



# Knox County 4-H Public Speaking Contest

9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Local Contest Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Senior grade will give an informative speech on any topic, but you must include 4-H in the speech. There will be a separate division for each grade. The speech should not exceed seven minutes in length.

## Explanation

### A. Subject:

1. **Use of 4-H:** Does the speaker relate the speech to 4-H? Is the information accurate? Is the topic narrow enough for the message to be given completely? Is the information current? Or is the information seemingly out of date, too broad to be covered completely or incorrect? A perfect score for this category is 20 points, so scores may vary between 0 and 20 points.

*\*A contestant does not have a 4-H speech until the audience connects the speaker with 4-H, a statement such as, "We can all do something about the problem. Let's all get behind the solution: 4-H," should not qualify for any scoring in this section. The contestant must specifically tell how 4-H members can help.*

### B. Organization:

1. **Introduction:** Does the introduction catch the interest of the audience while presenting both the purpose and subject of the speech, or is the introduction uninteresting and inadequate? Speakers should not begin by giving name and club, or by recognizing the "honorable judges, ladies and gentlemen, etc." Scores may range from 0 to 6 points.

2. **Body:** Are the main points clearly stated? Does the speaker follow through with the purpose of the speech? Do ideas center around a central theme in a logical order, easily followed and understood by listeners, or does speech seem poorly organized with random ideas or with ideas which do not fit into the purpose of the speech? Points may range from 0 to 8.

3. **Conclusion:** Does the conclusion tie the main points of the speech to the purpose in an interesting way that makes the audience remember the speech? Or does the speech merely stop, leaving the audience wondering if the speaker has finished or not? Points will vary from 0 to 6 in this category.

### C. Delivery:

1. **Bodily Action:** Is the speaker poised and confident? Does the speaker maintain eye contact with the audience? Are movements and gestures natural, purposeful and spontaneous? If note cards are used, are they used effectively? Does the speaker present a friendly, conversational attitude? Or does the speaker fail to use facial expressions, eye contact and other gestures to his/her advantage? From 0 to 20 points are possible here.

2. **Voice:** Does the speaker vary the force of his/her voice? Or is the speaker monotonous? Is the speaker pleasant to listen to and loud enough to be heard? Is the speaker's voice clear, steady, rich and full instead of thin, harsh, nasal and shaky? Does the speaker vary the pitch of his/her voice for interest? Does the speaker use the rate at which he/she speaks effectively? Are all words pronounced clearly and correctly? Or does the speaker slur words together or sound mechanical? From 0 to 20 points are possible here.

### D. General:

1. **Personal Appearance:** As the speaker approaches the lectern, and throughout the presentation, is his/her posture good; does he/she stand solidly on the floor, are his/her clothes (whether or not they are new or fashionable) clean and pressed? Or does he/she sway from one foot to another, lean on the lectern or table; slump; and show poor grooming? Scores may vary from 0 to 8 points.

2. **Attentiveness and Reaction of Audience:** Is the audience affected in any way? Were they stirred, enthused, saddened, amused, motivated and awakened? Or were they bored, merely polite and unaffected by the presentation? Did you (audience) get the speaker's message? From 0 to 12 points are possible here.

## 4-H Public Speaking Score Card

<u>Points to Consider</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>
A. Speaker 1. Use of 4-H: (Information accurate, complete, up-to-date, appropriate)	20
B. Organization 1. Introduction: (Attention-getting, indicates direction and purpose of speech)	6
2. Body: (Main points clearly stated, follow through with purpose of speech)	8
3. Conclusion: (Ends with a purpose, summarizes)	6
C. Delivery 1. Bodily Action: (Poise, eye contact, gestures, speaker's attitude)	20
2. Voice: (Pitch, quality, force rate, articulation pronunciation)	20
D. General 1. Personal Appearance:	8
2. Attentiveness and reaction of audience:	12
<u>Total Points</u>	

