

## INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

Please accept the thanks and appreciation of The American Legion for your willingness to serve as a judge for the important Americanism program.

Impartial judging in all contests is the key to the fairness and success of the program. The method of judging and scoring by the point values indicated in the enclosed Missouri Rules pamphlet was devised especially for this contest to provide judges with criteria to select fairly and adequately the best contestant in the contest. It is important that you read and study this material carefully prior to the contest. The following data is a brief summary for ready reference.

1. This contest is to be judged by not less than three (3) nor more than five (5) judges. The decision of the judges shall be final.
2. No publicity shall be given to the names of the judges prior to the contest.
3. The Chairman will introduce students by number only, and shall not introduce them by name until the judges' decision has been made known.
4. Judges are to be seated separately at different locations throughout the auditorium and are not permitted to confer with one another, unless the Chairman deems it necessary because of a tie resulting from the tabulation of the judges' ballots.
5. The scoring is on the system of total of 100 points, and judges should carefully note this scoring system in relation to the factors in the rules and on the score ballot.
6. The oration must be based on some phase of the Constitution of the United State which will give Emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government, and lack of such emphasis must result in the judges' downgrading the contestant by up to ten (10) points.
7. Judges shall give more consideration to the treatment of the subject than to emotional topics in the oration.
8. The delivery time shall not be less than five (5) minutes nor more that six (6) minutes. If a contestant fails to use all of the allotted time or uses more that the allotted time, a penalty of one (1) point for each minute or fraction thereof shall be assessed against the contestant's total score.
9. Quotations are to be indicated as such, and if quotations are more than ten (10) word in length, the name of the author must be given.
10. The penalty for plagiarism shall be disqualification.
11. At the close of the contest, judges should be sure to fill out their ballots completely in accordance with the Rules, total all columns, indicate numerically their record of choice, and affix their signatures.
12. Tabulators appointed by the Chairman will collect the judges' ballots, and tabulate the results. The Chairman will announce the results of the contest to the audience, and will introduce the contestants and the judges.
13. The decision of the judges shall be final. Neither the Chairman nor the Tabulators are permitted to divulge the judges' scores at the site of the contest. Persons interested in the scoring for professional purposes, may be mailed copies of the scores at later date with the names of the judges omitted.



Judge Duane Benton, Chairman  
Department Oratorical Commission

COUNTY AND GROUP HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST  
THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC.

JUDGES BALLOT

Name of Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

CONTESTANTS NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>A. CONTENT</b>							
1. Originality, freshness, directness, applies knowledge on topic (16 points)							
2. Skill in selecting examples description, analogies, specific data (16 points)							
3. Logic (Correctness of Inference) (16 points)							
4. Comprehensiveness of knowledge, knows the subject matter (22 points)							
<b>B. SPEAKING SKILLS</b>							
1. Voice and Diction (10 points)							
2. Style: Language use, word arrangement, transition, word selection (10 points)							
3. Body Action: Poise, Eye Contact, Posture, and Gestures (10 points)							
PENALTY: 1 Point deducted for each minute or fraction thereof over or under allotted time.							
PENALTY: Up to 10 points may be deducted by judge for failure of oration to be on the U.S. Constitution.							
<b>FINAL TOTAL</b>							
<b>NUMBER YOUR CHOICE</b>							

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judges Signature