

# International Independent Schools Public Speaking Competition 2026

## After-Dinner Speaking

**Directions:** Please write comments if there is sufficient time. These sheets will be returned to the students at the end of the tournament. When the round is over, please give your ballots to the moderator.

**Contestant's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Room:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Round:** \_\_\_\_\_

### SCORING GUIDELINES

<u>70 - 74</u> Very Poor	<u>75-79</u> Weak	<u>80</u> Some Strength	<u>81 - 84</u> Good	<u>85- 89</u> Very Good	<u>90 - 94</u> Excellent	<u>95</u> Outstanding
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Category	Score
Quality of theme and ideas	/40
Quality of entertainment and delivery	/40
Adherence to format	/10
Organisation and structure of speech	/10
<b>Total</b>	
<b>/100</b>	
<b>Length of Speech</b> <b>(Judges: Do not deduct time penalties):</b> <b>Min: 5 min    Max: 7 min</b>	

Note: If the sum of the categories doesn't equal the total score, we will assume that we should use the overall total.

**Comments:**

**Judge:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Judges in the Room:** \_\_\_\_\_

## AFTER DINNER SPEAKING

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An after-dinner speech will be the kind of speech that is given after a formal dinner to an audience who has a common interest or share some aspect(s) of identity, employment or character (e.g. the left-handed society or the dental association).

This category includes the kind of speech given at a convention, e.g. by the Chairman or sales manager of a firm or specialised group, reviewing the practices, policies or employees of that firm or group.

The speaker must address an imaginary audience of his/her own choosing. He/she must deliver some new and relevant insights to them in a way designed to inform and entertain.

An after-dinner speech must not be just a stand-up comedy routine.

Although not necessarily human, both speaker and audience must be credibly capable of communication through speech: i.e. they may be vampires or aliens, for example, but they may not be animals. The only exception to this rule is that the speaker and/or audience may be animals if they are derived from books, films or plays/musicals in which they already have the power of speech - e.g. characters from 'Animal Farm'.

No props may be used.

The speaker may ask the chairman to announce who is being addressed immediately before he/she delivers the speech. In that case, a brief and suitable form of words must be provided. Otherwise the speaker will identify the audience in the opening lines of the speech.

Notes must be limited to both sides of one 3 x 5 inch card, and should be used as little as possible.

Each competitor must speak for 6 minutes, with a grace period of 1 minute on either side. There will be a time penalty of 2 points for speeches which are up to 30 seconds under 5 minutes or up to 30 seconds over 7 minutes. There will be a time penalty of 10 points for speeches under 4 minutes and 30 seconds or over 7 minutes and 30 seconds.

Salutation is optional if the chairman has identified the audience before the speech begins.