?
- Does the speaker engage the audience with eye contact?
- Does the speaker use movement that is logical to the progression of the speech?
- Does the speaker use gestures to enhance the presentation?
- Does the speaker speak comfortably and with credibility about the topic?

Oratorical Declamation

Time: 8:00

1. The introduction should name the work and the author and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
2. While by definition a declamation is the oral interpretation of a previously delivered speech, persuasive or inspirational material is acceptable.
3. Bodily suggestion should be used.
4. The contestant should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication..
 - A. They should change pitch.
 - B. They should change rate or pace.
 - C. They should change tone.
 - D. They should use the pause for dramatic effect or clarity.
5. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
6. The memorization should be natural and effective.
7. Facial expression and eye contact should be natural, appropriate, and aid communication.
8. The performance should be an interpretation, not an example of acting.
9. There should be clear communication of the mood or idea of the work as a whole.
10. The reader should demonstrate an awareness of and building to a climax.

EVALUATE

Delivery

- If a "teaser" is used, did it set the tone and draw you into the performance?
- Introduction
 - Did the performer state the Author and Title?
 - Did the performer give background information to set up the selection if needed?
 - Was the delivery natural and conversational?
 - Did the performer show contrast in delivery between their cutting and their introduction?
- Is the speaker talking **to** you in a conversational style or are they talking **at** you?
- Does the speaker engage their audience with eye contact?
- Does the speaker use movement that is logical to the progression of the speech?
- Does the speaker use gestures to enhance their presentation?
- Did the speaker embody the message of the speech?

Original Oratory

Time: 8:00

1. The speaker should use the opening to establish ethos, introduce the topic, and make his/her central theme clear.
2. The speaker should be addressing a relatively current issue.
3. Organization should be a logical expression of ideas.
4. The speech should contain specific supportive data.
5. When the contestant is speaking from memory, his/her presentation should be natural.
6. The speaker should exhibit effective use of language in his choice of words and phrasing.
7. The speaker should be poised but enthusiastic.
8. Appearance should be pleasant and not distracting.
9. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
10. The contestant should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication..
 - A. Pace or rate should be understandable and varied
 - B. The pause should be used to indicate organization and for dramatic emphasis.
 - C. Pitch should be varied.
 - D. Vocal quality should vary in relationship to content.
11. Gestures should be used to enhance meaning.
12. Facial expression and eye contact should be natural, appropriate and aid communication.
13. Neither the speaker's delivery nor his/her content should overshadow the other: both are significant parts of the total performance.

EVALUATE

Writing

- Is the speech persuasive?
- Does the speech set up a problem?
- Does the speech offer a solution?
- Is there a THESIS STATEMENT and a PREVIEW present in the introduction?
- Does the speech progress in a logical manner?
- Does the speech use a persuasive model?
 - Monroe's Motivated Sequence
 - Cause and Effect
 - Problem Solution
- Does the speech contain pertinent, relevant data to support it's ideas?
- Is the speech successful in persuading you?

Delivery

- Is the speaker talking **to** you in a conversational style or are they talking **at** you?
- Does the speaker engage their audience with eye contact?
- Does the speaker use movement that is logical to the progression of the speech?
- Does the speaker use gestures to enhance their presentation?
- Did the speaker speak comfortably about the topic?
- Was the performer a credible speaker?

Original Comedy

Time: 8:00

1. The work should have a unifying idea.
2. There is no restriction as to form as long as the material is original.
3. Organization should be a logical expression of ideas.
4. When the contestant is speaking from memory, his presentation should be natural.
5. The speaker should be poised but enthusiastic.
6. The speaker should exhibit effective use of language in his/her choice of words and phrasing.
7. Appearance should be pleasant and not distracting.
8. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
9. The speaker should demonstrate vocal variety.
 - A. Pace and rate should be understandable and varied.
 - B. The pause should be used to indicate organization and for dramatic emphasis.
 - C. Pitch should be varied.
 - D. Vocal quality should vary in relation to content.
10. Bodily expression should enhance meaning.
11. Facial expression and eye contact should be natural, appropriate and aid communication.
12. Neither the speaker's delivery nor his/her content should overshadow the other: both are significant parts of the total performance.

EVALUATE

Writing

- Is the work original?
- Does the work have a good premise?
- Is it work well written?
- Is the writing funny?
- Is it writing creative or is it predictable?
- Does the writing develop:
 - Exposition
 - Rising Action
 - Climax
 - Falling Action
 - Resolution

Delivery

- Does the performer understand the humor?
- Are they executing it?
- Is the performance working on all levels: physical, vocal, emotional?
- Are the characters stylized to the type of humor?
- Are the character's actions motivated?
- Do the characters listen to each other?
- Do the characters act and react to what is happening in the scene?
- Are the characters consistent vocally and physically?
- Do the characters grow throughout the scene?

Poetry Reading

Time: 8:00

1. The introduction should name the work and the author and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
2. There should be a unity to the program as a whole, made clear by the introduction and transitional material.
3. The reader should demonstrate an awareness of the importance of the imagery and sound devices in poetry by paying special attention to pause and change of pace..
4. Eye contact should be direct and comprehensive.
 - A. There should be eye contact during the introduction and transitions.
 - B. There should be sufficient familiarity with the script to provide opportunity for eye contact.
5. Facial expression should be natural, appropriate, and aid communication.
6. The contestant should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication.
 - A. They should change pitch.
 - B. They should change pace or rate.
 - C. They should change tone.
 - D. They should use the pause for dramatic effect or clarity.
7. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
8. Bodily suggestion may be used.
9. The student had selected material appropriate to his/her abilities.

EVALUATE

Delivery

- If a "teaser" is used, did it set the tone and draw you into the performance?
- Introduction
 - Did the performer state the Author and Title?
 - Did the performer give background information to set up the selection if needed?
 - Was the delivery natural and conversational?
 - Did the performer show contrast in delivery between their program and their introduction?
- Was the reader connected to the selection(s)?
- Did the reader make eye contact with their audience?
- Was the reader connected to their book?
- Did the reader actually "read" from the book or was the book just a formality?
- Was the reader's bookwork effective or distracting?

NOTE:

- A good reader will be involved in the literary devices of the genre, and as a result will get you involved in the verse.

Remember this is a "reading" event, not an "acting," or "interp" event. Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation are separate events.

Prose Reading

Time: 8:00

1. The introduction should name the work and the author and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
2. If the selection includes dialogue, characters should be distinct from each other.
3. The dialogue must be no more than 50% of the script.
4. There should be clear communication of the mood or idea of the work as a whole.
5. Eye contact should be direct and comprehensive.
 - A. There should be eye contact during the introduction and transitions.
 - B. There should be sufficient familiarity with the script to provide opportunity for eye contact.
6. Facial expression should be natural, appropriate, and aid communication.
7. Bodily suggestions may be used.
8. The contestant should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication.
 - A. They should change pitch.
 - B. They should change pace or rate.
 - C. They should change tone.
 - D. They should use the pause for dramatic effect or clarity.
9. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
10. The reader should demonstrate an awareness of, and a building to a climax.
11. The student had selected material appropriate to his abilities.

EVALUATE

Delivery

- If a "teaser" is used, did it set the tone and draw you into the performance?
- Introduction
 - Did the performer state the author and title?
 - Did the performer give background information to set up the selection if needed?
 - Was the delivery natural and conversational?
 - Did the performer show contrast in delivery between their cutting and their introduction?
- Was the reader connected to the selection?
- Did the reader make eye contact with their audience?
- Was the reader connected to their book?
- Did the reader actually "read" from the book or was the book just a formality?
- Was the reader's bookwork effective or distracting?
- Did the reader tell a complete story?

NOTE:

- A good reader will be involved in their story, and as a result will get you involved in the story.

Remember this is a "reading" event, not an "acting," or "interp" event. Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation are separate events

Radio Speaking

Time: 4:50-5:05

1. The speaker should be lively and energetic; the sign-on should be smooth and poised.
2. Organization should be a logical progression of ideas; for example: international news, national news, state news, commercial, sports, weather, and sign-off.
3. The broadcast should demonstrate a balance in time devoted to various news items in keeping with their importance.
4. The speaker should move from one item to the next with appropriate transitions.
5. The speaker should use a persuasive tone in his/her commercial: the commercial should be placed in a logical and effective place in terms of the particular broadcast.
6. The speaker should exhibit effective use of language in his/her choice of words and phrasing.
7. The speaker should be poised, but enthusiastic.
8. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance the performance.
9. Articulation, enunciation, and vocal variety in terms of appropriate variations in volume, pitch, rate and use of pauses.
10. Extraneous noise should be avoided in the use of the microphone.
11. The speaker should move from one item to the next with appropriate transitions.
12. Violators of the time limit should be ranked down.

EVALUATE

Cutting

- Sign-on
 - Does the sign-on preview the lead stories?
 - Does the sign-on identify speaker and station call letters?
 - Does the sign-on identify the sponsor?
- Does the cutting have a good balance of news?
 - International
 - National
 - State
 - Local
 - Sports
 - Weather
- Is there a commercial?
- Is the reader using transitions to move the broadcast forward?
- Sign-off
 - Does the sign-off let the listening know when they can tune in for the next broadcast?
 - Does the sign-off identify the sponsor
 - Does the sign-on identify speaker and station call letters?

Delivery

- Does the performer read "clean?"
- Does the reader use various tones to match the types of stories they are reading?
- Does the reader "sell" the commercial?
- Does the reader connect with the audience in the sign-on and sign-off?
- Does the reader maintain flow throughout or do they rush or stretch to make time?
- Does the reader make you want to listen to them?
- Did the reader make time?

Special Occasion Speaking

Time: 8:00

1. The speaker should be him or herself speaking in a realistic situation.
2. The speaker should establish the occasion within the context of the speech.
3. The purpose of the speech should be to entertain while presenting a practical message.
4. The presentation should be natural.
5. The speaker should exhibit effective use of language in his choice of words and phrasing.
6. The speaker should be pleasant and not distracting.
7. Appearance should be pleasant and not distracting.
8. Articulation, enunciation and vocal quality should enhance communication.
9. The speaker should demonstrate vocal variety.
 - A. Pace or rate should be understandable and varied.
 - B. The pause should be used to indicate organization and for dramatic emphasis.
 - C. Pitch should be varied.
 - D. Vocal quality should vary in relation to content.
10. Gestures should enhance meaning when used.
11. Facial expression and eye contact should be natural, appropriate and aid communication.
13. The student may use notes or manuscript or speak from memory.

EVALUATE

Writing

- Is the audience a realistic group that the speaker can address?
- Is the topic of the speech relevant to the audience?
- Does the speaker address and identify the audience and the occasion for the speech?
- Is there a THESIS STATEMENT and a PREVIEW present in the introduction?
- Does the speech progress in a logical manner?
- Does the speech contain pertinent, relevant data to support its ideas?
- Does the speech use basic speech mechanics?
- Is the humor directed toward the audience?
- Does the speech connect to the audience?

Delivery

- Is the speaker talking **to** you in a conversational style or are they talking **at** you?
- Does the speaker engage their audience with eye contact?
- Does the speaker use movement that is logical to the progression of the speech?
- Does the speaker use gestures to enhance their presentation?
- Does the delivery style match the tone in which the speech was written?