

Contest Toastmaster Script International Speech Contest

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Ladies and gentlemen, this is **the contest** you've been waiting for. Welcome to the International Speech Contest.

(Optional - Add a personal spiel acknowledging the hard work of the contestants on their road to excellence - 100 words maximum. Should the program be behind schedule, keep to the script.)

One of our contestants today/tonight could be the next World Champion of Public Speaking. What an honour to be here witnessing this stage of that journey.

Speech contests are an important part of the Toastmasters education program. They provide an opportunity for Toastmasters to gain speaking experience, as well as an opportunity for other Toastmasters to learn by observing proficient speakers.

The International Speech Contest is the only contest that proceeds beyond the district level to Region Quarterfinals, Semifinals, and the World Championship of Public Speaking.

The International Speech Contest follows all rules outlined in the Toastmasters International Speech Contest Rulebook and all contestants have been briefed on the rules which now include rules pertaining to the **region quarterfinals**. Unless otherwise stated, these rules apply to all speech contests conducted by Toastmasters International clubs, areas, divisions, and districts, as well as all contests conducted at the International Convention.

Contestants competing in the International Speech Contest at District will be individually recorded. The first-place winner's video is then submitted to World Headquarters within one week of the District Final. In early July, all Program Quality Directors and contestants will be informed of the results via email.

The first-place winner from each of the 14 regions will then receive an invitation to compete in the semi-finals which are held at the Toastmasters International Convention in August each year.

All contestants competing today are members of good standing in a club of good standing and all contestants have confirmed their eligibility and originality in writing to the Chief Judge. Contestants may remain in the room while the other contestants are speaking.

The contestants are to present their speeches in a time of five to seven minutes and the timing begins with their first verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience. A contestant will be disqualified if their speech is less than four minutes and 30 seconds or more than seven minutes and 30 seconds.

Timers, please display the green signal at five minutes, the yellow signal at six minutes and the red signal at seven minutes. There will be no further indication of time and the red signal will remain displayed until the contestant concludes their presentation.

All contestants have been made aware of the speaking area and how the timing device will work.

Protests are limited to eligibility and originality and shall only be lodged by voting judges and contestants. Any protest shall be lodged with the chief judge and/or contest toastmaster prior to the announcement of the results. Once the results are announced, the decision is final.

Members of the audience, please ensure your mobile devices have been turned off, or are on silent with the vibration mode disabled. Please remain seated during the videotaping of the contests.

There will be one minute of silence between contestant speeches, during which time voting judges will mark their ballots. If you leave the room during this time AND do not return before the next contestant is announced, you will not be permitted back into the room until that contestant has completed their presentation.

The taking of photographs during the contest is not permitted, but there will be photo opportunities later.

The speaking order as drawn by the contestants is as follows:

(Ensure you spell the contestant's name for the benefit of the officials.)

| |
|---------------------------|
| Contestant No. 1 will be: |
| Contestant No. 2 will be: |
| Contestant No. 3 will be: |
| Contestant No. 4 will be: |
| Contestant No. 5 will be: |
| Contestant No. 6 will be: |
| Contestant No. 7 will be: |
| Contestant No. 8 will be: |

I shall introduce each contestant by announcing their name and the title of their speech. As the contestant walks to the speaking area, we will show our appreciation with thunderous applause. I will then repeat the title of their speech and the contestant's name. There shall be no further applause and the contestant shall begin their presentation.

Chief Judge, are we ready to proceed?

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome:

| |
|---|
| <i>Contestant No 1:</i> |
| <i>Speech Title:</i> |
| <i>One minute's silence, please.</i> |
| Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 2:</i> |

Speech Title:

One minute of silence, please.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 3:

Speech Title:

One minute of silence, please.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 4:

Speech Title:

One minute of silence, please.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 5:

Speech Title:

One minute of silence, please.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 6:

Speech Title:

One minute of silence, please.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 7:

Speech Title:

One minute of silence, please.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome *Contestant No 8*:

Speech Title:

One minute of silence, please.

Ladies and gentlemen, please remain silent until the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have left the room. Judges, please ensure that your ballot is valid by printing and signing your name and listing the first three place-getters. Put your ballot into the envelope, and then hold it up for the Ballot Counters to collect.

Ballot Counters, after collecting the Judges' envelopes please leave the room with the Chief Judge.

After the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have left the room invite the contestants to return to the speaking area. Lead the applause. Request the contestants line up in speaking order. Certificate of Participation will be awarded at this time.

Questions:

(Above club level, please ask each contestant the appropriate question, ensuring that Contestants return to their seats prior to the Chief Judge entering the room with the contest results):

- *(Area level) Which Club they are representing*
- *(Division level) Club and Area*
- *(District level) Club, Area and Division*

(When this has been done ask if anyone wants to take a photo then ask Contestants to return to their seats to await the results.)

Advise the audience to talk quietly amongst themselves until Chief Judge arrives with the results. Request the Area/Division/District Director stand by to assist with presentation of certificates and trophies.

Please remember, it is vital that any disqualifications for time are announced without naming the disqualified contestant.)

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have received the results from the Chief Judge and . . .

(Select the appropriate from the following and DO NOT name any disqualified contestant/s.)

☐ I am pleased to announce there were no disqualifications for time.

☐ Unfortunately, there was/were time disqualification/s.

It now gives me great pleasure to announce the following:

In third place, please congratulate: _____

In second place, please congratulate: _____

And *(Include one of the following as appropriate.)*

1. To represent _____ Toastmasters Club at the Area _____ Conference,
(where and when) _____
 2. To represent Area _____ at the _____ Division Conference,
(where and when) _____
 3. To represent _____ Division at our District Conference,
(where and when) _____
 4. To represent District 69 in the Region 12 quarterfinals, please congratulate: our
_____ *(year)* International Speech Champion...
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(Invite the audience to take photos - taking care to note the correct positions for the place getters - thank everyone involved in the contest and hand control back to the MC/Contest Chair.)

