



CORONADO ROTARY 4-WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST

Information and FAQs

Rules of the speech:

Subject: Apply the 4 Way Test to any topic:

Is it the Truth?

Is it Fair to all concerned?

Will it build Goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?



Eligibility: Any high school student in good standing who lives in **or** attends school in Coronado, except a student who has participated and won 1st place at the District level in a previous year. Students may participate through one club only.

Delivery: The speech should be delivered in an extemporaneous manner. Notes will be permitted at the club and sub-regional level but will be limited to only one 3x5 card at the regional finals. No notes will be permitted at the District Finals.

Length of Speech: The speech should be between 5 and 7 minutes in length. Penalty points will be assessed if the speech length is outside these limits.

Speech Content: The speech given by each contestant must be original in content and must show clearly the practical application of the Rotary 4 Way Test to the subject of the speech and the lives of the age group of the contestants where applicable. Each element of the Rotary 4-Way Test must be addressed during the body of the speech and not reserved for concluding statements only.

Props: No props are to be used. Audience participation will be considered a prop. Penalty points will be subtracted for use of props or encouragement of audience participation,

Speaker Aids: At Club contests, a lectern and microphone may be provided, at the discretion of the Club. At Regional and the District Finals contest, a lectern and microphone will be provided. If provided, the use of the lectern and microphone is at the discretion of the speaker.

Notes: Contestants may speak from notes at the club competition. At the Regional competition, only a single 3 x 5 card may be used. At the District final, notes will not be allowed.

Structure of the Contest: Two preliminary competitions will be held in early February. The 4 top finishers at the preliminaries will present their speeches at the end of February at the Coronado Rotary club. **All 4 club finalists will receive cash awards** – the Club Winner will receive the top cash award and advance to the District Sub-Regionals to compete against other Club winners. The top 2 finishers at the Sub-Regionals advance to the Regional level. The top 3 Regional finishers advance to the District 5340 Finals, to be held at the end of April. Every participant beyond the Club level will receive a cash award, with the larger awards going to those whose speeches receive higher scores.

FAQ

Why is the 4-Way Test so important to Rotary?

The Four-Way Test is a nonpartisan and nonsectarian ethical guide for Rotarians to use for their personal and professional relationships. The test has been translated into more than 100 languages, Rotarians recite it at club meetings and pledge to apply it to everything they think, say, or do.

Why is Rotary holding this Speech Contest?

The purpose of the 4-Way Test Speech Contest is to help youth, Rotarians and the community-at-large to more completely understand, encourage, and foster the principles of Rotary and the objectives of “Service Above Self.”

This sounds like a lot of work. Is it worth my time?

There are sizeable cash prizes:

School contest: No cash awarded, but top 4 finishers advance to Coronado Rotary Club contest, where they are guaranteed a cash award.

Coronado Rotary: First-\$200, Second-\$100, consolation-\$50. Coronado Rotary Club winner advances to next level.

Sub-Regional: First-\$200, Second-\$75, Third-\$50, consolation \$25. Top 2 places advance.

Regional: First-\$375, Second-\$175, Third-\$75, consolation \$25. Top 3 places advance.

District Finals: First-\$600, Second-\$250, Third-\$100, remaining places \$50.

In 2014, one student from Coronado advanced as far as the District Finals and another to the Regionals. Their combined winnings were over \$1000.

Any other benefits?

Many. Maybe there's an issue or ethical problem in your life that you have strong opinions about. Validating your feelings and arguments within the framework of the 4-Way Test may just give you the personal satisfaction of having PROVED the correctness of your feelings. Speeches have often served double-duty as the basis of an essay on a college application; in fact, participation in a Rotary 4-Way Test Speech Contest is considered a plus by many college admissions offices. Also, you get to practice public speaking before a sympathetic audience, so that an important interview or presentation will seem a little less terrifying next time.

OK, I'll go for it! What do I do next?

Fill out the application on the first page of this document and submit by the due date on the form. The Rotary contest committee will select the 20 most promising applications for the preliminary contest to be held in February. Selectees will be given an opportunity to choose a convenient time for their presentation.

What can I use as a subject?

Literally anything, as long as it is in good taste. Because the 4-Way Test is an ethical standard, you will best use it to explore an ethical or moral issue that you have experience with. Examples: Should you get help for a friend with a substance-abuse problem – or should you stay uninvolved? When should an infirm relative go into a nursing home? Why do you volunteer? Is health care an entitlement? Should taxes support the arts? The more of a connection you have to a topic, the more your speech will practically write itself.

I need more help getting it together

Take a look at the document "How to give a persuasive speech" (below).

*****Also, study these District-winning speeches***** One speech uses the 4-Way Test to **validate** the proposal; the other to **refute** an everyday practice. Note the structure, personal anecdotes, and personal involvement of the speakers with their topics:

Mindful parenting: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXbPXF2gl&feature=youtu.be>

Derogatory speech: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-66BtjyJXU>

How to give a persuasive speech

NOTE: This is a brief overview of how to give a persuasive speech

Basic Flow:

Introduction

~3 Points

Conclusion (tie back to your introduction)

4 Way Test Speech Contest Note: You have a natural 4 Point outline- use the 4 Way Test as your structure. WRITE THE SPEECH FOR ROTARY...specifically, Rotarians. Know your audience! It's a really good idea to thoughtfully use the Rotary Year Theme or the Rotary Motto "Service Above Self." (Before the contest, students should come as a guest to a few club meetings to get what Rotary is about!)

Introduction:

Attention Getting Device (AGD or better known as Attention Getter)

Thesis

Preview

Transition (to the body of your speech)

Body:

Make sure you get to the impact of your argument! Use evidence to support your claims. Connect with your audience.

Conclusion:

Do the reverse of your introduction. You will want to allude to your AGD.

NOTE:

Have a story to weave through your speech; good connective material for transitions. You not only have to be a good writer, the words you choose should sound persuasive when spoken; use words that immediately create a mental visual image.

There's an old story about giving speeches- tell them what you're going to tell them, then tell them, then tell them what you just told them. AND REMEMBER TO HAVE FUN!! Smile more...people will enjoy looking and listening to you. The power in your speaking is in the listening of your audience.

The 4 Second Rule – when delivering your speech, don't scan your audience...that's not eye contact. Be with one person at a time for 4 seconds...finish your thought and randomly select another person to be with for 4 seconds. You'll see an immediate difference in the performance quality of your speech.

FOR MORE DETAIL

Original Oratory- Pam Cady, Apple Valley H.S., MN (she is a Hall of Fame coach- 25 plus years- every year she and her husband, Joe Wycoff, have a national champion in Oratory/many national finalists)

- The communicationFORUM is an advocate of the Wycoff Style and Method of Original Oratory

Definition of Original Oratory: The creative, analytical sharing of a truth that has both insight and significance. It must elicit an emotional response.

**Head and Heart

**Values/Policy

COMPONENTS OF AN ORATION:

Attention Getter

**Goals:

- a. Establish a Logical Link
- b. Be Creative
- c. Reflect You

**Devices:

- a. Literature
- b. Mythology
- c. Quotations
- d. Personal Story
- e. Quiz
- f. Original Poem
- g. Gimmick
- h. Hypothetical Story
- i. Media
- j. Historical Reference
- k. Songs

**Vehicle: a stylistic device that drives the idea of the speech forward (initiated in the introduction, but used throughout the speech)

- 1- Common Ground
- 2- Significance
- 3- Thesis (What?)—the “control” sentence from which everything revolves
- 4- Preview or Division of Thesis
- 5- Transitions
- 6- How/Where?
- 7- Why?
- 8- Analysis/Commentary
- 9- Harm/So What!
- 10- Humor
- 11- Heart Story
- 12- Hope Story
- 13- Just Talk
- 14- Disclaimer/Qualifiers
- 15- Solution
- 16- Restatement
- 17- Summary
- 18- Closing Attention Getter—tie back to opening

**Appeal to the Head and Heart