

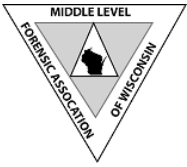
Middle Level Forensic Association of Wisconsin

SPECIAL EVENTS PRESENTATION - SITUATIONS 2016

The situation chosen must be announced prior to starting the presentation. Ex: "We will be presenting: situation A, a travel blog of our trip to 'the Hundred Acre Woods from Winnie the Pooh Stories'; "... situation B, Salute a Hero"; "... situation C, a restaurant review"; "... situation D, George Washington crossing the Delaware."; "... situation E, Gossip, Gossip, Gossip, the scoop on Disney Princesses."

- A. **Vacation Blog** – You have been asked to share experiences of your recent real or imaginary family trip with a local organization. The trip can be anywhere real or imaginary. It can be a location from a movie, a TV show, or a book. Share features of your trip, which hold special interest for the audience: things you did, places you visited, people you encountered. You are encouraged to use visual aids to more colorfully and interestingly illustrate your talk. If the place is imaginary be sure to include the source (i.e. "the Hundred Acre Woods from Winnie the Pooh stories.")
- B. **Salute a Hero** – You have been asked to give a speech to pay tribute to, or to eulogize either a real person, or a literary character, or a group (real or from literature). The person may be: living or dead, from the past or present, or a familiar character with admirable qualities. You may use visual aids to enhance your speech. If the person is a literary character, you should name the literary work in which he/she is portrayed. (i.e. Atticus Finch from *To Kill a Mockingbird*.)
- C. **Entertainment Review**– A new local restaurant has opened; the long-awaited blockbuster, play, ballet or symphony is opening at the city theater; a best seller is about to hit the neighborhood book store. Here is your opportunity to acquaint your audience with the experience/event and offer your opinion, review or critique. You are presenting your ideas about quality of food, service, atmosphere, acting, filming, editing, writing, performance, etc.
- D. **Special Events Coverage** - You are a TV or Radio reporter at a Special Event, which may include such things as the assassination of Julius Caesar, the funeral of JFK, the Battle of Lexington, etc., however, there is no requirement that the event is historically authentic, nor for historical accuracy. The report may also be on a Special Event in the future. Create and deliver an oral report on the event. If you have a partner, that partner may play one of the characters in the event, or may be another news reporter on the scene. Your introduction should provide sufficient background so that the nature and importance of the event is clear, and that you (and your partner) are identified clearly to the audience.
- E. **Gossip! Gossip! Gossip** - You are the reporter for a TV Gossip show reporting on the 'goings on' of celebrities. You may make up appropriate items, **but your subjects must either be dead or fictional**.
- Examples: 1) Report on what's happened to the characters from Shrek 3 since the babies arrived.
2) Expose the 'Real' story of the Loch Ness Monster.
3) Interview a witness at the scene of Humpty Dumpty's fall.
4) Interview the neighbors just after George Washington chopped down their cherry tree.
- Use your imagination and creativity to entertain your audience with 'school appropriate' stories.

***Remember, the speech must be written entirely by the presenter(s).**



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MLFA Category Committee Report Changes for the 2016 Season.

1. Amend infraction statement to:

A clear rule violation means the performance will receive a 14 point penalty, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

Time violations will receive a 5 point penalty and the performance cannot be ranked #1.

Proceed to the Infractions Table with any violations.

2. The time rule on all Rules sheets will be the last one listed and it will be labeled rule T and will not have a number.
3. Add “10 sec. grace period over and under time” to all applicable rules sheets, and “10 sec grace period over time” to Group Improv and Impromptu Speaking rules at the top where the time for the category is given.
4. Moments in History
1890 – 1910
5. Major Rubric Revision



Middle Level Forensic Association of Wisconsin

Group Improvisation Preparation

Tournament Director:

1. Prior to the meet, the host school will prepare a different set of topics for each round. There must be at least 2 more topics per round than the maximum number of entries in a room. (A tournament with two rounds and a power round that has a maximum of 8 entries in any room will need ten topics for each preliminary round plus ten different topics for the power round, for a total of 30.)
2. All rooms in a given round can use the same set of topics. The host school should also prepare a set of **three 8 ½ x 11 time cards**, labeled “4 minutes”, “4 ½ minutes” & “5 minutes”. These cards should be clearly and easily seen by the contestants when displayed from the back of the room.
3. The host school needs to provide a set of 4 x 6 cards per room for each round. There needs to be enough cards available so each person in each group could have one.
4. The host school should assign both a judge and a timekeeper to each room.
5. Topics might be a single word such as: puppies, birthdays, rainbow, anger, mountains, Earth Day, etc. They could also be given as a phrase or a question: favorite teachers; waiting in line for a rock concert; “To be, or not to be. That is the question.”; Older siblings; stuck on an elevator; How do you feel about sports?; etc. **Topics should be age appropriate and within the knowledge or experience of middle school student.** All topics in a given round should be in the same format and about the same level of familiarity and difficulty.
5. Each room of Impromptu Speaking needs to be assigned a timer. It should be an adult, who could be, but is not required to be someone trained as a judge. **The timer should be given an envelope with the topics, a stop watch, a set of 4x6 cards, and the three cards marked 4, 4 ½, and 5 minutes.**



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Group Improvisation Procedure

Timekeeper

1. The timekeeper should be provided with **a stop watch, an envelope containing the topics for each round, a set of 4x6 note cards, and three 8 ½ by 11 inch cards.** The cards should have “4 minutes”, “4 ½ minutes and “5 minutes” printed on them large enough to be easily seen from the back of the room. Check to make sure there are at least two more topic cards than the number of speakers in the section and enough 4x6 note cards. Place the topics face down on the table. If the topics can be read through the paper, cover them partly with a sheet of paper.
2. The timekeeper has three primary responsibilities: To supervise the drawing of topics, to do the timing, and to collect note cards that were used. The timer needs to sit in the direct line of sight of the speaker.
3. **Selecting topics by each group:** Each group has two minutes to select their topic and prepare. The timekeeper will begin timing when the group picks up the first card. The participants will draw three topics, choose one, and return the other two to the timer. The two that are not selected are mixed back into the choices for the next speaker. After the selection is made, the participants are each offered a 4x6 card. The group may use the remaining preparation time in any manner they choose. The other students will remain in their seats during the draw/preparation time.
4. **Timing:** At the end of the mandatory two-minute preparation time, the timekeeper should reset the stopwatch. Then the timekeeper should collect the card selected by the group, and hand it to the judge. The participants, will go to the front of the room and present their speech. Start timing the speech when a speaker actually starts talking. During the speech the timekeeper will signal to the speakers using the time cards after they have used 4 minutes, 4 ½ minutes, and 5 minutes. It is important to display the time card accurately and to hold it up long enough to be sure the speaker sees it.
5. **Collect note card:** Stop timing when the group is finished speaking. Report the time privately to the judge and collect any note cards used. You are finished until the judge calls the next student.

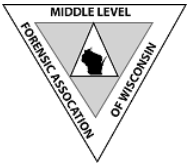


Middle Level Forensic Association of Wisconsin

Impromptu Speaking Preparation

Tournament Director:

1. Prior to the meet, the host school will prepare a different set of topics for each round. There must be at least 2 more topics per round than the maximum number of speakers in a room. (A tournament with two rounds and a power round that has a maximum of 8 entries in any room will need ten topics for each preliminary round plus ten different topics for the power round, for a total of 30.)
2. All rooms in a given round can use the same set of topics. The host school should also prepare a set of **four 8-1/2 x 11 time cards**, labeled “2 minutes”, “3 minutes”, “3 1/2 minutes” & “4 minutes”. These cards should be clearly and easily seen by the contestants when displayed from the back of the room.
3. The host school needs to provide a set of 4 x 6 cards per room for each round. There must be as many cards in each room as speakers plus a few extras.
4. The host school should assign both a judge and a timekeeper to each room.
5. Topics might be a single word such as: puppies, birthdays, rainbow, anger, mountains, Earth Day, etc. They could also be given as a phrase or a question: My favorite teacher; What was your best birthday ever?; “The leaves have turned green”; Older siblings; What color do you like best?; How do you feel about sports?; etc. **Topics should be age appropriate and within the knowledge or experience of middle school student.** All topics in a given round should be in the same format and about the same level of familiarity and difficulty.
5. Each room of Impromptu Speaking needs to be assigned a timer. It should be an adult, who could be, but is not required to be someone trained as a judge. **The timer should be given an envelope with the topics, a stop watch, a set of 4x6 cards, and the four cards marked 2, 3, 3 1/2, and 4 minutes.**

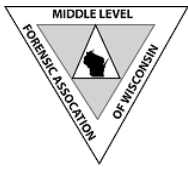


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Impromptu Speaking Procedure

Timekeeper

1. The timekeeper should be provided with a **stop watch**, an **envelope containing the topics for each round**, a **set of 4x6 note cards**, and **four 8 ½ by 11 inch cards**. The cards should have “2 minutes”, “3 minutes”, “3 ½ minutes and “4 minutes” printed on them large enough to be easily seen from the back of the room. Check to make sure there are at least two more topic cards than the number of speakers in the section and enough 4x6 note cards, one for each speaker. Place the topics face down on the table. If the topics can be read through the paper, cover them partly with a sheet of paper.
2. The timekeeper has three primary responsibilities: To supervise the drawing of topics, to do the timing, and to collect note cards that were used by each speaker. The timer needs to sit in the direct line of sight of the speaker.
3. **Selecting topics by each participant:** Each participant has two minutes to select his or her topic and prepare. When the judge calls a participant, the timekeeper will begin timing. The participant will draw three topics, choose one, and return the other two to the timer. The two that are not selected are mixed back into the choices for the next speaker. After the selection is made, the participant is offered a 4x6 card, and may use the remaining preparation time in any manner he or she chooses. The other students will remain in their seats during the draw/preparation time.
4. **Timing:** At the end of the mandatory two-minute preparation time, the timekeeper should reset the stopwatch, collect the card drawn from the speaker and hand it to the judge. The participant, will go to the front of the room and present his/her speech. Start timing the speech when the speaker actually starts talking. During the speech the timekeeper will signal to the speaker using the time cards after the speaker has used 2 minutes, 3 minutes, 3 ½ minutes, and 4 minutes. It is important to display the time card accurately and to hold it up long enough to be sure the speaker sees it.
5. **Collect note card:** Stop timing when the speaker is finished speaking. Report the time privately to the judge and collect the note card from the speaker. You are finished until the judge calls the next student.



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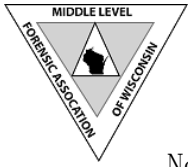
2016

Moments in History

2016 Season - Time Period: 1890-1910

Possible areas of consideration may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Arts & Architecture
2. Arts & Entertainment, including Theater and Music
3. Technology & Inventions
4. Disease & Medicine
5. Military Activity & Wars
6. Politics
7. Religion
8. Fashion & Fads
9. Natural Disasters
10. Transportation
11. Book & literature
12. Education
13. Sports
14. Daily Life
15. Exploration
16. Events & People



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News Reporting Option B details and example sheet.

Sports Highlights: This portion should include highlights from the previous week. It may include scores, highlights, game summaries, individual and team statistics. The focus can be local, state, national, international or any combination.

Examples: Summary of last weekend's local basketball games, giving highlights, starring players, and game statistics.

Coverage of international soccer competition with scores and game highlights.

NCAA tournament highlights, with scores and leading scorers.

News: This portion should include in-depth coverage of one or more major newsworthy events.

Examples: Controversy on the olympic selection

Drug related investigation of sports stars

New rules being suggested for a particular sport

Rumors of a coach being fired

Feature Story: This would be a story about one particular team, athlete or sport that can be informative, educational, humorous, heart warming.

Examples: A story about a retiring coach

A story about the surprising comeback of an injured player

A story about a superstar or under rated player from the past.

An informative story about a lesser known sport such as jai alai, sumo wrestling, or cricket.

A story about an athlete who did some interesting community service.

Editorial: The editorial can be used for the entire season as long as it is still relevant. It should be original and written by the students.

Examples: Are the penalties being assessed to major league baseball players using performance enhancing drugs too stiff.

At what age should young soccer players be allowed to do a header.

Should college athletes be paid?