



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 17 TABLE TOPICS SPEECH CONTEST

CONTEST CHAIR SCRIPT TO AUDIENCE

Online Contest 2022

Members and Guests, welcome to the **Area xx/ Division xx / District 17** Table Topics Speech Contest 2022.

The purpose of today's contest is:

1. To provide an opportunity for speakers to improve their speaking abilities and to recognise the best as encouragement to all.
2. To provide an opportunity to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have benefited from their Toastmasters training.

This is an online contest being conducted on **Zoom**. (specify if other platform in use)

All participants and officials have been briefed on the requirements and given an opportunity to previously trial online tools or programs.

Audience, please ensure that you are muted and that your video is off. You must remain muted and with video off for the entire contest.^{#2}

Toastmasters International have directed the following speech contest statement be read at the commencement of all online speech contests.

Online speech contest statement

NOTE: If this has been read by the Contest SAA / Zoom Master 2 or displayed for this contest then it does not need to be read again.

By attending this remote Area, Division, or District speech contest, you agree to the privacy policy of Toastmasters International as well as the unassociated remote hosting service. Some of your personal information, such as name, image, and any shared messages may be shared with other meeting participants and will be recorded by Toastmasters International who may use the recording in the future as it sees fit. Your remote attendance hereby discharges Toastmasters International from all claims, demands, rights, promises, damages and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the use or distribution of said video recordings, including but not limited to any claims for invasion of privacy, appropriation of likeness or defamation.

All Contestants have confirmed their eligibility in writing.

Contestants and judges are aware of the speaking area.

The contest timing, and operation of the timing lights have been explained to the contestants.

All contestants and judges have been briefed on the rules of the contest.

Area / Division Level Only: The winner of today's contest will progress to the **Division/District** contest to be held on _____.

There shall be no photography or recording of this speech permitted during the speech unless prior authorisation has been given. Contestant may record their own speech.

The contestants will all respond to the same topic.

The contestants have drawn the speaking order which as follows:-

- Contestant number one will be _____
- Contestant number two will be _____
- Contestant number three will be _____
- Contestant number four will be _____
- Contestant number five will be _____
- Contestant number six will be _____

Our Chief Judge today is **(Chief Judge to display video.)** please thank them.

Chief Judge, are we ready to proceed? **(Chief Judge to unmute and respond. After response Chief Judge to mute and hide video.)**

Contest Zoom Master please move the Contest Sergeant at Arms / Zoom Master 2 and contestants, except the first speaker to the Contestant Break out room.

##Members and Guests, please welcome our Contestant.

Contest Chair: To check your audio please tell us your name and if you can see the timer."

Contestant to respond.

Contestant's name your topic is **Topic**. Your **topic (repeated)** .Please welcome **contestant's name**.

As each Contestant other than the final one concludes We will now have one minute silence for the judges to conclude their scores.

Timers please display the red background when 1 minute has elapsed.

The next speaker is admitted to the contest room by the Zoom Master during the 1 minute silence.

Repeat from ## for all contestants.

After the final Contestant concludes We will now have silence until the Chief Judge confirms all ballots have been received.

Judges, please ensure that your ballot is valid by signing your name and listing the first three place-getters.

Timers, please forward your report to the Chief Judge.

Allow time for the Chief Judge to advised that all ballots have been received. If they have not, **at the request of the Chief Judge**, the Zoom Master is to move the Chief Judge and all voting judges (not Tie-Breaker) into a breakout room.

Once the Chief Judge has confirmed the ballots received or all voting judges and Chief Judge are in break out room, the Contest Chair can commence interviews.^{#2}

If the winners are not being announced when the Chief Judge returns: The contest is adjourned.

When the Chief Judge returns.

Chief Judge do we have a result?

Chief Judge to announce any disqualifications for time without naming the disqualified contestant(s).

When results are to be announced, as per agenda.

The results for the Area / Division / District Table Topics Speech Contest are:

In third place is (name)

In second place is (name)

Club/Area/Division contests: And to represent Area xx / Division xx / District 17 in the Table Topics Speech Contest please join with me in congratulating our first-place winner (name).

District contest only: Please join with me in congratulating District 17's 2022 first-place winner (name).

Thank you to everyone involved in this contest.

Hand control back to the Toastmaster / Contest Organiser / Zoom Master.

This is not to be read to the Audience, and is only included for the information of the Contest Chair, Chief Judge and other interested parties.

Explanations of Script:

Non spoken information and explanations in red

Information based on choice is in green.

Contestant introduction information to be repeated for all contestants in purple.

References and TI Best Practice Details:

The following are to be read in conjunction with Toastmasters International Speech Contest Rules and TI Online Speech Contest Best Practices 2021 – 2022 Toastmasters Contest Cycle

#1 Webcams turned off Microphones muted at all times.

Webcams can slow down internet band width and distract some contestants.

Although laughter and verbal reactions from audience members are often welcome in a speech contest microphones in an online speech contest setting will also pick up distracting background audio.

#2 Contest Interviews

Contest interviews do not need to be extensive. The TI documents include the following statement. If used remember to advise your audience (everyone) what will happen.

■ Pause the contest and end the online meeting after the final contestant interview. Then restart the meeting and reconvene when results have been determined.

#3 Contestant equipment failure

Chief Judge to determine time duration for contestant to reconnect. For consistency 3 minutes have been recommended for this speech cycle.

Decide how you plan to respond should a technology issue cause a contestant or official to lose connection during the contest. It is recommended that the chief judge pause the contest to provide opportunity for the contestant or official to regain connection.

- The chief judge decides how long the contest should be paused for in the event of a technical issue.
- The chief judge must communicate this decision to all contestants and contest officials prior to the start of the contest.
- The chief judge is responsible for pausing the contest.
- Determine ahead of time how the decision to pause will be communicated.

- It is recommended that all contest officials have a means of communicating with the chief judge. If a contest official cannot hear or see a contestant, they should contact the chief judge immediately.
- If a contestant loses connection during the contest but is able to regain connection, they should pick up their speech at the point where they left off. The contest chair can indicate the last word or sentence that was heard so they know where they lost connection.

If a contest official loses connection and you have a backup official to take their place, confirm the process for communicating with the backup official that they are needed.