



# **Extemporaneous Public Speaking LDE**

## **Purpose**

The Extemporaneous Public Speaking Career Development Event is designed to develop the ability of all FFA members to express himself or herself on a given subject without preparing or rehearsing the content in advance. Participants in this event are given 30 minutes to prepare a four- to six-minute speech with five minutes of questioning after their speech. This gives FFA members an opportunity to formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time.

## **Sponsor**

North Carolina Farm Bureau and the University of Mount Olive currently sponsor this event.

## **State Event Superintendent**

The superintendent for this event is Mr. Joshua Bledsoe, State Agricultural Education Leader, Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences, NC State University, Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654  
Phone: 919.513.1205 Fax: 919.513.0216 Email: [joshua\\_bledsoe@ncsu.edu](mailto:joshua_bledsoe@ncsu.edu)

## **Eligibility**

This event is open to all FFA chapters and FFA members in good standing. FFA Members may not participate in a Career Development Event that leads to a state level event after July 1, following their high school/early college graduation. The event will be open only to students who are active FFA members and who are currently enrolled in agricultural education. Members winning a previous state event in this area or that have participated in a previous national event in this area are ineligible. Individuals advancing to state event participation must be certified by the regional FFA advisor.

The use or possession of cellular phones or any other mobile electronic communication device is prohibited during any state-level career development event. Any violation of this rule by any team member will result in total team disqualification.

Any member found cheating in any state-level career development event will result in total team disqualification for that event.

The North Carolina FFA Association, in keeping with the FFA mission and purposes, does not permit the use of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vapes, or Juuls at any FFA facility or at any FFA activity.

At the North Carolina FFA State Convention, participation in more than one FFA CDE event is permitted as long as events are not being held concurrently and no special provisions are required to facilitate participation with the exception that parliamentary procedure and public speaking and parliamentary procedure and Creed speaking which are held concurrently will allow dual participation and special provisions for flighting.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, NC FFA will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Please direct accommodation requests to: Carmen Bracey at carmen\_bracey@ncsu.edu. Requests can be served more effectively if notice is provided at least 10 days before the event.

## **Middle School Participation**

Middle school students and teams may participate in any Career Development Event or Leadership Development Event. The top three middle school participants will be recognized in each division of an event. Middle school participants should designate during registration.

## **Dress Code**

Participants are required to follow the North Carolina FFA Career Development Event Dress Code. Official dress for an FFA member includes: an official FFA jacket zipped to the top, black slacks and black socks/nylons or black skirt and black nylons, white collared blouse or white collared shirt, official FFA tie or official FFA scarf, black dress shoes with closed heel and toe.

The North Carolina FFA Association strives to promote a positive image at all Official FFA Events. The dress code policy was established to address the issue of appropriate attire at all Official FFA Events. Members should adhere to this policy for all events. A ten percent reduction will be applied to all individual scores from a chapter if a participant from that chapter violates the dress code during that career event.

## **Procedures for Administering the Event**

The event should be conducted on federation, region, state and national levels.

Each speech should be the result of the participant's own efforts using approved reference materials provided by the participant.

Uniform note cards will be provided for each participant.

Any notes for speaking must be made during the 30-minute preparation time.

Reference material must be screened by an event official and must be printed material such as books or magazines.

Reference materials must be limited to five items.

To be counted as one item, a notebook or folder of collected materials may contain no more than 100 single added pages or 50 pages double-sided numbered consecutively.

Reference materials cannot contain notes or speeches prepared in advance by the participant or by another person for the sole purpose of use in the contest.



Participants will draw topics and be admitted to the preparation room in the same order that they are to speak.

Participants will be admitted to the preparation room at 15-minute intervals because preparation time is 30 minutes and speaking and questioning time is approximately 15 minutes. Each participant will have exactly 30 minutes to prepare their speech on their topic.

The participant will introduce himself/herself to the judges by name and chapter.

Participants will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but points may be deducted if this detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation. The participant may take advantage of all available training facilities and personnel in their local school and community in developing their speaking ability.

#### Subjects and Topics

Twelve topics shall be prepared by the event superintendent and will include three each from the following categories:

- a) agriscience and technology
- b) agrimarketing and international agricultural relations
- c) food and fiber systems
- d) urban agriculture

The topics will be written or typed on uniform cards. These topic cards will then be placed in one container.

At the proper time, a speaker will draw three topic cards. **The event superintendent or their designee will record the topic chosen and provide judges a copy of the speech topic for the speaker.** After the superintendent has verified the topic, the speaker will return all three cards to the container. This procedure will be followed for each subsequent participant. When flighting this event becomes necessary, a participant may not speak on the same topic more than once.

#### Time Limit

Each speech shall be no less than four or more than six minutes with five minutes additional time allowed for related questions, which shall be asked by judges. Participants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being over six minutes and under four minutes. Time commences when the speaker begins talking. Speakers may use a watch to keep note of their time.

#### Method of Selecting Winner

Three competent and impartial judges will be selected to judge career development events at all levels of competition. At least one of the judges should have an agricultural background. Judges will formulate and ask questions pertaining directly to the participant's speech (at all levels of competition). The full five minutes for questions should be used. Judges will score participants on the North Carolina FFA Extemporaneous Speaking Event Scoring Rubric. Official placing for this event is based on ranks rather



than scores. Each judge will independently score and rank the individual speakers based on the scores they gave him or her. The participant with the highest score total receives a rank of 1. Other participants are ranked in the same manner with each subsequent rank being for a lower score. After each judge has scored and ranked all participants, judges will collaborate to determine overall rankings and placing for each participant. Judges will sum their ranks and the participant with the lowest cumulative total will be placed first, second lowest cumulative total will be second place, and so forth until all participants have been placed.

## Scoring

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Points Allowed</i>
Oral Communication	600
Non-Verbal Communication	400
Questions and Answers	300

*For more detail see the rubric on [ncffa.org](http://ncffa.org)*

## Procedure for Determining the State Event Winner When Scores are Tied

In the case of a tie, the individual raw scores will be added and the high scorer will be the winner.

## State Awards

The awards for the state event will be presented annually at the state FFA convention to include a team 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place plaque and a travel monetary award.

## National Career Development Event Participation

State winners advancing to the national career development event will be automatically registered for the national event. It is the responsibility of the FFA chapter advisor to complete all necessary national certification and waiver forms and return them to the State FFA Coordinator by the assigned due date.

State winning CDE participants that choose not to participate at the national level should contact the state office by September 1 prior to national convention. Participants that fail to inform the state office prior to September 1 will be ineligible to participate in that same CDE for the next year (chapters may appeal to the State FFA Board of Directors). Teams that do not compete at the national convention will be required to pay back the travel award.

## Bibliography

[Official FFA Manual](#)

[National FFA Career Development Events Handbook](#)





**North Carolina FFA Association**  
**FFA EXTEMPORANEOUS Public Speaking Career Development Event**  
**Official FFA Extemporaneous Oral Communications Scoring Rubric (page 1)**

Speaker Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Oral Communication – 600 points						
Indicators	Very strong evidence skill is present 5-4	Moderate evidence skill is present 3-2	Strong evidence skill is not present 1-0	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
<b>A. Examples</b>	<i>Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples are original, logical and relevant.</li> </ul>	<i>Examples are usually concrete, sometimes needs clarification.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples are effective, but need more originality or thought.</li> </ul>	<i>Examples are abstract or not clearly defined.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions.</li> </ul>		<b>X 10</b>	
<b>B. Speaking without hesitation</b>	<i>Speaks very articulately without hesitation.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Never has the need for unnecessary pauses or hesitation when speaking.</li> </ul>	<i>Speaks articulately but sometimes hesitates.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally has the need for a long pause or moderate hesitation when speaking.</li> </ul>	<i>Speaks articulately, but frequently hesitates.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequently hesitates or has long, awkward pauses while speaking.</li> </ul>		<b>X 15</b>	
<b>C. Tone</b>	<i>Appropriate tone is consistent.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speaks at the right pace to be clear.</li> <li>Pronunciation of words is very clear and intent is apparent.</li> </ul>	<i>Appropriate tone is usually consistent.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speaks at the right pace most of the time but shows some nervousness.</li> <li>Pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes vague.</li> </ul>	<i>Has difficulty using an appropriate tone.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pace is too fast; nervous.</li> <li>Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand; unclear.</li> </ul>		<b>X 15</b>	
<b>D. Being detail-oriented</b>	<i>Is able to stay fully detail oriented.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always provides details that support the issue; well organized.</li> </ul>	<i>Is mostly good at being detail oriented.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usually provides details which are supportive of the issue; displays good organizational skills.</li> </ul>	<i>Has difficulty being detail oriented.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the issue; lacks organization.</li> </ul>		<b>X 20</b>	
<b>E. Connecting and articulating facts and issues</b>	<i>Exemplary in connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possesses a strong knowledge base and is able to effectively articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.</li> </ul>	<i>Sufficient in connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possesses a good knowledge base and is able to, for the most part, articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.</li> </ul>	<i>Has difficulty with connecting facts and issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally and globally.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possesses some knowledge base but is unable to articulate information regarding related facts and current issues.</li> </ul>		<b>X 20</b>	
<b>E. Speaking unrehearsed</b>	<i>Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers.</li> </ul>	<i>Speaks unrehearsed mostly with comfort and ease, but sometimes seems nervous or unsure.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is able to speak effectively, has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus.</li> </ul>	<i>Shows nervousness or seems unprepared when speaking unrehearsed.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seems to ramble or speaks before thinking.</li> </ul>		<b>X 40</b>	
<b>Oral Communications Gross Total Points</b>						



**North Carolina FFA Association**  
**FFA EXTEMPORANEOUS Public Speaking Career Development Event**  
**Official FFA Extemporaneous Non-Verbal Communications Scoring Rubric (page 2)**

Speaker Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Non-Verbal Communication – 400 points</b>						
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Very strong evidence skill is present 5-4</b>	<b>Moderate evidence skill is present 3-2</b>	<b>Strong evidence skill is not present 1-0</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Total Score</b>
<b>A. Attention (eye-contact)</b>	<i>Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection.</i> Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100% of the time).	<i>Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent.</i> Mostly looks around the audience (60-80% of the time).	<i>Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker.</i> Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50% of the time).		<b>X 20</b>	
<b>B. Mannerisms</b>	<i>Does not have distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness.</i> No nervous habits.	<i>Sometimes has distracting mannerisms that pull from the presentation.</i> Sometimes exhibits nervous habits or ticks.	<i>Have mannerisms that pull from the effectiveness of the presentation.</i> Displays some nervous habits – fidgets or anxious ticks.		<b>X 20</b>	
<b>C. Gestures</b>	<i>Gestures are purposeful and effective.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points.</li> </ul> Great posture (confident) with positive body language.	<i>Usually uses purposeful gestures.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize.</li> </ul> Occasionally slumps; sometimes negative body language.	<i>Occasionally gestures are used effectively.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting.</li> </ul> Lacks positive body language; slumps.		<b>X 20</b>	
<b>D. Well poised</b>	<i>Is extremely well poised.</i> Poised and in control at all times.	<i>Usually is well poised.</i> Poised and in control most of the time; rarely loses composure.	<i>Isn't always well poised.</i> Sometimes seems to lose composure.		<b>X 20</b>	
<b>Non-verbal Communication Gross Total Points</b>						



**NORTH CAROLINA FFA ASSOCIATION**  
**FFA EXTEMPORANEOUS Public Speaking Career Development Event**  
**Official FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Response to Questions Rubric – 300 points (page 3)**

Speaker Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicators	Very strong evidence skill is present	Moderate evidence skill is present	Strong evidence skill is not present	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
	5-4	3-2	1-0			
<b>Response to Questions</b>						300 possible points
<b>A. Speaking unrehearsed (question and answer)</b>	Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease. Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers.	Speaks unrehearsed mostly with comfort and ease, but sometimes seems nervous or unsure. Is able to speak effectively but has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus.	Shows nervousness or seems unprepared when speaking unrehearsed. Seems to ramble or speaks before thinking.		x 10	
<b>B. Demonstrates knowledge of topic</b>	Answer shows thorough knowledge of the subject of the speech. Supports answer with strong evidence.	Answer shows some knowledge of the subject. Some evidence, but lacking in strength.	Answer shows little knowledge of the subject. Evidence is lacking to support the answer.		x 50	
<b>Response to Questions Gross Total Points (page 3)</b>						

\* -1 point per second for speeches less than 4 minutes or more than 6 minutes as determined by the timekeepers



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>North Carolina FFA Association</b>  <b>FFA EXTEMPORANEOUS Public Speaking Career Development Event</b>  <b>Official FFA Extemporaneous Tally Sheet</b></p>								
Speaker Number (order of presentation)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Oral Communication – 600 points</b>								
<b>Indicators</b>								
A. Examples								
B. Speaking without hesitation								
C. Tone								
D. Being detail-oriented								
E. Connecting and articulating facts and issues								
E. Speaking unrehearsed								
<b>Non-verbal Communication – 400 points</b>								
A. Attention (eye-contact)								
B. Mannerisms								
C. Gestures								
D. Well poised								
<b>Response to Questions – 300 points</b>								
A. Speaking unrehearsed								
B. Demonstrates knowledge of topic								
<b>Gross Total Points</b>								
<b>Official FFA Dress Code Violation (-130 pts)</b>								
<b>*Time Deductions</b>								
<b>Net Total Points</b>								
<b>Rank</b>								

\* -1 point per second for speeches less than 4 minutes or more than 6 minutes as determined by the timekeepers



Judge's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**North Carolina FFA Association**  
**FFA EXTEMPORANEOUS Public Speaking Career Development Event**  
**Official FFA Extemporaneous Worksheet**

Judges will score speakers on the North Carolina FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Scoring Rubric. Official placing for this event are based on ranks rather than scores. Each judge will independently score and rank the individual speakers based on the scores they gave him or her. The speaker with the highest score total receives a rank of 1. Other speakers are ranked in the same manner with each subsequent rank being for a lower score. After each judge has scored and ranked all speakers, judges will collaborate to determine overall rankings and placing for each speaker. Judges will sum their ranks and the speaker with the lowest cumulative total will be placed first, second lowest cumulative total will be second place, and so forth until all speakers have been placed.

	<b>Judge A Rankings for each speaker</b>		<b>Judge B Rankings for each speaker</b>		<b>Judge C Rankings for each speaker</b>		<b>Cumulative Total of Ranks for all Judges for each speaker</b>	<b>Official Placing</b> Lowest cumulative total is 1 <sup>st</sup> place and ascend as the cumulative total moves up
Speaker 1		+		+		=		
Speaker 2		+		+		=		
Speaker 3		+		+		=		
Speaker 4		+		+		=		
Speaker 5		+		+		=		
Speaker 6		+		+		=		
Speaker 7		+		+		=		
Speaker 8		+		+		=		
Speaker 9		+		+		=		
Speaker 10		+		+		=		
Speaker 11		+		+		=		
Speaker 12		+		+		=		
Speaker 13		+		+		=		
Speaker 14		+		+		=		
Speaker 15		+		+		=		

Judge's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_