



UN
youth
australia

2017 Voice Competition Judging Guide for Participants

The Voice competition invites students in Years 7-10 to present a prepared speech which proposes a solution to a given world problem, and will also test their impromptu speaking skills through an impromptu question and answer session.

For students, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the world, as well as to present their views to their peers. This document is your guide to the UN Youth Australia Inc. Voice Competition Judging Procedure.

Voice Competition Structure

Students will present a speech or pitch outlining a solution to a given world problem. The length of the speech depends on which age division the student is in (junior or senior).

After students have presented their pitch, students will leave the room whilst the judges deliberate. Students will then re-enter the room, and will be asked two questions on their speech or topic. The "Question Time" of the competition is based on the student's knowledge of their original topic and focuses around the validity and research involved in the speech. Students in both age divisions will be given two minutes to answer both these questions.

Both the Pitch and Question Time are taken into account for the judging process. The three core areas that are judged in a participant's speech in both the Pitch and Question Time are Matter, Manner, and Method, with Matter being the primary focus, supported by Manner and Method.

A guide to what the Voice Judges will be looking for:

| i. Matter Most Important | ii. Manner Supporting | iii. Method Supporting |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Analysis and knowledge of current situation | Clarity, speed, and tone of voice | Unobtrusive structure |
| Sophistication of research into solution | Use of gesture and expression | Logical organisation of ideas |
| Identification of obstacles to resolution of the issue | Appropriate use of notes | Coherent flow of ideas |
| Reasonable feasibility of proposal | Persuasive techniques employed | Persuasive structure |
| Originality of proposal | | Use of plain English |
| Reasonably predictable effectiveness of proposed solution. | | |
| Equitability of the proposal | | |

Question Time

Participants are to answer TWO (2) questions posed by the judging panel in regard to their solutions. Their responses will be assessed in regard to the above criteria.

Judges may ask any and all questions pertaining to the substance of the proposal as outlined in the sub-sections of the Matter judging criteria. Questions will only be directed towards the proposed solution, but may include aspects the participant has not touched upon.

Participants may ask for clarification regarding a question, or ask for a question to be reworded. They may not, however, enquire as to the validity, completeness, or relevance of their question.

Participants' must be directly relevant to the question asked.

Structure of the Junior Voice Competition (Years 7 and 8)

1. All students present a four minute pitch in response to the problem presented;
2. One bell will sound at three minutes, two bells at four minutes;
 - a. Speeches should be approximately four minutes, certainly no longer than 4 minutes and fifteen seconds.
3. After all pitches have finished, all students will leave the room. Judges will have 10 minutes to deliberate. Students will then return one by one in speaking order to answer questions on their speech;
4. Students will be asked two easy to moderately difficult questions, and will be given one minute to consider their response to both questions;
5. Students will be given two minutes to answer both questions in that time;
6. Students will be given one bell at one minute, two bells at two minutes.

Structure of the Senior Voice Competition (Years 9 and 10)

1. All students present a five minute pitch in response to the problem presented;
2. One bell will sound at four minutes, two bells at five minutes;
 - a. Speeches should be approximately five minutes, certainly no longer than five minutes and fifteen seconds.
3. After all pitches have finished, all students will leave the room. Judges will have 10 minutes to deliberate. Students will then return one by one in speaking order to answer questions on their speech;
4. Students will be asked two moderately difficult to difficult questions, and will be given one minute to consider response to the questions;
5. Students will have two minutes to respond to both questions in that time;
6. One bell will sound at one minute, two bells at two minutes.