

KIDS SPEAK OUT!

Option 1



Optimist
INTERNATIONAL

Topic: “Choose Optimism”

All young people can legitimately compete in the Optimist Oratorical Contest.

However your club is encouraged to conduct a ‘pre-Oratorical’ program that will ultimately provide a pool of oratorical contestants prepared for competition at the District and International levels.

The ‘Kids Speak Out’ program is broadening its scope to engage children in our primary/preparatory and elementary schools to compete with their fellow students and importantly with children of other schools across the Zones and District. This Club and District option will be for students up to and including age 11, effective for the 2022-23 year.

The desired outcome of this competition is to give the competitors the opportunity to compete at different levels: school, club, zone ... thereby gaining experience and confidence in preparation for the Oratorical Contest at the higher level.

Although contestants with the highest scores are selected ... emphasis should be placed on making all contestants feel like winners for having participated.

The ‘Kids Speak Out’ topic will be a variation of the Oratorical Contest topic.

The rules for the competition and Judges score sheet are provided.

Section 1: General Rules

1. Level of Competition

- School
- Club
- Zone

2. Gender Neutral

3. Preparation of Speech

- By contestant
- Advice allowed
- Changes/improvements admissible

4. Presentations

- School to determine 2 to advance to club level
- Club to determine winners (2) to advance to zone



Section 2: Criteria for contestant participation

1. Must be up to and including age 11
2. Native tongue
3. Quotes must be cited

Section 3: Contest Rules

1. Topic determined by Optimist International Activities Committee
2. The official topic must be stated at the beginning of speech
3. Timing starts right after topic is stated
4. Presentation text and/or notes permissible
5. Microphones allowed
6. Speech must be two minutes minimum and three maximum
7. Drawing, administered by contest chair or teacher (at school level), to determine speaking order
8. Judges
 - **School Level** - may be teachers
 - **Club Level** - may be Optimists and/or teachers (no teachers from competing schools admissible)
 - **Zone Level** – Non-Optimists (not acquainted with the contestants)
9. Timekeeper
 - Preferably a Non-Optimist at zone level

Section 4: Scoring

- Poise 20 points
- Content of Speech 20 points
- Delivery of Presentation 40 points
- Overall Effectiveness 20 points

Section 5: Penalties

1. Failure to announce the Official topic at start of speech 3 points
2. For each 15 seconds or portion over or under allotted time 1 point

Section 6: Awards

1. Certificate of participation for contestants at all levels
2. Certificate for all participating schools
3. Awards/gifts to be determined by participating:
 - Clubs
 - Zones

KIDS SPEAK OUT CONTEST JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET

SPEAKERS' ORDER	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Judging Criteria										
Poise - 20 points <i>(Appearance, Personality)</i>										
Content of Speech - 20 points <i>(Subject Adherence, Theme, Logic, Content)</i>										
Delivery & Presentation - 40 points <i>(Voice, Volume, Pronunciation, Gestures, Eye Contact, Sincerity, Emphasis)</i>										
Overall Effectiveness - 20 points <i>(Appeal, Impression, Attitude, Effect)</i>										
Total Judge's Points										
Contestant	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Failure to announce the official topic at beginning of speech - 3 points										
The timekeeper will assess the following penalties only after a judge has totaled the speech score for each contestant.										
Time Penalties <i>(1 point each 15 seconds or portion over or under allotted time)</i>										
Total Penalty Points										
Net Score of Points <i>(No ties)</i>										
Contestant's Rank										

Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____ Judge's Name _____



For more information about Optimist International Programs, please visit optimist.org, e-mail programs@optimist.org or call us at 800-500-8130