



Oratorical Competition Youth In Action Day 2018



Scholastic Motivation Ministries of the
Northern Georgia Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

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About the Competition

The characteristic of oratory, which distinguishes it from public speaking, in general, is its appeal to the emotions. No matter how clear, logical, or effective speaking may be, as long as it appeals primarily to the intellect, it remains public speaking.

When, however, emotions are touched—love, joy, hate, ambition—then speaking becomes oratory. And although oratory appeals powerfully to the emotions of the hearer, yet it is not necessarily preaching.

Oratory is composed of two elements: matter and manner. When one gives an oration, one should be certain of the content and substance of his/her oration.

Levels

Junior Competition (Ages 12-15)

Senior Competition (Ages 16-22)

Rules

Participants will have to write and organize a speech on a selected topic. Participants will have a maximum of five (5) minutes for their speech and a minimum of three (3) minutes. **Your speech must be in the time frame of 3-5 minutes.** Please time your speech, because a bell will be rung at five (5) minutes. **ALL SPEECHES MUST BE MEMORIZED. NO PARTICIPANT WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE ORATORICAL CONTEST WHO HAS NOT MEMORIZED HIS/HER SPEECH.** All speeches must be original to the young person. In other words, speeches may not be written for the

young person. Only the speaker and the judges will be allowed in the room during presentations. The other contestants will remain in a waiting area until it is their turn to speak. Please have a typed or printed copy of your speech to submit to the judges upon entering the judging room. Five points will be deducted from a participants overall score, if their speech is less than 3 minutes or more than 5 minutes.

Participants will be judged on organization of speech, articulation of words, voice, memorization, stage presence, directness, enthusiasm, bodily action, eye contact, and pace. Participants **WILL ONLY** compete in the assigned session from the database sheet.

The winners for each group **WILL NOT** be announced at the end of the activity. The winner will be announced during the afternoon program and all participants will therefore have to be ready to give their speeches during the program just in case they win. There will not be a first, second, and third place winner for each level. There will be one winner from each level (Junior/Senior Competition). If a level has less than four "4" participants, the First & Second Sessions will be combined for awards purposes.

Tie Breakers – Participants will be given the option to give an impromptu speech at the end of their oration. This speech is **NOT** mandatory but will be used in the event of a tie. If you choose not to give the impromptu speech and a tie does occur, you will not be eligible. Impromptu speeches will be graded separately from your oration and scores will only be used in the event of a tie. Topics for impromptu speeches will be kept in a sealed envelope to be opened by the participant at the time of the speech. Impromptu questions must not exceed **3 minutes**. If a tie occurs from impromptu scores, participants may be called back to give their original speeches with judges selected at random.

Tips for Developing Oration

- I. **Suggest Speech Format**
 - A. Introduction
 1. Favorable attention statement
 2. Statements of clarity
 - B. Body
 1. Main points
 2. Supporting details
 - C. Conclusion
- II. Language Awareness
 - A. Diction (enunciation of words)
 - B. Grammar (appropriate use of language)
 - C. Articulation
 1. Clarity
 2. Creative use of language
 3. Vividness
 4. Interest
- III. Delivery and Stage Presence
 - A. Directness
 - B. Enthusiasm
 - C. Dress and physical appearance
 - D. Body Action
 - E. Voice
 - F. Pace

2018 Topic

How can young people maintain Christian values in a world that denounces Christian living?

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Oratorical Competition
February 2018

Scoring Sheet

Name _____

Church _____

Age _____

Circle One: Session I or II

Please score each category on a scale from 1 – 10.

Organization of Speech _____

Articulation of Words _____

Voice _____

Memorization _____

Stage presence _____

Directness _____

Enthusiasm _____

Bodily Action _____

Eye Contact _____

Pace _____

Total Points _____

Running Time of Speech _____

Impromptu Speech _____ (overall score of 1-10)