

# INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2019

Guidance for  
Adjudicators



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

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## Marking Schemes

## Prepared Speeches

Expression and Delivery – 35 marks Reasoning and Evidence – 35 marks Organisation and Prioritisation – 15 marks Listening and Response – 15 marks

## Impromptu Speeches

Expression and Delivery – 40 marks Reasoning and Analysis – 40 marks Organisation and Prioritisation – 20 marks

The marking schemes are designed to assist adjudicators when assessing the different aspects or features of a speech (adjudicators should consider the relevant marking scheme in conjunction with the speaker scale).

Adjudicators should not feel constrained by their initial allocation of marks. Adjudication is an inherently subjective pursuit, which cannot be reduced to a purely mathematical process. It requires careful consideration of the discrete categories within the marking scheme, coupled with an ability to balance the strengths and weaknesses of different speakers in different areas.

Adjudicators must engage in a discussion with the rest of the adjudication panel after the competition, justifying their own opinion and allocation of marks, and considering the opinion and allocation of marks of other adjudicators (in an attempt to reach consensus on the rankings).

The speaker scale is designed to assist adjudicators when assessing a speaker's overall performance (adjudicators should consider the speaker scale in conjunction with the relevant marking scheme).

## Speaker Scale

**Excellent – 90-100 marks**

Marks should be awarded within this range for a speech that would almost certainly be the winning speech at the grand final of the IPSC. Such a speech should be delivered flawlessly, arguments should be structured to perfection, and the arguments presented should be compelling and supported by comprehensive evidence and/or analysis. The speaker should be uniquely confident and stylistic.

**Very Good – 80-90 marks**

Marks should be awarded within this range to a speaker who would probably be one of the six speakers in the grand final of the IPSC. Such a speech should be delivered to a very high standard, arguments should be very well structured, and the arguments presented should be supported by solid evidence and/or analysis. The speaker should display confidence and style.

Good – 70-80 marks

Marks should be awarded within this range to a speaker who would probably be one of top 20 speakers of the IPSC. Such a speech should be delivered to a high standard, arguments should be structured, and arguments should be supported by good evidence and/or analysis.

**Average – 60-70 marks**

Marks should be awarded within this range to a speaker who gave a reasonable performance, but had a minor fault in one of the categories of the marking scheme.

### Below Average – 50-60 marks

Marks should be awarded within this range to a speaker who had minor faults in multiple categories of the marking scheme or a significant fault in one of the categories of the marking scheme.

Poor – 40-50 marks

Marks should be awarded within this range to a speaker who had significant faults in multiple categories of the marking scheme.



