

Regional Right to Life Oratory Contest Ballot

Contestant Name: _____

Time: _____
5-7 minute limit

JUDGING CRITERIA	COMMENTS	SCORES
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1. Structure

Intro & Conclusion -Intro: Draws attention? Clear thesis? -Conclusion: Satisfies thesis? Clear & memorable?		/10
Outline & Word Usage -Outline: Clear & easy to follow? -Transitions: Clear and purposeful? Provides direction? Seamless? -Grammar: Good word usage? -Terms: Appropriate & well defined? Rich vocabulary? Pronunciation? -Sentence structure: Clear & complete?		/10

2. Content

Information -Depth of knowledge: Well researched? Avoids platitudes? (Has substance?) *Uses up-to-date, accurate information? eg., scientific, legal, historical/sociological Information substantiated & cited? -Quotes/testimonies/news stories used? Appropriate length? Source named? Relevant and interesting? -Facts woven , not just listed, in speech?		/10
Argumentation -Balance of logic & emotional appeal? -Concepts convincing : True & logical? Avoids logical inconsistencies? Assertions supported by evidence: reason, authority, observation? -Examples, analogies & application of principles : Appropriate & valid? -Creativity: Unique or clever? (e.g., Comic relief? Moving?) -Sensitive to audience? And Connects?		/10

3. Speaking Style & Poise

Voice & Oral Presentation -Audibility: Volume & projection? Rate of delivery? Enunciation? -Free of verbal clutter or hesitation? -Tone: Appropriate, expressive, relatable? Not dramatized, nor mere recitation? -Body language? Gestures purposeful? Natural & relaxed? Eye contact: Appropriate, meaningful? -Appearance: Good posture? Confident? Modest, appropriate dress & manner?		/10
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4. Adherence to Contest Rules

Topic directly addressed? 1 of 4: abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or embryonic experimentation Appropriate length? *Speech adheres to written copy?		/5
Does speech have pro-life message and tone?		/5

Additional comments on back.

Judge's Name _____

Date _____

Scoring Key	
Category	Pts. Totals
10 superior	60
5 good-ave.	30
1 ave.-poor	--

Final Score: _____/60

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Note the structure of the ballot: sections worth 10 points are roughly subdivided into 5 bullet points, so that scoring divides evenly.

Most contestants will receive all 5 points for the last box (pro-life content) but this gives judges a way of dropping the score for a non pro-life speech.