

A) Judging Criteria

Table topics speech contest (TTC)

a) Speech development – opening, body, close, organization, smoothness (30%)

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

b) Effective – logic, directness, enthusiasm, achievement of purpose, audience response (25%)

The judge's subjective judgment of how the response come across. Was the judge 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?

c) Physical – appearance, body language (15%)

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.

d) Voice – flexibility, volume (15%)

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.

e) Language – appropriate to speech, purpose & audience, good grammar, pronunciation & word selection (15%)

Choice of words that relate to the story. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words being used.

B) Timing

For table topics speech contest: each speech within 1.0 to 2.5 minutes. The green light, amber light, and red light would be switched on after 1.0, 1.5, and 2.0 minutes respectively.

Note: for all contests, upon being the red light being switched on, the red light will remain on until the end of the presentation by the contestant. There is no indication of overrun of time, if any.