## **GREENHAND CREED SPEAKING**

#### SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

The FFA Creed outlines the FFA organizations beliefs regarding the agriculture industry. The purpose of the FFA Creed LDE is to not only develop the public speaking abilities of 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade members but also to help preserve the heritage of our organization through competitive performance. The creed contest allows students to begin their speaking career and develop an understanding of the history of FFA and Agriculture.

- 1. This event will be open to the public. Applause shall be held until all participants have spoken.
- 2. Contestants will be sequestered in a designated holding area at the start of the event and may not exit prior to competing without a monitor. Students not in the holding room at the start time for the first speaker will be penalized 300 points (equivalent of points available for response to questions), yet allowed to compete. Advisors or other involved parties may not enter the room or contact the student once the event has commenced. Students competing in another event MUST be accompanied by an SHSU escort and the event superintendent must be notified of the need for an escort prior to the day of competition.
- 3. The event will include an oral presentation as well as answering questions directly related to the Creed.
- 4. Members will present the FFA Creed from the current edition of the Official FFA Manual.
- 5. The event will be a timed activity with four minutes for presentation. After four minutes, contestant will be deducted one point for every second over set time.
- 6. The event will include oral questions. There will be a maximum of three questions per contestant with a time limit of five minutes. The same questions will be asked to all contestants. These questions will be thought-type questions directly related to the creed. Two-part questions should be avoided.
- 7. No props are to be used.
- 8. Each contestant must recite the FFA Creed from memory. Each contestant shall begin the presentation by stating. "The FFA Creed by E. M. Tiffany." Each contestant shall end the presentation with the statement, "... that inspiring task. Thank you." Any other words spoken as part of an introduction or conclusion shall be assessed a penalty deduction of twenty (20) points per word. Point deductions will only be taken after the judges indicate, "You may begin."
- 9. At the time of the event, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant on the delivery of the Creed, using the score sheet provided.

#### TIE BREAKER

Ties will first be broken by total net scores and then by the score for answer to the questions.

#### ELIGIBILITY

The Greenhand Creed Speaking Event will be limited to students in grades 7, 8, or 9

### SENIOR CREED SPEAKING

#### SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

The FFA Creed outlines the FFA organizations beliefs regarding the agriculture industry. The purpose of the FFA Creed LDE is to not only develop public speaking abilities of all members, but also to help preserve the heritage of our organization through competitive performance. The senior creed event allows students to further their speaking career and develop an understanding of the history of FFA and Agriculture. The contest encourages demonstration of the ability to utilize critical thinking skills and verbal cognitive skills. Senior FFA Creed broadens agriculture knowledge and creates agriculture advocate skills. This contest encourages and emphasizes the importance of being an ambassador for agriculture in a community as a student prepares to compete at advanced levels.

- 1. This event will be open to the public. Applause shall be held until all participants have spoken.
- 2. Contestants will be sequestered in a designated holding area at the start of the event and may not exit prior to competing without a monitor. Students not in the holding room at the start time for the first speaker will be penalized 300 points (equivalent of points available for Response to Questions), yet allowed to compete. Advisors or other involved parties may not enter the room or contact the student once the event has commenced. Students competing in another event MUST be accompanied by an SHSU escort and the event superintendent must be notified of the need for an escort prior to the day of competition.
- 3. The event will include an oral presentation as well as answering questions directly related to the Creed.
- 4. Members will present the FFA Creed from the current edition of the Official FFA Manual.
- 5. The event will be a timed activity with four minutes for presentation. After four minutes, contestant will be deducted 1 point for every second over set time.
- 6. The event will include oral questions. There will be a maximum of three questions per contestant with a time limit of five minutes. The same questions will be asked to all contestants. These questions will be thought-type questions directly related to the Creed. Two-part questions should be avoided<del>.</del>
- 7. No props are to be used.
- 8. Each contestant must recite the FFA Creed from memory. Each contestant shall begin the presentation by stating. "The FFA Creed by E. M. Tiffany." Each contestant shall end the presentation with the statement, "... that inspiring task. Thank you." Any other words spoken as part of an introduction or conclusion shall be assessed a penalty deduction of twenty (20) points per word. Point deductions will only be taken after the judges indicate, "You may begin."
- 9. At the time of the event, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant on the delivery of the Creed, using the score sheet provided.

#### TIE BREAKER

Ties will first be broken by total net scores and then by the score for answer to the questions.

#### ELIGIBILITY

The Senior FFA Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event is open to all members



## FFA CREED SPEAKER SCRIPT

# THE FOLLOWING IS EXACTLY WHAT MUST BE RECITED:

#### "The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds – achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so – for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

Thank you"

Speaker #: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL RECITATION ERRORS (MISSED WORDS) MUST BE CIRCLED Total # of Recitation Errors (missed, added or switched words) Question Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Determination of Deductions Number of errors\_\_\_x 20 = \_\_\_\_\_ Total Deduction: NOTES:

Oral Communication - 400 points Very strong evidence skill Moderate Evidence skill Evidence skill is not Points Total Indicators Weight present: 1-0 points Earned Score is present: 5-4 points is present: 3-2 points Speaks very articulately •Speaks articulately, but •Speaks articulately, but without hesitation. sometimes hesitates. frequently hesitates. A. Speaks Never has the need for •Occasionally has the • Frequently hesitates or has without X25 unnecessary pauses or need for a long pause or long, awkward pauses while hesitation moderate hesitation hesitation when speaking. speaking. when speaking. • Speaks at a moderate pace • Speaks at a moderate Pace is too fast/slow; to be clear. pace most of the time, nervous. B. Pace X10 but shows some nervousness. Voice is upbeat, Voice is somewhat Voice is not upbeat; lacks C. Tone impassioned and under upbeat, impassioned and passion and control. X15 control. under control. • Pronunciation of words is • Pronunciation of words is Pronunciation of words very clear and intent is difficult to understand; X15 D. Pronunciation is usually clear, sometimes mumbled. apparent. unclear. •Emitted a clear, audible • Emitted a barely audible •Emitted a somewhat E. Volume voice for the audience clear, audible voice for voice for the audience X15 present. audience present. present. Non-verbal Communication - 300 points •Eye contact consistently •Eye contact is mostly •Eye contact does not always used as an effective allow connection with the effective and consistent. A. Attention connection. Mostly looks around the speaker. X15 •Constantly looks at the audience (60-80% of the •Occasionally looks at (eye contact) entire audience (90-100% of time). someone or some groups the time). (less than 50% of the time). • Does not have distracting Sometimes has •Has mannerisms that pull mannerisms that affect the distracting mannerisms from the effectiveness of the effectiveness. that pull from the presentation. B. Mannerisms X15 •No nervous habits. presentation. • Displays some nervous Sometimes exhibits habits - fidgets or anxious nervous habits or ticks. ticks. •Gestures are purposeful •Usually uses purposeful •Occasionally gestures are and effective. gestures. used effectively. Hand motions are •Hands are sometimes •Hands are not used to expressive and used to used to express or emphasize talking points; C. Gestures emphasize talking points. emphasize talking points. hand motions are sometimes X15 Great posture (confident) Occasionally slumps; distracting. with positive body sometimes negative body •Lacks positive body language. language. language; slumps. •Is extremely well poised. •Is usually well poised. •Isn't always well poised. •Poised and in control at all Poised and in control •Sometimes seems to lose D. Well poised X15 times. most of the time; rarely composure. loses composure.

#### CREED SPEAKING SCORESHEET – Page 1

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

#### CREED SPEAKING SCORESHEET – Page 2

Indicators	Very strong evidence skill	Moderate Evidence skill	Evidence skill is not	Points	Maisht	Total
	is present: 5-4 points	is present: 3-2 points	present: 1-0 points	Earned	Weight	Score
A. Detail oriented	<ul> <li>Is able to stay fully detail oriented.</li> <li>Always provides details which support answers/basis of the question.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Is mostly detail oriented.</li> <li>Usually provides details which are supportive of the answers/basis of the questions.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Has difficulty being detail oriented.</li> <li>Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the answers/basis of the question.</li> </ul>		X20	
B. Speaks unrehearsed	<ul> <li>Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease.</li> <li>Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mostly speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease, but sometimes seems nervous or unsure.</li> <li>Is able to speak effectively but has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Shows nervousness or seems unprepared when speaking unrehearsed.</li> <li>Seems to ramble or speaks before thinking.</li> </ul>		X20	
C. Examples used in response to questions	<ul> <li>Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained.</li> <li>Examples are original, logical and relevant.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Examples are usually concrete, but sometimes needs clarification.</li> <li>Examples are effective, but need more originality or thought.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Examples are abstract or not clearly defined.</li> <li>Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions.</li> </ul>		X20	
			Gross Total Points			
		Time Deduct	ion (-1 point per second over)			
	Accuracy Deduction (-2	0 points per word, determi	ned from the accuracy judges)			
			Net Total Points			
			Rank			

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Greenhand / Senior FFA Creed Scorecard**

Oral Communication [400 points]												
Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A. Speaks without hesitation [125]												
B. Pace [50]												
C. Tone [75]												
D. Pronunciation [75]												
E. Volume [75]												
Non-Verbal Communication [300 point	s]											
A. Attention (eye contact) [75]												
B. Mannerisms [75]												
C. Gestures [75]												
D. Well-poised [75]												
Verbal Question and Answer [300 poin	ts]				<u> </u>							
A. Detail oriented [100]												
B. Speaks unrehearsed [100]												
C. Examples used in response to questions [100]												
Gross Total Points												
<b>Time Deduction</b> (-1 point per second over)												
Accuracy Deduction (-20 points per word, determined from the accuracy judges)												
Net Total Points												
Rank												