

TABLE TOPICS™ CONTEST

TIEBREAKING JUDGE'S GUIDE AND BALLOT



JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES																
		E X C E L L E N T	V E R Y G O O D	G O O D	F A I R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Speech Development Opening, Body, Close, Organization, Smoothness	C O N T E N T 5 5	30	23-29	17-22	0-16													
Effectiveness Logic, Directness, Enthusiasm Achievement of Purpose, Audience Response		25	18-24	11-17	0-10													
Physical Appearance, Body Language, Speaking Area	D E L I V E R Y 3 0	15	11-14	6-10	0-5													
Voice Flexibility, Volume		15	11-14	6-10	0-5													
Appropriateness To Speech Purpose And Audience	L A N G U A G E 1 5	10	8-9	6-7	0-5													
Correctness Grammar, Pronunciation, Word Selection		5	4	3	2													
TOTAL SCORE (100 Points Possible)																		

(Detach and submit to chief judge)

Tiebreaking Judge's Official Ballot – Table Topics™ Contest

Name of Contestant _____

First Place: _____ Fourth Place: _____ Seventh Place: _____

Second Place: _____ Fifth Place: _____ Eighth Place: _____

Third Place: _____ Sixth Place: _____ Ninth Place: _____

Tenth Place: _____

(Signature of Judge)

(Judge's Name; Please Print)

JUDGING CRITERIA

Content (55%)

Speech Development is the way the speaker puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. The Table Topics™ response is structured around a purpose, and this structure must include an opening, body and conclusion. The response is supported by relevant examples and illustrations, facts and figures, if appropriate, and is delivered smoothly.

Effectiveness is your subjective judgement of how the response came across. Were you able to determine the speaker's purpose? Did the speech relate directly to the given question or topic? Was the response clearly and logically presented?

Delivery (30%)

Physical presentation of the response carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. The speaker's appearance should reinforce his or her response. Body language should support points through gestures, expressions and body positioning. The speaker makes effective use of and stays within the designated speaking area.

Voice is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood.

Language (15%)

Appropriateness of language refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech purpose and to the particular audience hearing the speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely.

Correctness of language ensures that attention will be directed toward what the speaker says, not how it is said. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words being used.

JUDGE'S CODE OF ETHICS

1. Judges will consciously avoid bias of any kind in placing all contestants. They will not consider any contestant's club, area, division or district affiliation. Nor will they consider any contestant's age, sex, race, creed, national origin, profession or political beliefs. They will demonstrate the utmost objectivity.
2. Judges will not time the speeches and will not consider the possibility of under-time or overtime when judging a contestant's speech.
3. Judges will support by word and deed the contest rules and judging standards, refraining from public criticism of the contest and revealing scores and ranking only in accordance with official policy.