

## Judging Guidelines for Voice 2021

The UN Youth NSW Voice Competition invites students in Years 7-10 to present a prepared speech which proposes a solution to a given world problem. Students 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 and present their views to their peers.

### Voice Competition Structure

Students will present a speech (The 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) (see below). Students will select one (1) topic from the topic list which will be provided to students four (4) weeks before the Video Submission Date.

Students will pre-submit their prepared speech/pitch by the Video Submission Date. Students will then join a Zoom call allocated to them and will be asked two questions on their recorded speech or topic. The Question Time portion of the competition is based on the student's knowledge of their original topic and focuses on the validity and research involved in the speech content. Students in both age divisions will be given two (2) minutes to answer both of 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. Matter is the primary focus, supported by Manner and Method.

### A guide to what the 2021 Voice Judges will be looking for:

Comments on Matter	Comments on Manner	Comments on Method
Analysis of topic	Clarity of voice	Consistent flow of argument
Research	Eye contact	Logical organisation of ideas
Feasibility of proposal	Use of gesture and expression	Effective use of language

Effectiveness of solution	Appropriate use of notes	Structure of response
Creativity and Originality of Proposal	Persuasiveness	

### **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. Judges should ask participants to answer one generalised, standardised question from the set question list and one question specific to that student and their unique proposal. Judges may elect to ask two specific questions in the Semi-Final and in the Grand Final.

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

### **Structure of the Junior Voice Competition (Years 7 & 8)**

1. All students pre-record a four-minute (4) pitch in response to the problem presented;
  - a. Speeches should be approximately four (4) minutes, certainly no longer than four (4) minutes and fifteen (15) seconds;
2. Students will be asked two (2) easy to moderately difficult questions in a Zoom call, and will be given one (1) minute to consider their response to both questions;
3. Students will be given two (2) minutes to answer both questions in that time;
4. Students will be given an indication in the Zoom chat at one (1) minute and two (2) minutes for the Question Time round.

### **Structure of the Senior Voice Competition (Years 9 & 10)**

1. All students pre-record a five-minute (5) pitch in response to the problem presented;
  - a. Speeches should be approximately five (5) minutes, certainly no longer than five (5) minutes and fifteen (15) seconds;
2. Students will be asked two (2) moderately difficult to difficult questions in a Zoom call, and will be given one (1) minute to consider their response to both questions;
3. Students will be given two (2) minutes to answer both questions in that time;
4. Students will be given an indication in the Zoom chat at one (1) minute and at two (2) minutes for the Question Time round.