

## **Proposal to clarify what is allowed for visual aids in Informative, Moments in History and Special Occasion**

Rationale:

The rules of Demonstration Speaking used to contain a phrase that spelled out things that could not be used as visual aids due to their potential for harm. When Informative became a 10 minute category and replaced Demo, that phrase was left out.

In all three categories that allow visual aids, there is a statement prohibiting the use of electronic devices. Questions have arisen as to whether this applies only to their use as visual aids, or if it also prohibits their use as a source of notes, which is otherwise allowed.

This proposal addresses these issues and applies to all three categories that allow visual aids.

### **Replace rule 2 in Informative with:**

“Visual supporting materials may be used. Items of dress may be worn for illustration during the course of the presentation. Electronic devices may not be used as audio or visual aids.

This category prohibits use of additional people, handouts of any kind to judges or the audience, firearms, sharp knives, dangerous chemicals, animals, or anything else that may endanger the health or safety of the participant, audience, and judge.”

### **Replace rule 2 in Moments in History and rule 3 in Special Occasion with:**

“Visual supporting materials may be used, but not worn. Electronic devices may not be used as audio or visual aids.

This category prohibits use of additional people, handouts of any kind to judges or the audience, firearms, sharp knives, dangerous chemicals, animals, or anything else that may endanger the health or safety of the participant, audience, and judge.”

## Current Rules:

### Info

1. The speech must be the original work of the participant.
2. *Visual supporting materials may be used. Items of dress may be worn for illustration during the course of the presentation. Electronic devices may not be used.*
3. The use of notes is permitted, but is subject to critique.
4. Maximum time limit: 10 minutes, with an allowable 15-second grace period. There is no minimum time requirement. Any entry exceeding the grace period may not be ranked first in the round. If all entries in a round exceed the grace period, no first rank shall be given in that round.

### Moments

1. The speech must be the original work of the participant, and the topic chosen must conform to the annual focus and guidelines. The topic (person, event, trend, etc.) need not have been well publicized.
2. *Visual supporting materials may be used, but not worn. Electronic devices may not be used.*
3. The use of notes is permitted, but is subject to critique.
4. Vocal music, if used, should be incidental and not overwhelm the presentation.
5. Maximum time limit: 6 minutes, with an allowable 15-second grace period. There is no minimum time requirement. Any entry exceeding the grace period may not be ranked first in the round. If all entries in a round exceed the grace period, no first rank shall be given in that round.

### Special Occasion

1. The participant must choose one of the annually presented topics to develop and present an appropriate original speech. Situations for 2023-24 are:
  2. Prior to the presentation, the participant is to briefly announce which of the above situations has been chosen. This announcement is not considered part of the presentation on which the student will be evaluated.
  3. *Visual supporting materials may be used, but not worn. Electronic devices may not be used as a visual aid.*
  4. The use of notes is permitted, but is subject to critique.
  5. Vocal music, if used, should be incidental and not overwhelm the presentation.
  6. Maximum time limit: 6 minutes, with an allowable 15-second grace period. There is no minimum time requirement. Any entry exceeding the grace period may not be ranked first in the round. If all entries in a round exceed the grace period, no first rank shall be given in that round.