

## *Extemporaneous Public Speaking – American Farmers and Ranchers*

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### 1. EVENT RULES

- Oklahoma FFA Rules apply to the AFR Extemporaneous category.
- The event is open to students who are currently in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade of high school.
- The top two placing students in each district will advance to the state contest.
- The selection of topics will be held 30 minutes before the event. The participants will draw three specific topics, selected at random from a pool of approximately 10, relating to the industry of agriculture. After selecting the topic, they desire to speak on, all three topics will be returned for the next drawing.
- Topics will be prepared by AFR and will include subjects from the following categories.
  - Agricultural literacy and advocacy
  - Current agricultural issues
  - Advancing agriculture through agricultural science
  - Current technology uses and applications in agriculture
  - Agri-marketing and international agriculture
  - Food and fiber systems
- Participants will be admitted to the preparation room at 15-minute intervals and given exactly 30 minutes for topic selection and preparation.
- Participants may have up to 10 minutes to conduct online research. Computers will not be provided and must be brought by the student. Access to email, Dropbox or any prepared materials are prohibited. A room monitor will be the official timekeeper for each contestant's technology time. The use of prepared notes or speeches, even if accessed with technology time, is prohibited and will be grounds for disqualification.
- The officials in charge of the event will screen reference material on the following basis:
  - Must be limited to five items.
  - May be printed material such as books or magazines.
  - May be printed compilations of materials collected from internet research.
  - To be counted as one item, a notebook or folder of collected materials may contain no more than 100 single-sided pages or 50 double-sided pages numbered consecutively.
  - Cannot be notes or speeches prepared by the participant or by another person for the purpose of this event.
- Each speech should be the result of the participant's own effort using approved reference material which the participant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance may be provided.

- Participants must use the uniform note cards provided. Any notes for public speaking must be made during the 30-minute preparation period. A participant will be permitted to use note cards while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.
- Each speech shall be a minimum of four minutes in length and a maximum of six minutes.
- Speakers may use a watch to keep a record of their time. Event officials or observers will give no-time warnings.
- Participants may only enter their corresponding judging room during their presentation. Failure to comply will mean automatic disqualification of the participant.
- The room coordinator of the event will introduce the participant by name and chapter. The room coordinator will also introduce the participant's chosen topic.
- A student that wins a state speaking division is ineligible to speak again in the division.
- No props are to be used. Failure to comply will mean automatic disqualification of the participant.
- Each speech must mention American Farmers and Ranchers or Oklahoma Farmers Union or the acronym AFR or OFU or participants will be automatically disqualified.

## 2. JUDGING

- Following the presentation, each judge will formulate and ask questions. Questions will pertain directly to the material presented by the speaker. A maximum of five-minute question period will be allotted. Judges will score each participant on the ability to answer all questions asked by all judges.
- No audio or video recorders will be allowed in the contest room.
- When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score for each participant. On the bottom line of the score sheet, each judge will rank each participant in numerical order based on the final score. Judges will complete the judging process without consultation with each other.