



Tulare County 4-H Creed and 4-H Pledge Contest



University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

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TULARE COUNTY 4-H CREED COMPETITION

There will be two Categories in the competition.

- Category One Recitation: Members reading or using a written version.
- Category Two Memorization: Members reciting from memory.

Both Categories will be split into Three Divisions:

- Junior: 9-10 years old*
- Intermediate: 11-13 years old*
- Senior: 14-19 years old*

*Age is based upon age as of December 31st of the Program Year.

There will be a Danish system of judging. There will be County Winner (Medalist) potentially awarded in each Category and Division. To receive the medal, the presentation must warrant county winner status.

To Participate: Each member will recite the 4-H Creed and will then be asked a series of questions from the judges. A list of questions that will be asked are provided on pages 5-7.

Do you know the 4-H Creed? It really is something all of our members should know.

Contest Rules

1. All competing members must pre register by entry deadline.
2. All competing members must sign in at the competition location within the time allotment for check in as specified.
3. Competing members will be sequestered during the competition until such time as they have completed their portion of the competition.
4. Competing members will draw numbers for order of presenting in the competition.
5. There shall be two judges and one judge timer/word checker present in each Division/Category. Each room shall have a room monitor.
6. Members may choose to stay and watch the balance of the competition after they have competed. If they select to watch the competition, they shall maintain appropriate audience manners. Awards can and will be retracted from members that are disruptive or impolite during any of the balance of the competition.

7. Members will be brought into the judging area one at a time. Members are encouraged to make motions and voice changes to enhance the delivery of their presentation.
8. Questions shall be asked by the JUDGES ONLY. Members will be asked questions pre-disclosed on pages 5-7. Questions shall pertain to the 4-H Creed, its meaning, and how it affects the presenter.
9. The judges will pre-select several questions to present to all contestants. Each contestant will be asked the same questions in the same order per age division.
10. The answer period shall last no longer than three minutes. If the presenter gives long answers they may only answer one or two questions in the time allotment. If the exhibitor gives extremely short or one word answers, they may answer five or six questions during the time allotment. If a presenter goes through all questions in their Division in the allotted time, the question and answer period is over.
11. The judges shall thank the presenter. The presenter shall thank the judges and exit the presentation area.
12. The judges shall then score the Presenter according to the attached Judging Sheets on pages 7 & 8.
13. Awards shall first be presented on a Danish system of judging. They will be awarded a Gold, Blue, or Red according to their scoring against the judging standard. In each category there is the potential for a top award. The top award shall be awarded to the Presentation that warrants a County Winner Status, they must have received a gold seal. If no presentation in the category warrants a County Winner status, none shall be awarded.
14. The following steps are to be employed during the competition
 - A. The member asks, "Are the judges and timekeeper ready?"
 - B. The member is to greet the audience and introduce themselves. During this time they state their name and what club they are from.
 - C. Next they recite the introductory sentence and 4-H Creed as written below.
 - D. The member shall thank the judges and ask if they have any questions.

The 4-H Creed, written by Anonymous first adopted by the state of Wyoming in the year 1918.

- I believe in 4-H CLUB work for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful Citizen.
- I believe in the training of my HEAD for the power it will give me to think, plan and to reason.
- I believe in the training of my HEART for the nobleness it will give me to be kind, sympathetic and true.
- I believe in the training of my HANDS for the ability it will give me to be helpful, skillful and useful.
- I believe in the training of my HEALTH for the strength it will give me to enjoy life, to resist disease, and to work efficiently.
- I believe in my country, my state and my community and in my responsibility for their development.
- In all these things I believe, and am willing to dedicate my efforts to their fulfillment.



Questions

The purpose of the questions below is to help you develop an understanding of the meaning of the 4-H Motto, 4-H Creed and 4-H Pledge. The questions help you to incorporate the value of the 4-H program into your daily life, your club and your community.

****There is no right or wrong answers to these questions****

The answers are unique and meaningful to you. The key to answering the questions is to think about the words and the meanings. Ask yourself what it means or how it applies to you and then have a well thought out, well organized and well presented answer. A short explanation, definition, interpretation followed by an example or a recollection works well for some questions.

A list of questions will be given to participants the day of the event.

Questions for Junior Division:

1. Tell me about someone that you think highly of because of the way that they have used their heart to be kind.
2. How can you use your hands, heart, health, or head to fulfill your goals?
3. As a 4-H member, what can you do to help our community?
4. What 4-H projects have you been involved in and how has that developed your hands, heart, head, or health?
5. Why do you believe in your country, state and community?
6. Why do you think it is important to train your hands?
7. Why do you think it is important to train your head?
8. Tell us about someone you know that is noble.

Questions for Intermediate and Senior Division:

1. Can you tell us what is your “club’s work” and about a time when you discovered the meaning of becoming a “useful Citizen” in your 4-H Club, a project group, or your community? **(Hint: Think about line 1 of the Creed, when did this apply to you?)**
2. How has 4-H provided you with the opportunities to use your **HEAD** to think, plan and reason? **(Hint: Think about things you’ve done in your projects, club and community. Is there a time when a challenge became an opportunity in disguise?)**
3. What is the definition of a Creed? How can you apply the 4-H Creed to your daily life? Do you think the 4-H Creed holds true for youth of today? Why? Or Why Not? **(Hint: Briefly define Creed, think about the meaning of the entire 4-H Creed)**
4. What does the 4-H Motto mean to you? How have you “made the best better”? **(Hint: How have you in your life done something extra beyond school? How are you becoming a better person by learning by doing, by helping others, by gaining skills?)**
5. What is your most memorable experience in 4-H and how has that experience influenced you to think with your **HEAD**, act with your **HEART**, practice skills with your **HANDS**, or make a **HEALTHY** choice? **(Hint: Think about a time, a place, a project, activity or event that you have fond memories of, think about friendships, team work, or an individual who gave you encouragement or assistance, who or what influenced you to make a healthy choice.)**
6. How can you maintain a **HEALTHY** lifestyle so that you can minimize illness and enjoy life? **(Hint: Think about healthy or unhealthy habits, how can you make positive changes in your life?)**
7. How has the 4-H program trained you to follow your **HEART**, to express acts of nobleness, kindness, show concern or consideration for others? How have you accomplished these acts and how did it make you feel to help others? **(Hint: Think about the skills taught and learned in the 4-H program and the things you’ve done for others, how did you feel about doing something for someone else? How did they feel about the kindness or concern you showed them? Think of a time when you put the needs of others ahead of your own needs? How did you feel?)**

8. Describe 4-H Community Service Projects you have been involved in. What was your role in the project and how did it benefit your community? **(Hint: Who did the project benefit, how did it help, why did you chose this project. What was the outcome and what did you learn from the experience?)**
9. How have your 4-H leaders, club projects and/or **HANDS** on activities helped you to become helpful, useful and skillful? **(Hint: See paragraph 4 of the 4-H creed, think about it, recall skills learned, how did you develop these skills, how did you share your knowledge with others, how have you been helpful, how will this be useful to you in the future?)**
10. What responsibilities do you have to your country, your state and your community? How have you and your club helped in the development of your community? **(Hint: See sixth paragraph of the Creed. Think about how you can make a difference in your community, what can you do to protect the environment, what can you do to benefit others in the future, how can you become an informed citizen etc.)**

Discuss these questions with your family and friends, start thinking about what they mean to you, and organize your thoughts so when a question is asked you will feel confident about having an answer that is meaningful to you.

Good Luck and have fun with this, you will be amazed about what you learn about yourself through the 4-H Creed.

Judges will rank the questions from the above list to ask in each round so be prepared with answers for each question.

MEMORIZATION SCORE SHEET

DIVISION: JUNIOR INTERMEDIATE SENIOR

Presenter's Name: _____ Club: _____

25% Stage Presence	Personal Appearance, Poise and body posture, Attitude, Confidence, Personality, Ease before Audience	Max. 25 pts.	
20% General Voice	Quality, Pitch, Projection, Articulation, Pronunciation	Max. 20 pts.	
20% Power of Expression	Fluency, Emphasis, Directness, Sincerity, Communicative ability, Conveyance of thought and meaning	Max. 20 pts.	
15% Answering Questions	Ability to satisfactorily answer the questions from the judges showing an understanding of the 4-H Program.	Max 15 pts.	
10% General Effect	Extent to which the speech was: Understandable, Convincing, Pleasing, Held attention	Max 10 pts.	
10% Memorization	Missed words	Max. 10 pts.	

Total Points

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AWARD SCORING

(Judges please check one)

GOLD SEAL MEDAL	90 – 100 pts.	
BLUE SEAL	80 – 89 pts.	
RED SEAL	70 – 79 pts	

Comments: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
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Judges Signature: _____

RECITATION SCORE SHEET

DIVISION: JUNIOR INTERMEDIATE SENIOR

Presenter's Name: _____ Club: _____

25% General Voice	Quality, Pitch, Projection, Articulation, Pronunciation	Max. 25 pts.	
25% Stage Presence	Personal Appearance, Poise and body posture, Attitude, Confidence, Personality, Ease before Audience	Max. 25 pts.	
25% Power of Expression	Fluency, Emphasis, Directness, Sincerity, Communicative ability, Conveyance of thought and meaning	Max. 25 pts.	
15% Answering Questions	Ability to satisfactorily answer the questions from the judges showing an understanding of the 4-H Program.	Max 15 pts.	
10% General Effect	Extent to which the speech was: Understandable, Convincing, Pleasing, Held attention	Max. 10 pts.	

Total Points

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AWARD SCORING

(Judges please check one)

Please check if:

GOLD SEAL MEDAL	90 – 100 pts.	
BLUE SEAL	80 – 89 pts.	
RED SEAL	70 – 79 pts	

Comments: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
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Judges Signature: _____

PRIMARY MEMBER 4-H PLEDGE EVENT

1. Pre entry is required
2. All competing members must sign in at the competition location within the time allotment for check-in as specified.
3. Primary members will be seated in audience during the competition until such time as they have given their presentation.
4. Primary members will draw numbers for order of go in the event.
5. The following steps are to be followed during the Primary Member Event
 - A. The Primary member asks, "Are the judges ready?"
 - B. The Primary member is to greet the audience and introduce themselves. During this time they state their name and what club they are from.
 - C. Next they recite the introductory sentence and 4-H Pledge as written below:
 - D. The member shall thank the judges and ask if they have any questions.

The 4-H Pledge, written by Otis Hall in the year 1927

- **I pledge my head to clearer thinking**
 - **My heart to greater loyalty**
 - **My hands to larger service**
 - **And my health to better living**
 - **For my club, my community, my country and my world**
6. The Primary members will be asked one question from each judge from the list below.
 7. The Primary members are not being judged, but will receive a Judges' Comment Card, certificate, and participation ribbon.

Primary Member Questions:

1. Why do you like being in 4-H?
2. Can you tell me how many things you have made in your 4-H projects and what are they?
3. What is your favorite project in 4-H and why?
4. What have you learned so far in 4-H?
5. Can you tell me what you would tell someone to encourage them to join 4-H?

**PRIMARY MEMBER
4-H PLEDGE
COMMENT CARD**

PRESENTER'S NAME _____ **CLUB** _____

I LIKED YOUR PRESENTATION BECAUSE:

Judges Signature _____

**PRIMARY MEMBER
4-H PLEDGE
COMMENT CARD**

PRESENTER'S NAME _____ **CLUB** _____

I LIKED YOUR PRESENTATION BECAUSE:

Judges Signature _____