

CONTEST CHAIR SCRIPT- INTERNATIONAL SPEECH CONTEST

Thank you TM for that very kind introduction. It is an honor for me to be the Contest Chair for _____[club name]_____ International Speech Contest..

Chief Judge TM _____, Respected Panel of Judges, Contest officials, Contestants, Fellow Toastmasters and Distinguished Guests. Good afternoon and a very warm welcome to each one of you.

A 50-70 word inspiring opening or story

The Purpose of the International Speech Contest is

- To provide the participants an opportunity to improve their speaking skills
- To provide an opportunity to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have benefited from their Toastmasters training

This contest is the only contest that proceeds beyond the District, to the region quarterfinal, semifinal and all the way to the finals of the World Championship of Public Speaking.

All the contestants have met the eligibility criteria, which is “to be a member in good standing of a club of good standing” and to have completed 6 projects from the Competent Communications Manual or Level 1 and 2 of any one unique path in the Toastmasters Pathways learning experience. All contestants have been briefed about the rules and timings of the contest.

All contestants **can remain in the room** throughout the contest. Should they choose to leave the room during the contest; the SAA will escort contestants back into the room once their time to speak has arrived.

Timing will begin with the Contestant’s first definite verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience.

The time allotted is 5 to 7 minutes. There will be a grace period of 30 seconds. Speakers speaking for less than 4 minutes 30 seconds or more than 7 minutes 30 seconds will be disqualified.

- The green card will be displayed at five minutes and will remain displayed for one minute.
- The Yellow Card will be displayed at six minutes and will remain displayed for one minute.
- The Red Card will be displayed at seven minutes and will remain displayed until the speech has concluded.
- No signal will be given for the overtime period.
- In case of a fault in the timing device, an additional 30 seconds will be allowed for the speaker.

There will be a one minute interval between speeches for the judges to mark their ballots.

After all the contestants have finished their speeches, a three minute silence will be observed, to enable the judges to total their scores and hand over their ballots to the ballot counters.

The Speaking order of the contestants has been determined and the Speaking Area defined.

The Speaking order is:

1.name.....spelling.....name

2.name.....spelling.....name

.....

Now I would like to brief about the clapping protocol that needs to be followed. I will welcome each contestant on stage. I will then announce the speech title, the speech title and the contestant's name. You may applaud warmly as the contestant comes on stage and upon leaving. Kindly refrain from applause while the speaker is speaking.

Announcement of the contest winners is final unless the list of winners is announced incorrectly, in which case the chief judge, ballot counters or timers are permitted to immediately interrupt to correct the error.

At this point I'd like to once again acknowledge all Contest officials. Let's give them a round of applause.

The sergeants-at-arms have been instructed to keep the doors closed so that no one leaves or enters the hall while the speakers are speaking.

And now, Timers, please check your timing devices one last time.

Dear audience I request you to kindly switch off all noise making devices or put them on silent mode in case you've not already done so. Please do not use Flash photography during the speeches.

Are we ready? I wish all the Contestants the very best.

Chief Judge, are all Contest Officials eligible and have they been briefed?
Can we begin the Contest?

.....

With a huge round of applause please help me welcome

Contestant #1

TM speech title speech title.....TM

We will now have a minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballot.

Contestant #2

TM speech title speech title.....TM

We will now have a minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballot.

Contestant #3

Contestant #4

(Once all contestants have spoken)
[NEVER SAY "LAST CONTESTANT". SAY "CONTESTANT NO.4/5/etc.]

.....
We will now have 3 minutes silence for the judges to total their scores and hand them over to the ballot counters.

Wait for the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters to leave the room

May I now invite all the International Speech Contestants to come forward in their speaking order to receive their Certificate of Participation and for a group photograph.

Interview (if there is time based upon their profile from the Contestant profile sheet)

Ladies & Gentlemen – It was a fabulous contest and I thoroughly enjoyed being the International Speech contest chair today. I hope you enjoyed the contest too!! I'd like to thank all the contestants and contest officials for an excellent job, and you, our wonderful audience, for being so appreciative.

I now hand over control to _____.

.....
While announcing the result later
I'd now like to present the contest results for International Speech Contest.
Before the results are announced, I'd like to say congratulations to all of our contestants for competing!

There was 1/2 disqualification due to time / There were no disqualifications on the basis of time

The 3rd place winner is: _____
The 2nd place winner is _____
The winner of the International Speech Contest[club/ area/division].....and who will represent us at _____ Level on _____ [date] _____ is _____.