

12TH PROVINCIAL SKILLS COMPETITION
2009 SKILLS CANADA NEWFOUNDLAND LABRADOR



85
PREPARED SPEECH
Friday, April 3rd, College of the North Atlantic, PPD Campus – St. John's

Purpose of the Challenge

The Conference Board of Canada has identified the skills needed to enter, stay in, and progress in the world of work—whether it is self employment or working as a part of a team. One such skill area is effective oral and written communication including the ability to do the following:

- write and speak so others pay attention and understand
- listen and ask questions
- share information
- use relevant technological knowledge and skills to explain or clarify ideas

The prepared speech competition is designed to encourage and enhance the development of these skills in making career choices. The challenge provides the opportunity for competitors to prepare and present a speech and to construct answers to related questions in a clear and concise manner.

Competition Format

1. Competitors will attend an orientation session during which time they will submit a hard copy of their prepared speeches.
2. Competitors will observe the on site Skills Canada competitions to gather information about skilled trades and technology careers. The purpose of this observation component is to help students prepare for a general question that will be posed after the presentation of their prepared speech. The focus of this question will relate to what they have observed about skilled trades and technology careers.
3. Competitors will present their speeches in a formal setting.
4. Competitors will then respond to two questions. One question will be based on the topic as outlined above. The second question will be based upon the required observation component completed prior to the speech presentations.

Skills and Knowledge to be Critiqued

Competitors will demonstrate these abilities:

- Capture and hold the attention of the audience
- Present thoughts in a clear, coherent and well-constructed format on the assigned topic
- Deliver a clear message (main idea, argument, opinion or position)

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- Speak easily with confidence
- Use non-verbal skills (body language) to assist in expression
- Be expressive by varying voice pitch in tone, tempo and volume
- Think quickly and answer unseen questions clearly with conviction

TOPIC:

“Skills Compétence Canada: Building Bridges to the Future”

Competitors should reflect on this theme (**“Skills Compétence Canada: Building Bridges to the Future”**) widely and creatively ensuring that they maintain a focus and consider the connotations implied by the topic. Students are expected to express themselves clearly while capturing the attention of their listening audience. During the orientation session, competitors must submit a copy of their speech to the NTC.

Length of Prepared Speech

The speech shall be at least five (5) minutes in length and will not exceed seven (7) minutes.

Fifty (50) points will be deducted from the final score (i.e. the combined total score from all judges) for each minute or portion thereof under the minimum time or in excess of the maximum time.

There will not be a warning light or sound to indicate time allotment. Competitors should develop the skill to monitor the length of their presentation.

Length of Response to Questions

At the end of their speeches, students will be asked two questions. Competitors will have exactly one minute to respond to each question. Twenty (20) points will be deducted from the final score for exceeding the one minute specified.

Equipment, Tools, Supplies and Clothing

Clothing should be appropriate for a formal presentation.

Provincial/Territorial team shirts may not be worn during the competition. Competitors must not identify their home province/territory, school or their names during the competition and the delivery of their speech. 10 points will be deducted from the final score for violation of this regulation.

A lectern will be provided and a microphone supplied if the venue requires it but its use is optional for each speaker. Use of cue cards/ notes is also optional. No electronic equipment or other props will be permitted.

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Point Breakdown

Content (40%)

Mechanics: Diction/grammar/pronunciation (50)

Organization: Logical and focused (100)

Opening of Speech: Lead into topic, creating interest (25)

Ideas and Information: Related to and focused on the assigned topic (50)

Close of Speech: Summary, conclusion, originality (25)

Effectiveness: Convincing, coherent, interesting, use of descriptive language (150)

Delivery (40%)

Eye Contact (50)

Non-verbal gestures / mannerisms (50)

Voice - pitch, tempo, volume (50)

Enthusiasm (100)

Poise – Confidence (150)

Questions (20%)

Clarity / to the point (100)

Conviction / Knowledge of topic (100)

Total (1000)

In the event of a tie, the Provincial Technical Committee will make the final decision based on an audit of awarded points per category.

Provincial Technical Committee

Christine Greene (Chair) (NTC)

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