



## ODACS RULES

### Senior High, LEVEL III, GRADES 9-12

#### AREA THREE: SPEECH

##### GENERAL RULES

1. All material should be in good taste and of high quality. Entries will not be restricted to sacred themes. However, entries which reflect anti-Biblical themes, content, and/or word usage (including profanity or suggestive language) or which contain sensualism, humanism, or worldliness (including offensive performance) will be disqualified.
2. No student or group will perform the same selection in two consecutive years. In addition, the same selection is not to be used by multiple groups from the same school in the same year.
3. Singing of a song during a speech is to be limited to no more than one verse of one song or no more than 1.5 minutes of the speech. In addition, no instrument may be used to accompany the individual or group during the speech performance.
4. All selections are to be memorized (no scripts permitted), excluding the areas of Debate, Original Persuasive Oratory, and Extemporaneous Speaking.
5. Each student must submit three typewritten copies of his selection to the judges prior to his performance.
6. A lectern may be used in the categories of Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking only. ODACS Variation: A lectern may be used for Debate only. Extemporaneous Speaking contestants will be permitted to use a lectern at the AACS national competition but not for ODACS competition.
7. The following rules apply to Categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8.
  - a) Body movements should be primarily, but not limited to, movement above the waist.
  - b) No hand props or costume pieces will be permitted.
  - c) All selections will be taken from published works.
  - d) In addition to General Rule #9, the contestant may reintroduce himself, the selection, and author as well as provide the audience with necessary background information in order to set the mood for the piece. He may also give transitional narrative for clarity within the piece. These additions combined are not to exceed one minute and are included in the time limit. Transitional material must be included in the script provided for the judges.
8. The time limit for all *individual* categories (*Categories 1-8*) is 5 to 10 minutes. *With the exception of Debate*, the time limit for all group categories (*Categories 9-11*) is 5-13 minutes.
9. The judge will confirm the speaker, selection, and author. The judge will then announce to the individual or group, "You may begin." Timing and adjudication will then begin immediately.
10. Only one round of competition will be conducted unless an additional round is required by the tie-breaking procedure.
11. The guidelines used by the competition office in determining disqualifications and penalties for violations are in the General Information, page 7. There will be a point deduction for stopping and starting again.
12. Recording is absolutely prohibited except for the recording of a single entry by representatives of the participant's school for personal use. The recording of all or portions of the performance of more than one entry in any event is prohibited. In any case, the head judge may prohibit recording. No recording made by anyone other than competition officials may be considered for adjudication purposes.
13. ODACS Clarification: It is sometimes difficult to determine the category into which a speech fits best. Sometimes questions involve Dramatic Interpretation and Declamation, and sometimes they involve Dramatic Interpretation and Religious Reading. Competitors are urged to select speeches that clearly fit the categories. Some descriptive information is offered in appendix on page 145.

##### **Category 7: Extemporaneous Speaking**

(Time Limit: 5-10 minutes)

Definition: A persuasive speech on a current issue. The student will be given 30 minutes of preparation time. Topics, drawn randomly, will be from the January, February, and March issues of various magazines. Refer to the AACS web site for the current list. (ODACS Variation: Only the January and February issues will be used.)



1. Topics will be stated as questions requiring the student to take a position on the issue.
2. At ten minute intervals each student will draw three topic cards. The student will select one topic and advise the judge of his choice. All three topic cards will then be returned to the judge for subsequent drawings. Prior to a final round (if one is needed) all topic cards used in the preliminary rounds will be discarded.
3. Students will prepare speeches without consultation and without references to prepared notes.
  - a. Students may access research brought with them to the competition during the preparation period.
  - b. Students should *review* news articles and opinion pieces from reputable sources.
  - c. *Student research and speech references* are not limited to the magazines from which topics will be drawn. Research documents may be paper or electronic.
  - d. Students may not access the Internet during the 30-minute prep period.
  - e. All articles referenced must be printed or stored on a laptop or tablet.
  - f. Referenced documents may be originals or copies of whole pages.
  - g. No written material is permitted on any referenced document other than citation information.
  - h. Underlining or highlighting on referenced documents is permitted if done in only one color on each article.
  - i. Students may access no other material during the preparation period—no speeches, handbooks, outlines, or briefs are permitted.
4. Students will not receive any assistance during the preparation time.
5. A student is permitted to use one 3 x 5 card for notes.
6. The timekeeper will show numbered cards nine through one at one-minute intervals during the speech to alert the speaker of remaining time.
7. A competing student is not permitted to listen to another student until after he has completed his speech.