Description of Event

The competitor has a maximum of 10 minutes to present an original, factual, memorized speech on a subject which fulfills a general information need of the audience. The presentation shall primarily explain something which is not of common knowledge, not entertain or motivate. Content shall not contradict biblical principles but does not have to be spiritual in nature. Competitors shall cite all outside research whether a direct quote, paraphrase, or summary. Citations must include when it was said or written, where the quote was found, and if applicable, who said or wrote the quotation. No scripts or notes shall be used. Humor and satire are permitted. Visual aids are optional. If used, visual aids are physically covered at the beginning and at the conclusion of the presentation.

Things to Look for in a Good Speech

The competitor should write and present an interesting speech that either shares information that would be new to most audiences or offers a new slant on a familiar topic. The introduction should grab the attention of the audience and create interest in the rest of the presentation. The introduction should include a preview of the main points. The flow of thoughts should be smooth and natural, building to a satisfactory and conclusive end. Multiple sources should be used and properly cited throughout the development of the speech. The conclusion should summarize the speech and provide closure to the presentation.

Violations to Watch For

- Use of a script, notes, or prompting will result in a **two-rank** violation
- Lack of proper citations will result in a **one-rank** violation
- Exceeding the time limit will result in a **one-rank** violation

Please note: Plagiarism is prohibited. If a judge has concerns about proper attribution but is uncertain whether source citation is lacking, the judge should notify the Tournament Director upon completion of the round.

Master Ballot Instructions

1. On the Master Ballot (the top page of the ballot pack), fill in the original rank of each competitor next to their name in the Rank column.
2. *To figure the original rank, give the student with the highest number of points, 1st place; the second highest number of points, 2nd place; and so on. It is possible to have a tie in points between students on individual ballots, however, the tie MUST be broken when figuring the rank.*
3. In the Violation(s) box, write the name of each student who had one or more violations. Write the total number of violations next to his/her name.
4. Circle the final rank on the top three individual ballots ONLY if there were NO violations for all competitors in the round. Do not circle any ranks if the round included any violations. Proceed to ballot check for review of your ballots. Ballot check staff will apply violations and final ranks.

Judge Name: _____