



MESA DAY CONTEST RULES

2024-2025

(DRAFT)

Sustainable Development ~ Impromptu Speech

LEVEL:	High School (HS)
DIVISION(S):	Grades 9/10 and Grades 11/12
COMPOSITION OF TEAM:	2-3 students per team
NUMBER OF TEAMS:	Preliminary – Determined by your local MESA center Regional – # of teams per division at the discretion of each region (Northern/Central, LA/Central Coast, and Southern)
SPONSORS:	UC Irvine MESA College Prep San Jose State University MESA College Prep

OVERVIEW: The United Nations defines sustainable development as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zx04KI8y4dE>
Students shall research and prepare to deliver a short impromptu speech based on one of the 3 official Sustainable Development topics.

Participation logistics and limits may vary by host site. Advisors and students are responsible for verifying this information with their local MESA center.

MATERIALS: The host MESA Center will provide the following:

- Competition questions
- One 5x7 index card and pencil per team member

GENERAL RULES:

- 1) Teams **must** consist of 2 to 3 students. Individual participants will not be allowed to compete.
- 2) Prior to MESA Day, teams must research each of the below listed three [United Nations Sustainability Goals](#).
 - a. Affordable and Clean Energy
 - b. Reduced Inequalities
 - c. Responsible Consumption and Production
- 3) On MESA Day, teams will receive 9 questions, 3 from each of the topic areas listed above. Teams will randomly draw 2 of the questions and may select which **one** of the two on which they wish to present. The team **must** present on the question drawn/chosen.

- 4) Once the team receives the question they will have two (2) minutes to organize and prepare as a team to present.
- 5) Each team member will receive one 5x7 index card and pencil which may be used during both the preparation period and presentation.
- 6) No additional reference materials, presentations, props, judge handouts, or visual aids are allowed.
- 7) Teams will have up to five (5) minutes to present their topic. All team members should actively participate in the presentation.

JUDGING:

- 1) Judges will determine team order by random selection and will post the team order prior to the start of competition.
- 2) Team must be ready to present when called or forfeit the competition.
- 3) Only judges, MESA staff, and competing teams will be allowed in the competition room.
- 4) Presentation may not exceed 5 minutes. Once 5 minutes has elapsed, teams will be stopped and prevented from speaking beyond the 5 minute mark.
- 5) Judges will provide time signals at the following intervals: one (1) minute, thirty (30) seconds, and five (5) seconds remaining.
- 6) At the conclusion of each presentation the panel of judges shall evaluate each team according to the Scoring Criteria. Judges' scores will be averaged to determine final scores.
- 7) In the event of a tie, the team with the highest "Content" score shall be the winner. If the teams are still tied, duplicate awards shall be given.

AWARDS:

- Awards will be given per division: Grades 9/10 and Grades 11/12.
- Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.
- Please check with your MESA center to determine the number of teams that advance to Regional MESA Day.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDIX:

- Score Sheet

SCORE SHEET FOR IMPROMPTU SPEECH

High School – Grades 9/10 and Grades 11/12

Copies of this inspection and score sheet will be provided by the MESA Day Host Center.

Student Names: _____ MESA Center: _____

School: _____ **Grade 9/10 or 11/12(circle one)**

TOPIC/QUESTION: _____

Required Elements	YES		NO		
Team consist of 2-3 students			Unable to compete		
Presentation addresses chosen question			Unable to place		
Content	Excellent (5 points)	Very Good (4 points)	Good (3 points)	Fair (2 points)	Needs Improvement (1 point)
Topic/Understanding of Subject: Clear understanding and explanation of the subject matter.	5	4	3	2	1
Preparation/Organization: Clearly organized with distinct and relevant introduction, body, & conclusion.	5	4	3	2	1
Logical Flow/Reasoning: On topic, deliberate progression of information.	5	4	3	2	1
Examples: Provides real world examples directly linked to the topic.	5	4	3	2	1
Presentation	Excellent (5 points)	Very Good (4 points)	Good (3 points)	Fair (2 points)	Needs Improvement (1 point)
Body Language: Confident, relaxed personable demeanor; fluid movements enhance presentation.	5	4	3	2	1
Pace/Flow/Vocal Control: Appropriate timing moves the audience smoothly from point-point. Voice clear & projects; clear pronunciation & enunciation.	5	4	3	2	1
Effective Use of Language: Clever, concise, and appropriate word choice; use of meaningful antidotes, statistics, or quotes.	5	4	3	2	1
Audience Engagement: Direct eye contact; effective use of gestures & facial expressions.	5	4	3	2	1
Team Participation: All team members participate equally in the presentation.	5	4	3	2	1
Overall Presentation & Impact: Broad appeal and stimulates audience interest.	5	4	3	2	1
COLUMN TOTALS:					
FINAL SCORE:	/50				