



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Zone G5 (Ottawa) PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST RULES & REGULATIONS



Due to limited time we are required to limit the number of entries as follows: Grades 1 to 6 – 30 entries and Grades 9– 12 – 30 entries. Registration forms will be accepted on first come first served basis upon arrival at the branch. Registration for Grades 1 to 6 starts at 8:00 am and Grades 7 to 12 starts at 12:30 pm at the address to be announced.

Please note that the legion will try to make sure that all students that wish to participate will be able to speak. Therefore it is important to sign up as soon as possible so we can adjust the time line for the day events.

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. The speaker may select any subject as their topic (no restriction on theme) and the speeches must be the **original work of the speaker**. The speaker will credit the authors of source material if referring to another person's work. Speeches that repeat verbatim another person's original work will not be accepted.
2. Visual aids, props, notes, etc. may be used to support the speech, notwithstanding that judges may add or deduct marks according to the manner in which they are used.
3. Speakers will not be allowed to use "**Power Point**" as a method of presentation or as a tool during presentation
4. The assistance of persons other than the Chairman is not permitted at any level of the contest.
5. A penalty of 5% of the total marks received will be imposed to a speech which is short of, or in excess of the time limit, before the total scores are compiled. No penalty will be levied in the Grade 1-3 division.
6. **Speeches will be 3-5 minutes for Grades 1 to 9 and 5-7 minutes for Grades 10 to 12.**
7. A penalty of 5% will be imposed to any candidate who freezes. Such candidate will be allowed to continue.

8. The speakers must commit themselves to progress through all levels of the competition, Branch, Zone, District, Area and Provincial should they continue to place first.
9. **A microphone may only be used by a Special Needs student. Such student will require a Medical Certificate from a Medical Practitioner to support this requirement.**
10. **No person, including press photographers, shall photograph or videotape a speaker during the contest unless prior permission is given by the Chairman.**
11. Speakers may not identify themselves during the contest except by first name. And they will divulge any other personal information. e.g... School, age, etc.
12. Each contestant will be assigned a number at the time of registration which will be used as the only means of identifying each contestant during the contest.
13. Contestants who are late for registration without **just cause** will be disqualified from the contest.
14. Only English or French will be allowed in the contest at all levels and speakers must continue to speak in their chosen language throughout all levels of the competition. Bilingual Judges will be used.
15. **Final registration will take place at 8:00 AM and 12:30 PM. The contest will begin 1/2 hour after the registration. Initial registration is done by emailing (staillon@ca.inter.net) or fax (613-829-6537) the registration form. Please bring the original sign registration with you on the day of the Public Speaking Contest.**
16. Any violation of the above rules & regulations will result in a penalty being imposed which could include disqualification from the competition and future competitions.



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Zone G5 (Ottawa)

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Judging & Time Guidelines



Public Speaking Contest Judging Guidelines

Grades 1 to 12	
Part 1	Delivery
Appearance - Suitable	5
Gesture - Natural, unaffected	5
Manner - natural, sincere	10
Sub-Total	20
Part 2	Material
Worthwhile - suited to topic	8
Organized - in logical order	8
Suitable - in keeping w/age & background	8
Originality - thought & presentation	20
Sub-Total	44
Part 3	Language & Literary Form
Words - effective & clear	9
Fluency - easy to follow	9
Grammar - correct usage	9
Pronunciation - correct w/good enunciation	9
Sub-Total	36
Total	100

Public Speaking Contest Time Guidelines

Category	Time of speech	Penalties imposed on speakers
Primary (Grades 1 to 3)	3 to 5 minutes	5% for contestant who freezes No time penalty will be level
Junior (Grades 4 to 6)	3 to 5 minutes	5% for contestant who freezes 5% for speeches not within stated time frame
Intermediate (Grades 7 to 9)	3 to 5 minutes	5% for contestant who freezes 5% for speeches not within stated time frame
Senior (Grades 10 to 12)	5 to 7 minutes	5% for contestant who freezes 5% for speeches not within stated time frame



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How to Register

1. Students who wish to enter the Royal Canadian Legion Zone G5 Public Speaking Contest will do the following:
 - a. Initial registration is done by email – staillon@ca.inter.net or by fax 613-829-6537. This will help with planning the day to make sure that everyone who wishes to participate will have a chance to speak.
 - b. Final registration is done on the day of the public speaking contest with:
 - i. Grades 1 to 6 contestants before the start of the morning session.
 - ii. Grades 7 to 12 contestants before the start of the afternoon session.
2. After initial registration, please consider yourself registered for the public speaking contest.
3. If there is a problem with your registration we will contact you. If you do not hear from us then you are registered for the contest.
4. When registering please provide the following:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Your school
 - c. Your grade
5. Please bring your signed registration form with you on the day of the public speaking contest.



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
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Frequently Asked Questions



Below are some frequently asked questions on our Public Speaking Contest.

Q: What subject can I speak about?

A: The topic is open (your choice). It is recommended that you choose a topic that interests you and will grab the attention of the audience and judges.

Q: Can I use the same speech that I plan to use in school or other public speaking contest?

A: Yes you can use the same speech that you use in school or other contest.

Q: Which language can I do my speech in?

A: You can do your speech in either French or English

Q: What is the time limit of the speech?

A: The time limit for the speech is as follows: Grade 1 to 9 – 3 to 5 minutes and Grade 10 to 12 - 5 to 7 minutes

Q: How long is the contest?

A: The contest is about 4 hours per session (morning or afternoon), but it mainly depends on the number of contestants we get.

Q: Any penalties for the contest?

A: The penalties for the contest are: 5% of total score for contestant that freezes during their speech and time penalty of 5% of total score for speeches that fall short or are longer than the allotted time. (Note: no time penalty for Grades 1 to 3)

Q: Are props, visual aids, cue cards, etc. allowed?

A: Yes props, visual aids, cue cards, costumes, etc. are allowed but note that marks maybe deducted according to the manner in which they are used. ie: the use of cue cards or notes, marks will be deducted if you read them or keep looking at them. They should be only used as reference.

Q: Is power point presentation allowed during my speech?

A: No power point presentation is not allowed during your speech.

Q: Is there a dress code?

A: There is no formal code but casual wear is suggested. Please try to avoid jeans and shirts with sayings on them, unless it is part of your props for your speech.

Q: What are the prizes for the contest?

A: All contestants will receive a participation medal. First, second and third place plaques will be handed out to the winners. Also, the school of the first place winner will receive a school plaque that they can display for a year. The first place winner also moves onto the next level of the contest.

Q: Can I change my speech?

A: You can change your speech right up to the time you present your speech. If you advance to the next level, you can only tweak (flow of the speech or length of time) your speech but the content must remain the same.

Q: How do I sign up for the Public Speaking Contest?

A: Initial registration is done by fax or email and final registration is done on the day of the public speaking contest. Please have your original registration form with you. We will try our best to make sure that all contestants who wish to participate will be able to speak.

Q: Can you supply any tips for me regarding the contest?

A: Here are some suggestions from past judges:

- Make sure that the judges can hear your speech. Note that some are sitting at the back of the hall. It is recommended that you do a quick test before the contest to make sure that your voice is heard at the back of the hall.
- Try to limit the use of your notes or cue cards
- Pick a topic that you enjoy to speaking about
- Make sure your appearance, gesture and manner are appropriate for the contest and your speech as these items account for 20% of the mark.
- Overall try to have fun during your speech



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Important Items to Remember

1. Public Speaking Contest is open to all students in Grades 1 to 12.
2. Speeches can be in either English or French.
3. Public Speaking Topic is Student's Choice (i.e. whatever the student wishes to speak about). Hint: Student should choose a topic that will grab the attention of the audience and judges.
4. Students may change their topic up to the final registration date.
5. Time length for speeches are as follows:
 - Grades 1 to 9 – 3 to 5 minutes
 - Grades 10 to 12 – 5 to 7 minutes
6. Initial registration is done by email or fax and final registration is done on the day of the public speaking contest.

Overall remember to have fun!