



Marking Scheme

The system below will be a guide for both speakers and judges alike:

PART 1 - Material (40 points)

A) Treatment of Topic	
Introduction	3
Knowledge of subject	4
Idea content	3
Organization of material	3
Development of material	3
Recapitulation and conclusion	4
B) Language	
Choice of words	5
Sentence structure	5
Grammatical usage	5
Originality and inventiveness	5

PART 2 - Delivery (60 points)

A) General Effectiveness	
Audience attention	4
Audience reaction	5
Achievement of purpose	5
Challenge to think	5
Sincerity and conviction	8
Methods to impress audience	5
B) Appearance and Voice	
Approach	3
Stance	3
Voice and tone quality	6
Platform manners and gestures	5
Fluency of speech	7
Composure	4
TOTAL	100

Criteria for Judging:

Introduction

- Immediately engages the audience's attention
- Relates the topic to self and to audience
- States the main idea of speech and previews main points

Organization / Development of ideas

- Displays the main ideas in a logical and memorable manner
- Development of the speech supported by relevant examples, verbal illustrations, facts, or analogies, which justify or elaborate to make the main ideas clearer
- Points are bridged by smooth transitions that enhance clarity and blend ideas to present a unified whole

Originality

- Student makes creative effort to share new and unique ideas
- Imaginative and engaging material

Vocabulary / Grammar

- Creative, colorful, powerful language choices
- Appropriate use of words that relate to the purpose of the speech and to the particular audience hearing the speech
- Language is vivid, specific, and definite, promoting clear understanding of subject
- Proper sentence structure with appropriate inflections

Conclusion

- Review of main points
- Effective, creative “bang” ending

Thought Provoking

- Shares insightful ideas that stimulate interest or thought
- Challenges audience to explore new ideas

Composure/Confidence

- Speaks with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in their reactions.
- Avoids distracting mannerisms and phrases, (“Um” etc.)

Body language / facial expression / eye contact

- Spoken naturally with minimal use of cue cards (NO reading!)
- Gestures appear natural and are synchronized with the voice
- The audience’s eyes are engaged and facial expressions are used for emphasis and effect

Voice and tone quality

- Voice is flexible, moving from one pitch to another for emphasis
- Rate of speech and volume vary to create interest and impact
- Voice can be clearly heard, with the words easily understood

Timing

- Speech delivered within the 3-5 minute time limit