

# Impromptu

**Description:** *The competitor is given two (2) minutes to prepare a speech on a randomly drawn quotation or topic.*

**Goal:** *To create a polished speaker who is able to give an original, spontaneously prepared speech within the room, using the selected topic as the central theme.*

## **Impromptu Preparation Rules:**

1. Topics should be of the same type for all speakers in the round (e.g. all quotations or all abstract concepts, etc.)

## **Impromptu Administration Rules:**

1. One judge in each room will be given room administration instructions, including topic distribution.
2. A list of possible topics will be given to each of the other judges in the room.
3. In the room, a competitor will draw three (3) single topics, choose one (1), and return the other two (2) topics before leaving the room. The chosen topic should not be returned.
4. Preparation time begins as soon as the competitor draws the first topic.
5. During preparation time, timepiece must be **facing toward the competitor** and **counting down**. Local tournaments may still choose to give verbal countdown signals every thirty (30) seconds until two (2) minutes have elapsed.
6. The speaker may write notes on a blank sheet of paper during preparation time, but he may not use or refer to the notes during his speech.
7. Unused preparation time may not be added to the speaking time.

## **Impromptu Presentation Rules:**

1. The speaker may approach the topic in any way he chooses, but the topic must be the central theme of the speech and not peripheral to it.
2. The speaker may not bring any prepared material into the room.
3. During the speech, the competitor may only use the chosen topic slip.
4. The speaker must state his topic early in the speech and adhere to the chosen topic.
5. Each speech should be a fresh, original presentation, developed from one of the topics given and prepared on the spot.
6. No computers, Kindles, iPods, cell phones, or other electronic media devices may be used for Impromptu preparation or presentation.
7. No audio or visual aids or props may be used.
8. Gratuitous vulgarity is strictly prohibited.
9. The student must not listen to other Impromptu competitors speaking before him. He may stay after he has given his speech to listen to subsequent speakers
10. Competitors must not listen to other Impromptu competitors speaking before them.
11. Maximum speaking time is five (5) minutes.
12. Competitors will receive a one (1) rank penalty for going over time by fifteen (15) seconds or more.

**Preparation time – two (2) minutes. Speaking time – five (5) minutes. No minimum time.**