



Illustrated Oratory is an original platform speech that informs or persuades with the use of visual aids.

Illustrated Oratory

Platform Speech

1. **General Speech Rules and Script Rules** must be followed in addition to these Event Rules.
2. **Speech time** is limited to a 10-minute maximum.
3. **An original work** must be presented. Original indicates that the speech is scripted word-for-word by the speaker.
4. **Characterization** may comprise up to 150 total words in the speech. Characterization refers to acting or speaking in a manner other than that of the speaker.
5. **Direct quotations** may comprise up to 350 words of the total words in the speech.
6. **Sources for supporting material** must be verbally mentioned in the speech, parenthetically cited in the script, and listed on the Works Cited page.
 - **Supporting material** includes direct quotations, specific information, or another person's research, theories, or ideas.
 - **Common knowledge** that is known to most people does not need to be cited in any way.
7. **Three to ten illustrated boards** must be used.
 - **A board** must measure up to 20" x 30" and may be illustrated on one or both sides.
 - **Board flaps** or **other material hung** from or affixed to the board/easel may not extend beyond the maximum 20" x 30" measurement of the display area.
 - **The display area** may not be increased by presenting more than one board at a time or by using a vertical and a horizontal board simultaneously.
 - **Citations for published illustrations** must be easily visible and on the same side of the board.
 - **Only a blank board** may be visible to the judges at the beginning and end of the speech. Additional visual aids attached to the board(s) during the speech may remain on the board(s), provided only a blank board is visible to the judges by the time the speech ends.
 - **Boards** must not intentionally touch the floor during the speech.

8. **The standard easel** used to hold the boards may only be modified to provide a ledge on the front to hold the boards and a mounting system on the back.
9. **Additional visual aids** may be used provided that they:
 - **All fit completely in a lidded box** with overall dimensions (length + width + height) of up to 35 inches. The box may be attached to the back of the easel and is required to be present at the tournament, but is not required to be present in the competition room.
 - **Are out of sight** before the speech starts and by the time the speech ends.
 - **Do not include** audiovisual aids (i.e. video, motion pictures, etc.), live animals, people, weapons, or items perceived to be weapons. Open flames may not be used.
 - **Do not intentionally touch the floor** during the speech.
10. **Set up** must primarily take place outside of the competition room.
11. **Assistance with the boards, visual aids, or easel** is not permitted in the competition room before, during, or after the speech.
12. **The speaking area** must be left in the same condition as it was found.