

COMPETITION RULES

Registration

The closing date for schools to register for the competition is Friday 5th April. This must be done using the registration form, found here.

Eligibility

Two participants per school are eligible to enter the PSC 2019

Participants must be students at an ESU Chile member school. Participants must be aged between 16 and 20 at the time of the competition.

Participants must be passport holders or permanent residents of Chile.

Themes

Participants must write and deliver a speech, the title and content of which are connected with the them for the competition.

Participants may interpret the theme in any way they wish, but may not use the theme as the title of their speech.

This year's theme for the national competition is "A lie has speed, but truth has endurance". All participants will be required to deliver a prepared speech on this theme, with the semi-finalists also required to deliver an impromptu speech.

Disqualification

Participants who breach the rules relating to registration, eligibility, themes or the conduct of rounds may be disqualified.

Participants who, in the opinion of the PSC Convenor, act in a manner which would bring themselves or the ESU into disrepute may be disqualified.

CONDUCT OF ROUNDS

Structure of Competition

All participants will be required to prepare and deliver a 5-minute speech on the topic "A lie has speed, but truth has endurance".

Those who will go through to the semi-finals must deliver a 3-minute impromptu speech.

The prepared speeches are the first stage of the competition, with participants randomly allocated into heats. After hearing all speeches in that heat, the judges will choose the 2 to 3 best speakers (depending on the total number of heats), who will pass to the second stage of the competition.

The Impromptu speech is the second stage of the competition. The speakers will randomly draw the topic and order in which they will be speaking. Participants will have 15 minutes to prepare their 3-minute impromptu speech.

After each participant has delivered their impromptu speech, the judges will choose the 4 best speakers, who will go through to the final.

Heats - Prepared Speeches

The prepared speech heats are the first stage of the competition.

Participants are randomly assigned to one of the heats (determined by the PSC Convenor).

Participants speak in a random order (determined by the PSC Convenor).

Participants deliver their five-minute prepared speech (which must be connected with the prepared speech theme). The speech must be wholly original. If the ESU has reason to believe a speech, or sections of it, have been used in a previous speech, we reserve the right to disqualify the participant from the competition.

A timekeeper gives a signal at 4 minutes and 30 seconds (to indicate that 30 seconds remain), at 5 minutes (to indicate that the participant's time is up), and at 5 minutes and 30 seconds (at which point the participant must conclude their speech immediately).





Participants who speak for fewer than 4 minutes and 30 seconds or more than 5 minutes and 30 seconds may be penalised by the adjudicators.

The speech is immediately followed by a 3-4-minute question period.

Questions will come from members of the adjudication panel and participants should respond to each question individually.

No visual aids, props or amplifying microphones may be used (recording devices may be used with prior permission from the PSC Convenor).

The adjudicators judge the participants in the heats in accordance with the adjudication guidelines and the marking scheme for prepared speeches, and the speaker scale.

Participants may seek feedback from the adjudicators, but only after the decision has been announced.

The adjudicators' decision is final.

Semi-finals - Impromptu speeches

The impromptu speeches are the second stage of the competition. The best speakers from the prepared speech heats will go through to compete in this stage.

Participants speak in a random order (drawn by the participants).

Participants deliver a three-minute impromptu speech on a new topic. Participants choose their topic from a list of three, which they receive 15 minutes before they must deliver their speech. During the 15-minute preparation period:

- participants are given a quiet room in which to choose their topic and prepare their speech;
- participants may not use any printed or electronic resources for the purpose of research;
- dictionaries and writing materials (blank paper, palm or cue cards, pens, pencils etc.) are made available to participants.

A timekeeper gives a signal at 2 minutes 30 seconds (to indicate that 30 seconds remain), at 3 minutes (to indicate that the participant's time is up) and at 3 minutes and 30 seconds (at which point the participant must conclude their speech immediately).

Participants who speak for fewer than 2 minutes 30 seconds or more than 3 minutes 30 seconds may be penalised by the adjudicators.

The impromptu speech is not followed by a question period.

No visual aids, props or amplifying microphones may be used (recording devices may be used with prior permission from the PSC Convenor).

The adjudicators judge the participants in the impromptu speech in accordance with the adjudication guidelines and the marking scheme for impromptu speeches, and the speaker scale.

Participants may seek feedback from the adjudicators, but only after the decision has been announced.

The adjudicators' decision is final.

Grand Final

Participants will draw the order in which they will speak.

Participants deliver their five-minute prepared speech, once again.

The rules relating to timing, questioning and adjudication apply to the grand final exactly as they apply to the prepared speech heats (see above).

No visual aids or props may be used. Amplifying and/or recording microphones may be used at the discretion of the PSC Convenor.

The adjudicators select the winner and a runner up, both of whom receive an award.

The winner of the competition will represent Chile at the 2019 International Public Speaking Competition in London, UK.

Fig. 1

- The chairperson introduces the speaker, giving their name and the title of their speech. After the speech, the chairperson invites questions from the adjudicators. Responses must be addressed to the adjudicators.
- The timekeeper records the length of each speech for the adjudicators and gives signals indicating how much time has elapsed for each speech.
- The timekeeper sits at the front or at the side of the room in view of the speaker, the adjudicators and the audience. The speaker stands at the front of the room, in view of the adjudicators and the audience.
- The adjudicators (adjudication panel) sit at the back of the room, behind the audience.

