

Spontaneous Events:

Impromptu - The contestants will enter the room one at a time and draw a slip of paper from the judge. On the slip will be three topic choices (concrete noun, abstract noun, current event or quotation). The contestant must choose one of the three. After drawing, the contestant has *TWO* minutes to prepare prior to speaking. The maximum time for the speech is *FIVE* minutes. There is no minimum time, and time signals should be given to the contestant. Stress is placed on the ability to marshal a variety of ideas on one subject in an organized, focused manner.

Extemporaneous Speaking - Prior to coming to the round, contestants draw three topics, choose one and are given 30 minutes to prepare an appropriate speech on a topic of significant contemporary interest discussed in major national news magazines during the weeks prior to the tournament. Contestants are permitted to use books, magazines, library aides, etc., but not to consult with other persons. Students must speak on the topic they have drawn. The maximum speaking time is 7 minutes. There is no minimum time, and time signals should be given to the contestant. Notes may not be used.

National Extemporaneous Speaking - This event focuses on the national political and economic issues of the United States and often includes American Foreign policy.

International Extemporaneous Speaking - This event focuses on international political and economic issues and often includes international relations and conflicts.