



CONTEST DESCRIPTION

Public speaking

SECONDARY

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1 THE ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR CAREERS IN THE SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

SCC is currently working with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) in order to bring awareness to the importance of Essential Skills that are absolutely crucial for success in the workforce. Part of this ongoing initiative requires the integration and identification of Essential Skills in contest descriptions, projects, and project documents. The next phase and very important aspect of our Essential Skills (ES) initiative is to provide an ES report card to each competitor at the Skills Canada National Competition. The purpose of the ES report card is to inform the competitor about their current level of essential skills based on their competition scores. With this knowledge, the competitor will be made aware which essential skill may require improvement. Full implementation is expected in the next Skills Canada National Competition. The following 9 skills have been identified and validated as key essential skills for the workplace in the legend below:

¹Numeracy, ²Oral Communication, ³Working with Others, ⁴Continuous Learning, ⁵Reading Text, ⁶Writing, ⁷Thinking, ⁸Document Use, ⁹Digital

These essential skills have been identified in section 2.4 and/or 3.2 of your Contest Description and if applicable, in your Project and all other supporting project documents.

2 CONTEST INTRODUCTION

2.1 Description of the associated work role(s) or occupation(s).

<http://skillscompetencescanada.com/en/careers/employment/prepared-speech/>

2.2 Purpose of the Challenge

The Conference Board of Canada has identified the skills needed to enter and progress in the world of work—whether it is self-employment or working as a part of a team. One such skill area is effective oral and written communication including the ability to do the following:

- Write and speak so others pay attention and understand
- Listen and respond to questions
- Share information
- Use technological knowledge and skills to explain or clarify ideas

The public speaking competition is designed to encourage and enhance the development of these skills in making career choices. The challenge provides the opportunity for competitors to prepare and present a speech, conduct

research and to construct answers to related questions in a clear and concise manner.

2.3 Duration of contest

12 hours

2.4 Skills and Knowledge to be tested

- Present original thoughts in a clear, coherent, and well-constructed format on the assigned topic.⁷
- Capture and hold the attention of the audience within the 5 to 7-minute timeframe.^{2, 7}
- Deliver a clear message (main idea, argument, opinion, or position).⁷
- Speak easily, with confidence.²
- Use non-verbal skills (body language and gestures) to assist in expression.
- Be expressive by varying voice in pitch, tone, tempo, and volume.²
- Think quickly and answer unseen questions clearly.⁷
- Reflect upon research, make observations, and share experiences through prompted response.⁷

Essential Skills – ²Oral Communication, ⁷Thinking (Job Task Planning and Organizing, Critical Thinking)

3 CONTEST DESCRIPTION

3.1 List of documents produced and timeline for when competitors have access to the documents.

DOCUMENT	DATE OF DISTRIBUTION VIA WEBSITE
No other documents will be posted prior to the competition	

3.2 Tasks that will be performed during the contest

- Each competitor will speak on the following prompt:

Canada's capable and talented people have the chance to lead in skilled trades and technology – regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity and/or ability – they bring new ideas and innovative solutions to the workplace.

With this in mind,

What needs to occur so that more people from underrepresented groups can pursue careers in the skilled trades and technologies?

- Competitors will write original speeches that reflect creatively on the topic, ensuring they maintain a focus and consider the content implied by the topic. Students are expected to express themselves clearly while capturing the attention of their listening audience.
- By 11:00 PM (in your time zone) **May 17, 2021**, students must submit their speeches as a double spaced, justified, Arial 14 point PDF document via email to the following email address: mgailbutler64@gmail.com . If you have not received confirmation within 24 hours that your speech has been received, please email the Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat and resubmit. **Students who do not submit speeches by the above deadline will receive a deduction as indicated in the Assessment section of this Content Description.**
- Competitors will attend a mandatory orientation session prior to the opening ceremonies.
- Competitors will observe the "on-site" Skills Canada competitions to gather information about skilled trades and technology careers. The intent of these observations is to support the response to the impromptu topic on Day 1. Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.
- On Day 2, each competitor will present a prepared speech in a formal public setting, and answer one (1) question based upon the submitted speech. Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.
- Time Requirements
 - Length of Impromptu Speech
 - On Day 1, competitors will be given a prompt based upon their observations of the skilled trades and technology contests. They will have a maximum of 2 minutes to prepare and 3 minutes to respond. Time cards will be shown at 2 minutes, 1 minute, and 15 seconds to indicate time remaining during response.
 - Length of Prepared Speech
 - The speech shall be at least 5 minutes in length and shall not exceed 7 minutes.
 - Length of Response to Question
 - On Day 2, students will be asked one question based upon the content of their submitted speeches. Competitors will have a maximum of 1 minute and 30 seconds to respond to the question. Time card will be shown to indicate 15 seconds remaining.
 - There will **not** be a warning light, sound, or time cards to indicate time allotment. Competitors should develop the skill to monitor the length of their presentation.

4 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

4.1 Equipment and material provided by Skills/Compétences Canada.

- Lectern (optional use for each competitor)
- Wireless microphone (optional use for each competitor)
- Audio/Video recording of speeches is permitted

4.2 Equipment and material provided by the competitor.

- Optional: Use of cue cards/notes

4.3 Required clothing provided by the competitor.

- Competitors should be dressed appropriately on both days for a **business presentation**.
- Provincial/Territorial team shirts may not be worn during the competition.

5 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Safety workshop

Upon arrival at the Skill area, Competitors will participate in a Safety workshop and they will be expected to work and maintain a safe working area during the competition. Any Competitor breaking any health, safety and environmental rules, may be required to undertake a second safety workshop, this will not affect the Competitor's competition time.

5.2 Personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- No PPE required

5.3 Personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the competitor.

- No PPE required

6 ASSESSMENT

6.1 Point Breakdown

DAY 1 – IMPROMPTU SPEECH	TOTAL VALUE /15
CONTENT	/5
• Response addresses the prompt	/2
• Chooses ideas that demonstrate understanding of the topic	/2
• Develops ideas adequately	/1
ORGANIZATION	/4
• Uses effective introduction	/1
• Focuses and presents ideas in a logical order	/1

• Links ideas coherently	/1
• Concludes effectively	/1
DELIVERY	/6
• Effectiveness: uses convincing, coherent language	/2
• Voice: expression, tempo, volume, phrasing	/2
• Eye contact: engages with audience	/1
• Non-verbal: gestures, mannerisms, body language	/1
DAY 2 – PREPARED SPEECH	TOTAL VALUE /75
CONTENT / ORGANIZATION - the NTC will assess this subcategory, based on written submission, prior to the prepared speech presentations	/20
• Response develops the content contained in the first section of the prompt	/3
• Response develops the content contained in the second section of the prompt	/3
• Introduction is coherent and shaped	/2
• Introduction contains the assigned topic	/2
• Arrangement of supporting ideas contributes to a competent discussion	/2
• Supporting ideas are focused on assigned topic	/2
• Transitions link ideas coherently	/2
• Conclusion is relevant	/2
• Conclusion is connected to the assigned topic	/2
DELIVERY	/50
• Introduction gains audience attention	/2
• Introduction previews main ideas	/2
• Supporting ideas are connected to assigned topic	/2
• Supporting ideas develop assigned topic	/2
• Supporting ideas are precise	/1
• Conclusion is appropriate and skillful	/1
• Presents ideas in a logical order	/2
• Captures interest at the beginning of the speech	/2
• Holds interest through to the end of the speech	/2
• Convincing	/2
• Commands audience attention (confirm the order)	/2
• Effective word choice	/2
• Volume is sufficient	/2

• Volume used for effect	/1
• Appropriate tempo (pacing)	/2
• Effective phrasing	/2
• Expressive	/2
• Varies tone and pitch	/2
• Displays self-confidence	/2
• Composed	/2
• Correct use of conventions: diction, grammar, pronunciation	/1
• Eye contact: engages with entire audience	/2
• Eye contact is effective	/2
• Fluency: fluidity, smoothness	/2
• Polished	/2
• Gestures	/2
• Mannerisms, body language	/2
QUESTION RESPONSE	/5
• Addresses the question	/1
• Demonstrates knowledge of topic	/1
• Develops ideas adequately	/1
• Organizes ideas logically	/1
• Demonstrates clarity and conviction	/1
CONVENTIONS	TOTAL VALUE /10
REGULATIONS	/10
• Impromptu speech delivered within required time specifications (as per 3.3)	/1
• Prepared speech delivered within time specifications (as per 3.3)	/4
• Prepared speech question response delivered within time specifications (as per 3.3)	/1
• Speech submitted on time	/2
• Speech submitted in specified format	/2

7 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

7.1 Interpreter

If a competitor requires the help of an interpreter once onsite during the competition, the Skills/Compétences Canada Provincial/Territorial offices must advise Skills/Compétences Canada National Secretariat a minimum of 1 month prior to the competition or this service might not be guaranteed.

7.2 Ties

- Tiebreaker #1: The competitor with the highest score in the Delivery criteria of the Prepared Speech will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #2: The competitor with the higher mark in the Content section of the Prepared Speech will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #3: The student with the highest overall score in the Impromptu Speech will be declared the winner.

7.3 Competition rules

Refer to the [competition rules](#) of the Skills Canada National Competition which can be found on our website.

8 NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Organization	Name
Alberta	Sylvia Hayward
Manitoba	Steve Proskurnik
New Brunswick – Co-Chair	Nicole Boudreau
Newfoundland – Chair	Gail Butler
Nova Scotia	Shelly Currie
Nunavut	Aloka Wijesooriya
Prince Edward Island	Kimberley Williams
Saskatchewan	James Hawn
British Columbia	Jennifer Fox

Contact the Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat for any questions or concerns: Nathalie Maisonneuve (nathaliem@skillscanada.com).