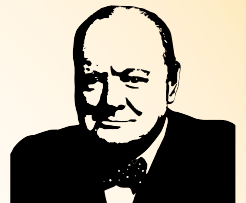


ESU CHURCHILL-NATIONAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLS



THE INTERNATIONAL
CHURCHILL SOCIETY
— UNITED KINGDOM —

Participants Factsheet



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

discovering voices

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMPETITION

Welcome to the English-Speaking Union Churchill National Public Speaking Competition for Schools 2016-2017.

- This short guide provides an introduction to the competition for teachers in participant schools, to help you understand the format, adjudication process, and organisation of the competition as it progresses throughout the school year
- Much more information can be found in the Competitions Handbook, which can be found at www.esu.org/publicspeaking

Team speaking is both good fun and educative

- Students who participate in the competition develop key skills for the future.
- They come to grips with topical subjects in a range of fields, learning to consider ideas analytically, and building evidence to support conclusions.
- They learn to question the ideas of others, and present their thoughts before an audience.

Who can enter?

- The competition is primarily aimed at students in years 10 and 11.
- A maximum of 2 teams may be entered

NEW FOR 2016-17

For the first time in the competition a second team of Year 9 may be entered, providing the first team is made up of Year 10/11 students.

FORMAT

What makes this competition unique?

- Each team presentation involves **3 participants: Chairperson, Questioner and Speaker.**
- The Chairperson and Questioner of **your** school, are partnered up with the Speaker from a **different school.**
- Your Speaker is similarly “hosted” by the Chair and Questioner of a **different school.**
- 20 – 30 minutes before the first presentation, the chairperson and questioner of a school’s team are told which Speaker they will be working with, and given time to prepare by asking the Speaker questions about their connection to their chosen topic.

Each presentation lasts for fourteen minutes. The time breakdown for the presentation is;

Timings	Guest Speaker	Chairperson	Questioner
1.00		Introduction	
5.00	The speech		
4.00	Questioner’s Questions		Questioner’s Questions
2.00	Audience Questions		
2.00		Summary	

Timekeeping

- An audible signal will be given when the 5 minutes for the Speaker have elapsed, and at the 14 minute mark to denote that the presentation should have concluded.
- It is, however, the responsibility of the **Chair** to ensure that the presentation runs according to time and fits within the 14 minutes allocated.

THE THREE ROLES

Chairperson

The Chairperson's primary role is to run the presentation.

- They should ensure that the presentation runs to time, (using their own stopwatch)
The chairperson is also responsible for providing links between the elements of the presentation.
- They begin by introducing the presentation as a whole. Within their introduction they should seek to create a warm and friendly atmosphere.
- They should introduce the speaker and questioner with brief and relevant biographical information, such as why they chose the particular topic or why they feel themselves qualified to discuss the issue.
- Chairs should also say a few words about the topic, although this must be from a **neutral** perspective.
- The Chair introduces the Questioner.
- The Chair plays a crucial role during audience questions. Chairs may wish to take questions from judges or adults, but should give preference to questions from students. Coaches, parents and supporters should not ask questions of their own speaker
- The Chair ends the presentation with a summary. The Chair first summarises the key points of the speech, particularly any points of a controversial nature.
- The Chair thanks the Speaker, making mention of relevant qualities (great research, engaging content, use of anecdote, answering of questions, etc.)
- Finally, if time allows, thank the judges, host, and audience.

Speaker

The Speaker's primary role is to seek to inform, persuade and entertain the audience on their chosen topics.

Preparation

- Topics will be given at least 3 weeks in advance by either branches or the National Organiser.
- Speakers need to research their topics carefully and check their facts and examples.
- Once the content is drawn up, they should structure the speech for maximum impact.

- Finally they should write it as a speech – NOT an essay, employing relevant rhetorical devices and using appropriate vocabulary.
- Speeches should be put on cue cards; trigger phrases should be used, not full sentences.

Performance

- In performance, Speakers should be aware of the volume, pitch and pace of their voices. They should bear in mind the differing ages and backgrounds of their audience

Question Time

- Speakers face 6 minutes of questioning.
- This is a great opportunity to expand on the content of your speech, adding examples and arguments that will further your "case"
- Stand by to clarify points and to cope with ideas you may not have considered previously

Questioners

The primary role of the questioner is to engage in a dialogue with the speaker which enables the audience to gain a greater understanding of the speaker's topic.

- Questions should not come across as overly prepared, and should be delivered in a polite and courteous manner.
- The role is not antagonistic, but co-operative, seeking to build a greater knowledge of the subject.
- The essence of good questioning is good listening
- Questioners should provide a mixture of questions seeking to both provide greater clarity to the speech as given, and to open up other areas of discussion.

You should also be willing to ask "**follow-up**" questions when answers are given that would benefit from further explanation.

- If you have opened a good area of "clash" it is worth following it through for a few more questions.
- Ask a mixture of "open" questions (requiring a longer answer) and "closed" questions which require a "yes/no" response.

ADJUDICATION

This is how we mark the performances:

Adjudication is given on the basis of three main criteria;

1. Content
2. Effectiveness in role
3. Style

These criteria are weighted in the following manner:

	Content	Effectiveness in Role	Style
Chair (30)	15	10	5
Speaker (40)	20	10	10
Questioner (30)	15	10	5

The mark scheme reflects the fact that the National Public Speaking Competition is a team competition and is rewarded appropriately.

The Speaker has 10 more potential marks than Chair and Questioner to reflect the greater time allotted to their role.

Feedback

The judges will give **general feedback** before the Results and Awards ceremony.

They are usually happy to meet the participants after the results to discuss their **individual** performances in more depth

Our aim here is to be positive about the performances, making all our criticism as constructive and positive as it can be.

HOW THE COMPETITION WORKS

The first rounds of the Public Speaking Competition are organised by branches of the ESU throughout England and Wales.

- On registration your school will be allocated to an ESU branch.
- In October/November your branch will give you the date and the venue of your heat and give you a list of topics from which you and your team choose 1; should you have 2 teams entered, then you will be sent double the topic choice.
- 1 week before the Heat you will be required to submit:
 - Your choice of topic
 - The names of your team, accurately spelt.
 - The role that each team member is performing
- Your branch will run one Heat or more dependent upon the number of entries.
- Should your team(s) progress to a Branch Final, the speaking topic remains the same.
- **NB** Should your teams be placed 1st and 2nd in a Branch Final, only your 1st placed team may proceed to the Regional Final.
- Regional finals will take place between the 22nd February, and the 16th March.
- Regional Organisers will send you a fresh set of topics, and the date, time and the venue of your Regional Final.
- The winning team from each of the 8 Regional finals will then progress to the National Final in late April at Churchill College, Cambridge. This is run by the National Organiser.

How we can help you

- Our aim is that your students not only have a lot of fun with this competition but also make gains in all the skills of Oracy.
- To this end, we will send you newsletters and coaching resources throughout the season, even if your team does not progress in the competition.
- Should you feel your students could benefit from a coaching session, it may be possible for the ESU to arrange this.
- Any queries about the format of the competition, or the coaching of the various roles, can be sent to the National Organiser – Paul Holleley paul.holleley@esu.org

HOW THE COMPETITION WORKS CONT'D

You can help us

- By registering all information accurately.
- By answering our emails swiftly.
- By doing all possible to allow your team to participate and not to withdraw from the competition.

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

The ESU is a unique educational charity and membership organisation dedicated to helping people realise their potential through giving them the skills and confidence in communication to articulate their ideas and share them with others.

For more information about the ESU and to view our other educational opportunities, please speak to a member of staff or visit our website at www.esu.org.

You can also find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/the.esu or on Twitter [@TheESU/@ESUdebate](https://twitter.com/TheESU)



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