

GUIDELINES FOR MOMENTS IN HISTORY

Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills in research and speaking related to an historical focus.

Definition of the Category:

The challenge to the speaker is to select an historical topic within the limits presented each year by WHSFA. The general focus for a speech in this category is an exploration of history. Students may consider (but are not limited to) using the following areas of research: archival records, diaries, personal interviews, letters, newspapers, etc. The speaker is to use this researched information to compose and present a well-organized, informative speech. Speakers may use visual materials, but such materials must support, not dominate, the presentation. This category calls for a speech, not a visual media show *or an acting performance*.

Rules:

1. The speech must be original with the participant.
2. Maximum time limit: 6 minutes. A 15 second grace period is allowed, after which one point will be deducted from that evaluation item dealing with rate.
3. Use of both sides of one 4x6 note card is optional. The use of a speaker's stand is optional.
4. Visual supporting materials may be used.
5. The student's topic choice must conform to the annual focus and WHSFA guidelines. The topic (person, event, trend, etc.) need not have been well publicized.

Criteria for Evaluation:

1. The extent to which the speech was clearly informative and well researched.
2. The extent to which the organization of the speech was characterized by an objective presentation of accurate, well-developed, and unified information.
3. The extent to which the presentation reflected effective language skills, including such items as use of transitions and clear, vivid, and appropriate word choices.
4. The extent to which the vocal presentation was clear and appropriate to the subject, including such items as articulation, pronunciation, volume, rate, pitch and voice quality.
5. The extent to which the speaker's physical presence contributed to the clarity and effectiveness of the presentation, including such items as the use of note card, any visual materials, facial expression, eye contact, gestures, and bodily movement.

Adapted from the WHSFA Handbook

Maximum Time: 6 minutes

MOMENTS IN HISTORY EVALUATION SHEET

Time _____

Maximum Time: 5-6 Minutes

Name _____ Title/Topic _____

Circle the number representing your response to the question - 1. WEAK 2. FAIR 3. GOOD 4. VERY GOOD 5. EXCELLENT

USE THE SPACES BELOW TO **EXPLAIN YOUR RATING** AND TO **PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**.

1. To what extent was the speech clearly informative and well researched? **1 2 3 4 5**

2. To what extent was the organization of the speech characterized by an objective presentation of accurate, well-developed and unified information? **1 2 3 4 5**

3. To what extent did the presentation reflect the use of effective language skills, including such items as use of transitions and clear, vivid and appropriate word choices? **1 2 3 4 5**

4. To what extent was the vocal presentation clear and appropriate to the subject, such items as articulation, pronunciation, volume, rate, pitch and voice quality? **1 2 3 4 5**

5. To what extent did the speaker's physical presence contribute to the clarity and effectiveness of the presentation, including such items as the use of note card, any visual materials, facial expression, eye contact, gestures, and bodily movement? **1 2 3 4 5**

Advanced Speech
Davies/Ducett

Going Over Time (-1) _____
Total Points _____ X 2 = _____

MOMENTS IN HISTORY

The chosen time period for use in 2008-2009:

1450–1650 – Reformation, Age of Discovery and High Renaissance

Possible areas of consideration may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Historical Sites/Monuments
2. Natural Disasters
3. Inventions
4. Medicine
5. Arts and Entertainment
6. Education
7. Military Activity
8. Ethnology/Legends/Folklore
9. Geography
10. Politics
11. Fashion and Fads
12. Transportation
13. Sports
14. Religion
15. Heroes
16. Villains
17. Personalities

Advanced Speech
Davies/Ducett

18. Significant Speech