

Prepared Speech

Purpose: To evaluate each contestant's ability to prepare and present clearly and effectively a series of thoughts relating to a central theme.

Clothing: Official SkillsUSA attire OR businesslike-attire

Contestants: 3 per region, determined by regional event

Theme: SkillsUSA: Champions at Work – Connecting the Opportunities
The topic to be addressed by contestants is based on the National theme which can be downloaded from the SkillsUSA websites.

Tools to be provided by contestants:

- **NO NOTE CARDS or notes of any kind may be used**
- Medical form tucked behind name badge

Items supplied by committee:

- Stop watch
- Time cards
- All necessary information and furnishings for judges and technical committee

Special Information:

- Visual aids **are not** permitted.
- No cameras, video recorders or tape recorders will be allowed.
- Speech must be five to seven minutes in length.
- Five points will be deducted for each 30 seconds or fraction under five minutes or for each 30 seconds or fraction over seven minutes.
- Stop watch will begin when the speech begins.
- The timer will signal the speaker at five minutes and at seven minutes.
- Contestants will not mention their name, school, city or state; a five-point penalty will be assessed for each occurrence.
- Five percent will be deducted from total score if resume is not submitted to the coordinator.
- One to five percent will be deducted from total score if clothing attire is not appropriate.
- Contestants **will not** be allowed to observe other speakers' presentations.
- Additional information about the contest can be found at www.skillsusa.org - click on Theme.
- This is a closed competition. Only the Advisor/Parents will be permitted to view the speech of their contestant at the coordinator's discretion. Advisor/Parents must leave the room upon the conclusion of their contestant's speech.

Scope of the Contest

The contest will be judged based on the criteria established in the 2010 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards.