

Creed Speaking

Objective:

To develop the abilities of beginning FFA members to interpret a written piece of work specific to the FFA organization and to express oneself through public speaking, including both verbal and non-verbal communication skills.

A. Rules and Regulations

1. The event is open to FFA members in good standing who are enrolled in agricultural education coursework during one or both semesters of the current school year, are in the ninth grade, and have not placed first in the state Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event (LDE) previously.
2. Each district will determine the number of individuals per school allowed to compete at the district level. Each district may send the top two individuals, with up to two additional teams identified as alternates, to the state level competition regardless of ribbon color awarded at the district level.
3. In addition to the Creed Speaking LDE, a Creed Speaking participant may compete in only one of the following events in a given year: Conduct of Chapter Meetings, Senior Parliamentary Procedure, or Agricultural Demonstration. They are not eligible to compete in any additional individual (not team-based) Leadership Development Events in the same year in which they participate in Creed Speaking.
4. Participants will be held in isolation until their presentation. Participants will not be allowed to have contact with any outside persons. No cell phones or electronic devices with communication capabilities will be allowed in the holding room. Members found to have these items in their possession will be disqualified from the competition.
5. The FFA Creed must be presented from memory, without the use of index or note cards. Each participant shall begin the presentation by stating "The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany." Each participant shall end the presentation with the statement "...that inspiring task. Thank you." Additional introductory or concluding remarks will result in accuracy deductions as indicated on the scoring rubric.
6. The event will be a timed activity with four minutes allowed for the oral presentation. After four minutes, one point for every second over time will be deducted from the participant's final score on all judges' scorecards.
7. The event will include answering questions directly related to the FFA Creed. Each participant will be asked three questions per round, with a five-minute time limit for responses. Sample questions will not be available prior to the event. Judges shall be provided five questions from which to choose. Different question sets may be rotated through district competitions at the discretion of the state office.
8. One timer will record the time used by each participant in delivering the FFA Creed, and this timekeeper will also monitor the time used and available for the purpose of questions asked after the delivery of the FFA Creed.
9. No video recording will be allowed in the performance room in order to maintain the integrity of the event at future locations.

B. Suggested Guide for Conducting District FFA Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event

Prior to the Event

1. The order of appearance will be determined in advance of the event.

2. Provide the following to each evaluator:
 - a. FFA Creed Speaking Rules (this document)
 - b. Scoring Rubric – one per participant
 - c. The FFA Creed
 - d. Official Score Card/Results Sheets
 - e. Order of Appearance Sheet

Start Event

1. No one is to enter or leave the room while a participant is speaking.
2. Each participant shall be introduced by the individual coordinating the event. Introduction will include the participant's name and chapter.
Example: The following speaker is Alex Greenhand from the Blue and Gold FFA Chapter.
3. Each participant will recite the FFA Creed. A maximum of four minutes shall be allowed for reciting of the FFA Creed, and the timer must record the time and forward to the evaluators.
4. A maximum of five minutes shall be allowed for evaluators to question each participant following their recitation of the Creed. The questions will follow the Creed presentations.

After Event

1. Each evaluator must total each participant's score and arrive at the placing. Discussion between evaluators is allowed and encouraged. Audience members and participants **shall not** be present during evaluator discussion.
2. Ribbons may be awarded according to the guidelines on the results sheets. The top four participants shall be ranked, regardless of their ribbon assignment, and up to two individuals regardless of their ribbon rating at the district level may advance to the state round of competition. Advancing speakers are to be of high quality.
3. A critique sheet shall be completed for each participant.
4. Two copies of the results should be completed on the sheets provided. List the name and chapter of each participant.
5. District FFA board representatives must verify membership of all state-qualifying participants within one week of the district event.

Event Attire

1. Each participant shall wear the official FFA dress as defined in the FFA Manual: A white collared shirt or blouse, official FFA tie or scarf, black trousers or skirt, black shoes, and FFA jacket.
2. Points may be deducted for variance from official dress.

C. Official Score Card

Oral Communication:

Pace..... 10
 Tone 10
 Volume 10

Non-verbal Communication:

Eye contact..... 10
 Mannerism and gestures 10
 Poise 10

Question and Answer:

Response to questions.....	10
Support	15
Knowledge of agriculture ...	<u>15</u>
Total.....	100

D. Awards Recognition

1. District Awards: Participants meriting awards shall be rated as purple, blue, red, or white and the top four participants shall be ranked by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th). Each district may send the top two contestants, with up to two additional contestants identified as alternates, to the state round of competition.
2. State Awards: Participants in the state event will be designated as gold, silver, or bronze medal recipients. The winning Creed speaker will advance to the national level of competition. Subsequently placing speakers may be asked to advance if the state champion is unable to compete at the national level.

CREED SPEAKING EVENT CRITIQUE SHEET

Participant: _____ FFA Chapter: _____

INDICATOR	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Points
Oral communication- 30 points						
Pace	Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience.	Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations.	Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience.		X 2	
Tone	Voice is upbeat, impassioned and under control.	Voice is somewhat upbeat, impassioned and under control.	Voice is not upbeat; lacks passion and control.		X 2	
Volume	Emitted a clear, audible voice for the audience present.	Emitted a somewhat clear, audible voice for the audience present.	Emitted a barely audible voice for the audience present.		X 2	
Comments:						
Non-verbal communication- 30 points						
Eye contact	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100 percent of the time).	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. Mostly looks around the audience (60-80 percent of the time).	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50 percent of the time).		X 2	
Mannerisms and gestures	Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points. No nervous habits.	Sometimes exhibits nervous habits. Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize.	Displays some nervous Habits. Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting.		X 2	
Poise	Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions)	Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure.	Lacks confidence and composure.		X 2	
Comments:						

Response to questions- 40 points

Response to questions	Is able to respond with organized thoughts and concise answers.	Is able to speak effectively and sometimes gets off topic. Answer lacks organization.	Response fails to answer question.		X 2	
Support	Always provides details which support answers/basis of the question.	Usually provides details which are supportive of the answers/basis of the question.	Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the answers/basis of the question.		X 3	
Knowledge of topic	Answer shows knowledge of agriculture.	Answer shows limited knowledge of agriculture.	Answer shows no knowledge of agriculture.		X3	

Comments:

- *-1 point per second over time, determined by the timekeeper.
- ** -2 points per word at district events, determined by the accuracy judge.
- ** -5 points per word at the state event, determined by accuracy judge.

Gross Total Points	
Time Deduction*	
Accuracy Deduction**	
NET TOTAL POINTS	

***Student may not receive a negative overall score. Zero is the lowest possible score.**

General Comments:

CREED SPEAKING EVENT SCORE SHEET

Participant: _____ FFA Chapter: _____

INDICATOR	Very strong evidence of skill is present	Moderate evidence of skill is present	Strong evidence of skill is not present	Total Points
Oral communication- 30 points				
Pace <i>(10 points maximum)</i>				
Tone <i>(10 points maximum)</i>				
Volume <i>(10 points maximum)</i>				
Non-verbal communication- 30 points				
Eye contact <i>(10 points maximum)</i>				
Mannerisms and gestures <i>(10 points maximum)</i>				
Poise <i>(10 points maximum)</i>				
Response to questions- 40 points				
Response to questions <i>(10 points maximum)</i>				
Support <i>(15 points maximum)</i>				
Knowledge of topic <i>(15 points maximum)</i>				
Sub-Total Points				
-1 point per second over time, determined by the timekeeper.				Time Deduction
-2 points per word at district events, determined by the accuracy judge.				Accuracy Deduction
**-5 points per word at the state event, determined by accuracy judge.				
Total Points				

*Student may not receive a negative overall score. Zero is the lowest possible score.

GENERAL COMMENTS: