



State 4-H Presentation Program 2022

Impromptu Speech Categories

Impromptu speaking involves speeches that the speaker has developed themselves at Presentation Day within a *three-minute preparation* time. One at a time, the speakers will randomly draw a piece of paper with a prompt on it. The prompts will be developed from the pre-announced categories outlined here. From the time that the speaker is given the prompt, they will have three minutes to prepare a speech. Please refer to the Impromptu Speech category description on page 21 of the State 4-H Presentation Manual at <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/2193.pdf>

Senior Categories (14-19 years old)

- **Civic Engagement: Civic Responsibility**

Civic responsibility is one's commitment to the welfare of others, the community, the state, nation, and world. Reflect on your own civic responsibility in your 4-H club or community and reflect on how that might differ from your civic responsibility to your state, nation, or the world. Think about what the welfare of others means. Consider and compare your civic responsibility to that of those who may not have the resources or platform to advocate for themselves. If your community is in need how can you build your capacity to help address those needs?

Potential topics: define civic responsibility in 4-H; what are the impacts on communities when members don't engage in civic responsibility, the relation between civic responsibility and culture.

- **Healthy Living: Public Health and Pandemic Response**

Public health is the science of preventing disease and improving quality of life of individuals and communities. Given the global pandemic, the role of public health officials – in government public health departments, doctors, and nurses – in promoting health and well-being has never been so critical. Think about public health and how it might relate to biosecurity. Consider the impact public health has on your daily life. Reflect on how you contribute to the health of your community.

Potential topics: effective methods to provide reliable and accurate information to the public; means to distribute safe and effective vaccines; ideas for how 4-H might promote public health.

- **Leadership: Importance of Mentors**

Mentors can help develop leadership skills in a variety of ways. For example, by giving effective feedback, mentors can help mentees increase their self-awareness on their skills, like communication or time management. Consider the ways that a mentor has helped you and propose why mentorship is important to leadership development. Think about the mentors you have had, how has their guidance been helpful to you?

Potential topics: how important is having a mentor in leadership development, what impact do mentors have in helping mentees build the 6 C's (confidence, competence, character, caring, connection, contribution, for more refer to the [4-H Officer's Manual](#)); in what ways does 4-H use mentorship.

- **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM): Nature of Science**

This year's impromptu STEM category is not a subject area, but rather, focuses on the enterprise of science as a whole—the wondering, investigating, questioning, data collecting, and analyzing – a set of practices scientists use to construct new knowledge, models, laws, and theories. Core to science are basic concepts: (1) scientific investigations use a variety of methods including observations, inferences, and tools; (2) scientific knowledge is open to revision in light of new evidence; (3) science cannot provide complete answers to all questions.

Potential topics: Reasons why scientists must be both skeptical and open to new ideas, how and why expert recommendations may have changed over time (e.g., vaccines, medications, mask wearing), reasons why science cannot usefully investigate supernatural elements or the true purpose of life, ways 4-H can promote understanding of the nature of science.



Intermediate Categories (11-13 years old)

- **Cultural Awareness**

Cultural awareness is the ability to take the perspective of and learn and understand the culture of others, especially those from diverse backgrounds. Consider what makes you different from your fellow 4-H members and what you have in common. Think about how you might learn to appreciate or value the differences of others. Reflect on how having different perspectives can help improve society.

Potential topics: what experiences do you have with other cultures; how do you learn about other cultures; do you have a cultural heritage you like to share; how does having cultural awareness help you in 4-H or in your future career.

- **Goal Management**

Goal management is more than just setting goals. It is a process that includes setting a goal, determining the specific strategies to reach that goal and identifying what are the things that could get in the way of achieving the goal or accomplishing a strategy. The acronym “GPS” (Goal Selection, Pursuit of Strategies, Shifting Gears) is used to help members remember the goal management steps that lead to achievement. Reflect on what is specific and measurable goal might be. Consider steps you need to take to reach a goal. Think about how you may react when faced with a road block in achieving your goals.

Potential topics: how do you measure goals; when do consider a goal complete; what strategies might you use to create a plan to reach your goal; what might get in the way of reaching a goal (for more refer to the [4-H Officer’s Manual](#), page 11, or the [County Ambassador Manual](#), page 17-18).

Junior Categories (9-10 years old): Participation is limited to intermediate and senior members.

