

**JAMES F. WERTZ ORATORICAL CONTEST
GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION**

RULES & PROCEDURES

The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest is divided into several phases. The contest will begin at your local church and proceed to the District Level (Association) and end with a contest at the State level. The winner from the Senior Division ultimately goes to the National level.

- ❖ Contestants are representatives of Associations **NOT** Churches. Therefore, all contestants must be affiliated with an Association.
- ❖ The Association is allowed **one (1)** representative for each category.

QUALIFICATION FOR CONTESTANTS

1. The contest is open to all young people grades 6th to 12th in the year that the contest is being held. Example: a contestant must be entering the 6th grade as of July 1, 2007. **Seniors who are graduating from High School as of July 1, 2007 are not eligible.**
2. Each contestant must present one typewritten (computer written) copy of their speech to the Director no later than the date specified on the application.
3. **Students entering the contest that have been called into Ministry may participate with the understanding that their speech must be an oration, not a sermon or sermonette.**
4. Other qualifications are governed by your local district.

CONTEST RULES

1. All contestants must speak on the official topics presented for their category. Not speaking on an official topic will result in a penalty. **The penalty is disqualification.**
2. Each contestant shall prepare his or her own speech. However the contestant may receive advice in the preparation of the speech.
3. All contestants must state the official topic of their speech first. Failure to do so will result in a penalty. **The penalty is 3 points.**
4. The use of props, special costumes or clothing or the use of prompters will not be permitted. Bible, notes, papers or anything that can be construed as a prop will not be taken to the podium by the contestant. **Penalty is disqualification**
5. No reference may be made that might identify the contestant, his or her family or the specific geographical or political area from which he/she originates. **Maximum penalty may be 5 points** as decided by the Judge.
6. The time allowed will not be over or under the specified length for each category. Should the time be over or under the length, a **penalty of 5 points** will be assessed.

CATEGORY/DIVISION

Preparatory

Junior

Senior

TIME

3-4 minutes

4-5 minutes

4-5 minutes

7. Appropriate Dress is a must. Remember that you are being judged on your appearance as well as your overall presentation. ***Make a good first impression!***
8. The Judges have the final decision over your presentation. (Not your coach, parents or your friends).
9. We try at all times to get three judges, however in the event one of the judges fails to show, we will continue the contest with the remaining judges. Our plans are to have three judges and one back-up.

PENALTIES AND PENALTY EXPLANATIONS

The following penalties have been established to create an equitable opportunity for all contestants:

- **SELF IDENTIFICATION.** No oration or part of an oration may be used that positively identifies the contestant or identifies his or her specific geographical origin such as state or province or smaller geographical or political location (i.e. Pastor Smith, Calvary Chapel, school, parents name, etc.). Maximum penalty may be five (5) points as determined by the individual judge. This is a judgmental call based on the judge's interpretation.

- **TIME PENALTIES.** The time limit for orations shall not be under or over the time specified for the contestant's category.
 - Senior Division – Four (4) minutes but no more than five (5) minutes are allowed for each contestant's oration. If the speech is **LESS** than four (4) minutes **OR** over five (5) minutes, the contestant will be penalized five (5) points.

 - Junior Division– Four (4) minutes but no more than five (5) minutes are allowed for each contestant's oration. If the speech is **LESS** than four (4) minutes **OR** over five (5) minutes, the contestant will be penalized five (5) points.

 - Preparatory Division – Three (3) minutes but no more than four (4) minutes are allowed for each contestant's oration. If the speech is **LESS** than three (3) minutes **OR** over four (4) minutes, the contestant will be penalized five (5) points.

- **FAILURE TO ANNOUNCE SUBJECT/TOPIC AT THE BEGINNING.** All contestants must express the official title at the very beginning of his/her speech. The order of presentation is shown below:
 - Subject/Topic (My topic is "Positive Thinking" or
 - Positive Thinking
 - Greetings
 - Speech

The penalty for failure to announce topic/subject at the beginning of the oration is three (3) points.

- **USE OF PROPS, CONSTUMES, ETC.** When the contestant leaves the preparation room for the auditorium, they are not allowed to have anything that would be construed as a prop. Props includes: The Bible, notes, note cards, and papers, folders, etc. The penalty is disqualification.

- **NOT SPEAKING ON OFFICIAL TOPICS.** The Congress of Christian Education provides topics that are to be used in each category. These are the **official topics** for the contestants. Failure to speak on one of the official topics is disqualification. Topic must be in contestant's division.

- **ORATIONS VS SERMONS.** The title implies that this is the James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest. Not the James F. Wertz Sermon Contest. Therefore, any speech presented as a Sermon is not acceptable. The penalty is disqualification. Judges will be instructed in this matter. There is a distinct distinction between the two, when delivered.

TIPS FOR CONTESTANTS

The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest gives young people who are affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention an opportunity to witness for Christ, and by doing so, convince others to accept Christ also. Making a speech in public will also aid young people in expressing themselves orally which are important in today's society.

- ❑ Posture is important in public speaking. Walk confidently to the podium. Walk and speak with vitality. This feeling is usually contagious. The audience will catch it from you.
- ❑ Greetings: You may use a conventional form of greeting, example – “*Presiding Officers, members of the Congress of Christian Education and to all of my brothers and sisters in Christ, Good _____*”
- ❑ Remember that your Topic is the first thing that you say prior to your greeting. Do not give out any information that can identify you, your Association, your family, your moderator, etc.
- ❑ The opening remarks catch your audience's attention. A quotation may be used as your opening statement. It should be lively and relate to your topic. Your introduction should make your listener sit up and think, “this is going to be good.” It is good to say something startling as an opening sentence.
- ❑ As you develop your speech, you may refer to the Bible for scriptures that will support your topic. Your points to be discussed may be numbered – strong points first, and then stronger ones and the strongest points listed as a high point of the speech. Transition words such as “to begin with”, “furthermore”, and to “conclude” give continuity and organization to the development of your speech.
- ❑ Refrain from nervous gestures such as playing with a pencil or taping the podium.
- ❑ Do not race through your talk. Speak distinctly. Speak with sincere feelings. Be careful about the volume. If your words are too low to reach the ears of the audience, all of your speech labors will have been to no avail.
- ❑ The conclusion of your speech should sum up what has been said. It may include answers to questions such as “Where do we go from here?” Gestures should flow naturally. Too much action takes away from words. The right amount of gesturing lends emphasis and relieves monotony.
- ❑ The end of your speech is the last chance to make a good impression. Speakers sometime end speeches with a challenge, a question, a poem, quotation or anecdote.
- ❑ IF you need to adjust the microphone, please do so when you get to the Podium.
- ❑ REMEMBER THAT YOUR TIME STARTS THE MOMENT YOU GIVE YOUR TOPIC. IN OTHER WORDS THE FIRST WORD SPOKEN IS WHEN YOUR TIME BEGINS!
- ❑ **THE SPEECH IS TO BE MEMORIZED! NO NOTES!**

SPEECH DELIVERY

The words you choose for your speech must fit the audience, the occasion and the subject. They must also fit you, the speaker.

We all have at least two vocabularies: A speaking vocabulary and a reading vocabulary

- ◆ Our speaking vocabulary consists of all the words we use regularly in our daily speech.
- ◆ Our reading vocabulary includes a much larger body of words we recognize and understand but do not usually use in our speech.
- ◆ There is no argument for settling for a limited speaking vocabulary. The larger the repertoire of words you have to choose from, the better your wording is likely to be.
- ◆ Your words must be interesting. If they are not, your audience will be tuned out.
- ◆ People lose patience with boring words.

Instead of saying

Few men
A long time ago
Many foreign cars
In the near future
Some vegetables
A weapon
Reference books
A low of flowers

Try this

five astronauts
in December of 1876
52 percent of all Hondas and Toyotas
two weeks from tomorrow
corn, peas and carrots
a heavy lead pipe
dictionaries and atlas
five hundred yellow roses

Specific language adds zest and interest to your speech.

Use Fresh Words

Language can become predictable. The freshness of language is related to its predictability. Trite, cliché-ridden language is boring precisely because it is so predictable.

Predictable expressions

A method in my madness
Playing second fiddle
Right from the horse's mouth
Passing the buck
Had the time of my life
Beating around the bush
Die a thousand deaths
Better late than never
Put the cart before the horse
Last but not least

opened a can of worms
an irony of fate
have your cake and eat it too
burning the midnight oil
apple of his eye
let the cat out of the bag
dead as a doornail
pretty as a picture
fly in the ointment
flat as a pancake

The Nonverbal and Verbal Channels of our communication can work together or they can work against one another. When they work together, what we communicate nonverbally serves to repeat or complement, substitute for or in some way regulates what we say verbally:

- Example Non-Verbal:
 - If we say get out and point to the door we are *repeating*.
 - If we spread our hands and arms while describing something, we are *complementing* (Making a panoramic view)
 - If someone asks us a question and we merely shrug our shoulders in reply we are *substituting*.
- Our Non-verbal cues can also contradict what we are saying. You have heard that action speaks louder than words
 - A pastor preaches on love, but exudes hostility towards his people by browbeating them.
 - You say you are not frightened, but both your voice and your hands are shaking.

Eye Behavior - The way we use our eyes is an important aspect of our nonverbal communication. One of the most important roles of eye behavior is its function as a regulator of our verbal communication. To establish a bond of communication with someone, we look him in the eye, to avoid communication, we avoid his eye. We get frustrated when we are talking to someone and they refuse to look at us

- Good eye contact helps your audience feel more relaxed and builds confidence in your speaking knowledge and ability. **Know Your Speech!**
- Keep eye contact for four to five seconds at a time, and then move to someone else.
- We avoid eye contact because we do not want to speak to someone, we catch a person's eye for the opposite reason

Stance and Body Movements

- Good posture portrays confidence. Square your feet shoulder width apart and plant flat on the ground.
- A natural position for your arms is relaxed by your sides. If you use gestures, you will want to use gestures that are deliberate and precise but look natural and spontaneous.
- Be aware of annoying habits or distracting habits. Leaning on the podium; crossing your arms, putting your hands in your pockets or tapping the podium or a pen.
- Practice your speech in front of a mirror to evaluate your presentation style and body movement and adjust accordingly.

Physical Appearance – We communicate to one another by the way we clothe and groom our bodies. We can present ourselves formally or informally, neatly or sloppily, modestly or provocatively. Expensively or cheaply, in good taste or poor taste or in any combination thereof.

- We make superficial (surface) judgments about people. 1 Samuel 16:7 states ..Man looketh on the outward appearance.
- We are going to make an assumption on you based on your dress, the issue is what will you communicate and is it what you want to communicate.

- ❑ Good choice of attire helps establish respect with your audience. Before you arrive to give your presentation, ask others for their opinion on your choice of clothing and appropriateness for the occasion.

Facial Expression. The face is perhaps the most expressive part of our bodies. The closer you are to your audience the more important your facial expression will be. So try to allow your facial muscles to relax.

- ❑ Pleasant facial expression helps to establish a warm and positive relationship with your audience. A smile lets them know that you are human and trustworthy.
- ❑ An expression in your face captures the mood of your speech and keeps the audience involved.

Paralanguage. The term paralanguage refers to all of those things we communicate with our voice apart from the words themselves. A man might say to a woman with an admiring tone or a woman to a man “You look *great*” or with sarcasm dripping from his words he might say “*You* look great”. The words are the same; the only thing changed was the method of delivery. But it reverses the entire message of the sentence.

Using your voice correctly. There are three concerns you must face with regard to the use of your voice in speaking. The first and most basic, is that you *speak correctly* - that is, that you use your vocal mechanism in a healthy and maximally effective way.

Using your voice fully. A second concern about your voice is that you use it to the fullest extent. Unfortunately, many speakers unnecessarily bore their listeners by using such a narrow band of their vocal range that they come across in what is commonly called monotone. Effective speakers are usually characterized by the use of a wide range of vocal inflection.

- Voice Projection – Sometimes the tone of your voice can have more impact than the message. Put feeling and energy into your voice by practicing vocal skills. Try some of the varieties to help enhance your speech.
 - Use pauses and silences instead of
 - Add vitality to your voice so it won't sound monotonous or emotionless.
 - Tape your voice and evaluate where changes may need to occur.

Using your voice attractively. A third concern about your voice is that it be attractive to your audience. The five factors listed below will help you in making your voice attractive: articulation, rate, loudness, pitch and quality.

- **Articulation** – It is important that you speak distinctly enough for your audience to understand your words. If you mumble or slur the words, your audience will have to struggle to understand you. Practice pronouncing each syllable of each word. It is possible however to speak so deliberately that your speech seems stilted and unnatural.
- **Rate** – The rate at which you speak will of course, tend to affect your articulation. The faster you speak, the more difficult it is to articulate clearly and the opposite is also true. Another aspect of rate is the use of pauses. Pauses provide much of the punctuation for discourse. As you speak, the audience has no periods, commas,

semicolons or dashes before them. They depend mainly on pauses to tell them what is to be distinguished from what.

- Change the speed of your words to dramatize the audience
- **Loudness.** – Loudness refers to the force with which the sound produced by your voice vibrates the eardrum of your listener. Obviously to be an effective speaker, you must speak loud enough to be heard by your audience. At the same time you must avoid speaking so loudly that people become uncomfortable or distracted by the loudness. Variety is important. Loudness and softness.
 - Increase and decrease the volume of your voice to emphasize main points and draw in the listeners (soft and loud)
- **Pitch** – The difference between a tenor and a bass voice or a soprano and alto voice is largely a matter of pitch. Speakers with unusually high voices (whether male or female) face a hardship in public speaking. The primary goal should be to find your natural range and then use it fully. This variety in the pitch of your voice is the vocal inflection.
 - Varying the pitch (high and low)
- **Quality.** Vocal quality relates primarily to the timbre of your voice. Is it thin or resonant, breathy or full, nasal or clear, harsh or mellow? The most common problems with vocal quality are excess nasality, breathiness and huskiness. Each is caused by different faults in the use of the vocal mechanism.

Audience Involvement

- Involve your audience by: asking questions, talking to them directly (not the floor) and sparking their interest. This technique helps to relax you and develop a rapport with the audience
- Use the content of your speech to involve the audience

Humor

- The objective is not to be a comedian but for you to establish a comfortable atmosphere and have fun with the audience.
- A little humor in your speech lets the audience know you are human and people actually learn more if they are having fun. Try to incorporate personal stories or current events to add fun to your speech.

Controlling the Butterflies

The number one fear of people in North America is speaking in public. Everyone has a certain amount of nervousness when talking to a group but the trick is not to get rid of the nervousness – learn to control it.

- Just before your speech do some deep breathing exercise to relax you
- Use your nervousness to add excitement to your personality
- Remember you are the expert. You are speaking because you have something worthwhile to say.
- Everyone wants you to succeed.

Speaking in public is a skill you can learn to practice. Controlling your fear and practicing the above skills in public speaking can give you a winning edge. .

SPEECH DELIVERY TIPS

- Make sure that your appearance is well presented**
- Speak clearly, and adjust your voice so that everyone can hear you. Don't shout for the sake of being loud**
- It is common to speak rapidly when nervous, try to take your time speaking**
- Effectively used, a pause in your speech can be used to emphasize a point, or to allow the audience to react to a fact, anecdote or joke**
- Make eye contact with your audience. This helps to build trust and a relationship between the speaker and the listeners**
- Do not fidget or make other nervous gestures with your hands. - Do not keep your hands in your pockets. Do use hand gestures effectively**
- Be yourself; allow your own personality to come across in your speech**

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT WILL HELP YOU NOW AND IN THE FUTURE!

Know the needs of your audience and match your contents to their needs. Know your material thoroughly. Put what you have to say in a logical sequence. Ensure your speech will be captivating to your audience as well as worth their time and attention. Practice and rehearse your speech at home or where you can be at ease and comfortable, in front of a mirror, your family, friends or colleagues. Use a tape-recorder and listen to yourself. Videotape your presentation and analyze it. Know what your strong and weak points are. Emphasize your strong points during your presentation.

When you are presenting in front of an audience, you are performing as an actor is on stage. How you are being perceived is very important. Dress appropriately for the occasion. Be solemn if your topic is serious. Present the desired image to your audience. Look pleasant, enthusiastic, confident, proud, but not arrogant. Remain calm. Appear relaxed, even if you feel nervous. Speak slowly, enunciate clearly, and show appropriate emotion and feeling relating to your topic. Establish rapport with your audience. Speak to the person farthest away from you to ensure your voice is loud enough to project to the back of the room. Vary the tone of your voice and dramatize if necessary. If a microphone is available, adjust and adapt your voice accordingly.

Body language is important. Standing, walking or moving about with appropriate hand gesture or facial expression is preferred to sitting down or standing still with head down and reading from a prepared speech. Use audio-visual aids or props for enhancement if appropriate and necessary. Master the use of presentation software such as *PowerPoint* well before your presentation. Do not over-dazzle your audience with excessive use of animation, sound clips, or gaudy colors which are inappropriate for your topic. Do not torture your audience by putting a lengthy document in tiny print on an overhead and reading it out to them.

Speak with conviction as if you really believe in what you are saying. Persuade your audience effectively. The material you present orally should have the same ingredients as that which are required for a written research paper, i.e. a logical progression from **INTRODUCTION** (Thesis statement) to **BODY** (strong supporting arguments, accurate and up-to-date information) to **CONCLUSION** (re-state thesis, summary, and logical conclusion).

Maintain sincere eye contact with your audience. Use the 3-second method, e.g. look straight into the eyes of a person in the audience for 3 seconds at a time. Have direct eye contact with a number of people in the audience, and every now and then glance at the whole audience while speaking. Use your eye contact to make everyone in your audience feel involved.

Speak to your audience, listen to their questions, respond to their reactions, adjust and adapt. If what you have prepared is obviously not getting across to your audience, change your strategy mid-stream if you are well prepared to do so. Remember that communication is the key to a successful presentation. If you are short of time, know what can be safely left out. If you have extra time, know what could be effectively added. Always be prepared for the unexpected.

Pause. Allow yourself and your audience a little time to reflect and think. Don't race through your presentation and leave your audience, as well as yourself, feeling out of breath.

TIPS TO HELP YOU IN LIFE
Public Speaking - The Art of Speech Making

Public Speaking
How do you speak naturally while all those people are watching you?

This document covers hints and tips on public speaking and presentation skill, dealing with public speaking nerves and anxiety, public speaking skills and public speaking techniques, public speaking training.

- **Public Speaking Fear**
- **Public Speaking Anxiety - Why Do We Get It?**
- **Fear of Public Speaking**
- **Building Confidence in Public Speaking**
- **Public Speaking Training**
- **Public Speaking Hints and Tips**

Common Fears of Public Speaking

What happens when you have to speak in public?

Did you know that public speaking tops the list of phobias for most people? Not spiders or heights - public speaking - speech in public!

Well, if you didn't know that, we bet your body does. It will do all kinds of unpleasant things to you when you have to stand up and face a sea of faces with the hope of getting your message across in a compelling and interesting way.

Your hands may sweat and your mouth goes dry. Your knees may shake and a quaver affects your voice. Your heart may race and those well known butterflies invade your stomach.

When all of that happens most people don't think of getting their message across in a compelling and interesting way; they just think of getting off the 'stage' as quickly as possible!

Have we frightened you sufficiently yet?

It's normal

We don't really mean to frighten you, just remind you that your body reacts 'in extremis' when put under pressure, and for most people, public speaking is just about the worst pressure they can be put under.

It's normal to be nervous and have a lot of anxiety when speaking in public. In a way, it's less normal not to have nerves or anxiety; in fact, to feel you have a phobia about public speaking.

WHY DO WE GET PUBLIC SPEAKING ANXIETY?

Fight or flight

Our bodies are geared to fight or flight from ancient time - fight that mastodon or get out of the way. We don't have too many mastodons around these days, but the body still reacts as though we do. So, if we have to get up and speak in public, all that adrenalin and noradrenalin goes coursing through our bodies - way more than we need.

We can't run away (well, we could, but we'd be out of job pretty quick if we did it too often), so our only option is to fight. But in terms of speaking in public, it can be hard to define just what we're fighting.

Why does public speaking do this to us?

Good question. You'd think that for most people, being given the opportunity to impress their audience would be a fantastic one. There you are in front of a group of people, the spotlight is on you and for the length of time you've been given, the world is yours.

Or is it?

The very fact that the spotlight is on you is enough to trigger every fear, anxiety and phobia you've ever had about public speaking.

Here's why

- You may be judged by all those people, and judged badly
- You may feel like a fool
- You might make mistakes and loose your way
- You'll be completely humiliated
- You'll never be as good as _____ (fill in the blank)
- 'They' won't like you
- 'They' won't 'get' what you're trying to say

HOW TO OVERCOME FEAR OF PUBLIC SPEAKING

What good are Nerves

Public speaking may not be comfortable, but take our word for it, nerves are good. Being 'centre stage' is not a good place to feel too comfortable.

Nerves will keep you awake and ensure you don't get too complacent. It is hard to feel complacent when your heart is beating so hard you're sure everyone watching you can hear it.

If channeled well, nerves can make the difference between giving a humdrum presentation and giving one that keeps people listening.

Get your attention off yourself

It's very tempting to keep focused on how you're feeling, especially if you're feeling really uncomfortable. You'll start to notice every bead of sweat.

To make your nerves work for you, you need to focus on just about anything other than yourself. You can distract yourself by paying attention to the environment in which you're speaking and seeing how you can make it work for you.

Once you're actually in front of your audience, pay attention to them. If you can, notice how people are dressed, who's wearing glasses, who has on bright colours. There will be dozens and dozens of things you can pay attention to help you trick your mind into not noticing what's going on with you.

Anything will do and you will find that the less you concentrate on how you are feeling and the more you concentrate on other things, the more confident you will feel.

HOW TO BUILD CONFIDENCE IN PUBLIC SPEAKING

Your audience can be your friend

Unless you know you're absolutely facing a hostile group of people, human nature is such that your audience wants you to succeed. They're on your side!

Therefore, rather than assuming they don't like you; give them the benefit of the doubt that they do.

They aren't an anonymous sea of faces, but real people. So to help you gain more confidence when speaking in public, think of ways to engage your audience. Remember, even if they aren't speaking, you can still have a two-way conversation.

When you make an important point pay attention to the people who are nodding in agreement and the ones who are frowning in disagreement. As long as you are creating a reaction in your audience you are in charge.

Keep them awake

The one thing you don't want is for them to fall asleep! But make no mistake public speaking arenas are designed to do just that: dim lights, cushy chairs, not having to open their mouths - a perfect invitation to catch up on those zzzzs.

Ways to keep them away include

- Ask rhetorical questions
- Maintain eye contact for a second or two with as many people as possible
- Be provocative
- Be challenging
- Change the pace of your delivery
- Change the volume of your voice

Hints and Tips for Effective Public Speaking

Here are just a few hints, public speaking tips and techniques to help you develop your skills and become far more effective as a public speaker.

Mistakes

Mistakes are all right.
Recovering from mistakes makes you appear more human.
Good recovery puts your audience at ease - they identify with you more.

Humour

Tell jokes if you're good at telling jokes.
If you aren't good, best to leave the jokes behind.
There's nothing worse than a punch line that has no punch.
Gentle humour is good in place of jokes.
Self-deprecation is good, but try not to lay it on too thick.

Tell stories

Stories make you a real person not just a deliverer of information.
Use personal experiences to bring your material to life.
No matter how dry your material is, you can always find a way to humanize it.

How to use the public speaking environment

Try not to get stuck in one place.
Use all the space that's available to you.
Move around.
One way to do this is to leave your notes in one place and move to another.
If your space is confined (say a meeting room or even presenting at a table) use stronger body language to convey your message.

Technology

Speak to your audience not your slides.
Your slides are there to support you not the other way around.
Ideally, slides should be graphics and not words (people read faster than they hear and will be impatient for you to get to the next point).
If all the technology on offer fails, it's still you they've come to hear.

You can learn to enjoy public speaking and become far more effective at standing in front of a group of people and delivering a potent message.

When it comes to improving your public speaking skills we have three words:

practice, practice, practice!

CHECKLIST FOR A GOOD SPEAKER



HOW ARE YOU DRESSED:

It should be comfortable for you, and comfortable for the audience too. It should suit the occasion. Don't feel shy, find out from the organizers how others will be dressed : Formal or Informal. Please do avoid glittery ornaments and flashy dresses, Simpler the better !

HOW IS YOUR POSTURE:

Be Comfortable & Amicable : Straight & Poised.

Don't Swing, Shift or Jump.

Don't lean Forward / Backwards, or put your weight on Podium.

Body in ATTENTION, Hands and Feet AT EASE is the general idea.

HOW ARE YOUR GESTURES:

Hands free & flowing, but not too much. Make habit of starting speech with hands held lightly in front (to avoid nervous gestures). Once you are comfortable allow them freedom.

Gestures add effect to your speech.

HOW IS YOUR EYE CONTACT:

Look in the eyes of people. Move your eyes in slow smooth cycles to cover the entire audience, especially corners. It catches attention. It creates RAPPORT and it gets you ..

AFFECTION & APPLAUSE.

HOW IS YOUR VOICE:

Bring variations by changing loudness and tone as per mood of your words and theme of your speech. Modulate your voice.

Use it to add emphasis etc. It brings life in to your speech.

HOW IS YOUR LANGUAGE:

Should be comfortable for you & the audience.

Use words which are natural to you, use phrases which are understood by all. Avoid bookish language, or too technical Jargons. Some Foreign Language words are not easy to translate - Don't. You can add few sentences of local language for effects.

Do not mix languages so much or so many times that it irritates.

Above all check check -

HOW IS YOUR SMILE TODAY ?



GENERAL RULES

1. Spectators may not enter or leave the audience while a contestant is speaking. Please alert your congregation and friends to this fact if you are one of the contestants. This rule will be strictly adhered to; movement creates distraction for the contestant.
2. Please ensure that you have turned off all cellular phones and beepers.
3. Please refrain from opening mints or candy during a presentation.
4. Please do not applaud until all participants in each division has finished
5. Each contest shall have three judges and two timekeepers.
6. The judges cannot be acquainted with the contestants.
7. The judges and timekeepers will not be identified at the time of the contest or by advance publicity. The judges will be identified only after the last oration has been presented for the category that they are judging or in the event the same judges are used throughout, they will be introduced after the last category
8. During the time of the contest, the judges and timekeepers shall each be in different locations within the room.
9. Each judge will render a final decision on all contestants without consultation with other judges or any other person. Each judge and timekeeper must sign his/her official score sheet.
10. At no time will a contestant or judge discuss the contestant's scores. The results of a judge's decision will be kept confidential.
11. The Judges will have a score sheet and a sheet for additional comments. The purpose of these comments is to help and or enhance the contestants in future endeavors.
12. Selection of winners will be based on the judge's score and any penalty points that the contestant may have received.
13. The Director and Assistant Director will conduct a drawing prior to the beginning of the contest, with all contestants present, for the speaking order.
14. Please keep in mind that you were created in the image of God. You are a good and talented person and in God's eyes, everyone is a winner!
15. God Bless You!

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
Oratorical Contest 2007

1. Applicants are to complete application with all of the required information. Applications not completely filled out will not be accepted.
2. Please ensure that all REQUIRED signatures are on the form.
3. Completed applications:

**THE DEADLINE DATE IS
JUNE 15, 2007
APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ON SITE!**

4. Any applications received after this date will not be accepted. It is not our intention to make this an issue; however, it is not fair to Associations who submitted their paperwork on time.

5. PLEASE DO NOT MAIL APPLICATIONS AND SPEECHES TO THE GBSC HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. MAIL THEM TO THE ADDRESS INDICATED ON THE FORM. PLEASE DO NOT MAIL APPLICATIONS AND SPEECHES TO THE GBSC HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. MAIL THEM TO THE ADDRESS INDICATED ON THE FORM.

6. Any problems that you encounter, any questions that you may have, please feel free to make contact with the person listed below

Oratorical Director

**C. Trumilla McDowell
115 East McDowell Street
Elizabethtown, NC 28337**

7. IT IS A REQUIREMENT THAT WE HAVE A COPY OF THE CONTESTANT'S SPEECH PRIOR TO THE CONTESTANT SPEAKING.

8. Please Help US Help you!

**GBSC OFFICIAL ORATORICAL CONTEST
 JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET 2007
 DIVISION: _____**

Contestant #

TOPIC: _____

CONTESTANT			
PERSONAL QUALITIES		20 POINTS	
0-5	Appearance		
0-5	Poise		
0-5	Personality		
0-5	Attitude		
MATERIAL ORGANIZATION		35 POINTS	
0-10	Theme and subject adherence – Does speaker stay on topic throughout the entire presentation. Is the material strong or weak? Is time used to best advantage?		
0-10	Content – Is material adequate, does it have substance?		
0-5	Structure – Is speech organized, well planned and constructed?		
0-5	Logic – Does speech make sense? Does it follow a reasoned pattern?		
0-5	Color – Does speech appeal to the heart as well as mind? Does it have good use of imagery? Does it include examples?		
DELIVERY AND PRESENTATION		35 POINTS	
0-10	Voice – Is there quality and variety of expression (rate, inflection, volume)		
0-10	Pronunciation – Are all words spoken correctly (PLEASE OVERLOOK SPEECH IMPEDIMENTS)		
0-5	Eye Contact – Does the speaker make eye contact with audience or do they stare out into space		
0-5	Gestures – Does the control and use of the body, while speaking add/detract to the speech?		
0-5	Sincerity/Emphasis – Was a true tone used to communicate to the audience instead of talking at them?		
OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS		10 POINTS	
0-5	Impression – Did the speech make an impression in minds of listeners (arouse a response)?		
0-5	Effect – Did the speaker communicate to the audience what the speech was to accomplish?		
TOTAL SCORE (without penalties)			
JUDGE'S PENALTIES			
DQ	USE OF PROPS/SERMONS/NOT SPEAKING ON OFFICIAL TOPICS		
-1-5	Self-Identification (Maximum Points 5)		
-3	Failure to Announce Subject at Beginning of Oration		
TOTAL SCORE (including Judge's Penalties)			
Judge's Signature		Judge #	Date
TIME PENALTY			
-5	Over or Under (time limit)		
TOTAL SCORE (including ALL penalties)			
Tallier Signature		Date	
Tallier Signature		Date	
Tallier Signature		Date	

JAMES F. WERTZ ORATORICAL CONTEST
Congress of Christian Education of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc.

Speech (Oratorical) Contest Entry Form

(Contestants who have been declared winners in their ASSOCIATIONS should complete this form)

Name of Contestant: _____ M F

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone () _____

NAME OF CHURCH _____

PASTOR'S NAME _____

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING _____

MODERATOR'S NAME _____

LIST PRIOR CONTEST IN WHICH YOU HAVE PARTICIPATED IN:

Local Church _____

Association _____

Other _____

TOPIC _____

DIVISION _____

YOUR GRADE AS OF JULY 1, 2007 _____

Signature of Sunday School Superintendent

Signature of District President

PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION AND A COPY OF SPEECH TO:

C. Trumilla McDowell
115 East McDowell Street
Elizabethtown, NC 28337

APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE IS JUNE 15, 2007

COVER SHEET FOR SPEECHES
 (Complete and return attached to speech)
PLEASE PRINT

Contestant's Name _____

Topic of Speech _____

Division _____

Association _____

Number of Pages _____

Point of Contact for questions and or clarification:

Name _____

Telephone _____

DO NOT USE	
DATE RECEIVED	
CONTESTANTS' NUMBER	
DIVISION STANDING	
TOTAL POINTS/AVERAGE	
PENALTIES	
FINAL SCORE	
DATE CLOSED	

CONTESTANT'S DATA 2007
(PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLLY)

NAME
ADDRESS
PARENTS' NAME
COACH
CHURCH
PASTOR
ASSOCIATION
MODERATOR
GOALS

CONTESTANT'S DATA 2007
(PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLLY)

NAME
ADDRESS
PARENTS' NAME
COACH
CHURCH
PASTOR
ASSOCIATION
MODERATOR
GOALS

TIME AND PENALTY SHEET

TIMES

PREPARATORY DIVISION

TIME: 3 – 4 MINUTES

JUNIOR DIVISION

TIME: 4 – 5 MINUTES

SENIOR DIVISION

TIME: 4 – 5 MINUTES

PENALTIES

- **DEDUCT FIVE (5) POINTS FROM ANY CONTESTANT WHO FAIL TO STAY WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME LIMIT FOR THEIR PARTICULAR DIVISION.**
- **PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CHECK ALL PENALTIES FROM THE JUDGES AND INDICATE THEM IN YOUR TOTAL WHEN COMPUTING THE TOTAL SCORE (*including Judges' Penalties*)**

JUDGES PENALTIES

DQ - MEANS DISQUALIFICATION

- A Contestant will be disqualified if they use any props (*i.e. Bibles, note cards, posters, prompting from anyone*).
- A Contestant will be disqualified if they present a sermon. The distinction is clear. Contestants are to present speeches.
- A Contestant will be disqualified if they do not speak on the official topics. Each Division has specific topics that they are required to speak on. Any deviation from the topic is not the Official Topic.

SELF IDENTIFICATION (1 – 5 POINTS)

- A Contestant who makes reference to their geographical location; their pastors, churches, associations, schools, etc will be deducted no less than 1 point and no more than 5 points. The point spread is based on whether or not the identification was crucial. Please keep in mind that this is a Judge's Judgment call.

FAILURE TO ANNOUNCE SUBJECT AT THE BEGINNING OF ORATION (3 POINTS)

- A Contestant who fails to announce their topic at the beginning of the Oration. Examples of announcing subjects at the beginning of the Oration is: *My Topic Is; Today I will be speaking on or speaking to you on or; Just stating the Topic.* The purpose of stating the topic at the beginning is so that as a Judge you can readily identify what the Contestant is speaking on. They may state the Topic several other times within the speech; however, our position is that for your benefit it must be stated at the beginning.