

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Public Speaking

The following grades in Public Speaking are designed to develop inter-personal and speaking skills, which will prove invaluable to candidates in both their personal and professional lives. Grade by grade candidates will develop skills in communication and will find themselves developing the confidence they need for conversing in both private and public arenas. Older candidates interested in developing speaking skills will find that the following assessments will help them construct talks, which will prove an invaluable asset in any professional setting. It has been decided by the examining body at the Leinster school that no student under the age of 12 should be allowed sit exams in Public Speaking. Should younger candidates wish to study Public Speaking they would be encouraged to sit introductory grades in Effective Communication.

Notes for the Teacher

- a) Where required candidates must provide the examiner with copies of their poetry/ prose and drama selections. Selections should not exceed the maximum times stated and teachers must note that marks will be awarded for suitability of choice and deducted for exceeding the time limit stated in the syllabus. Selections must not be taken from the current drama syllabus, but the syllabus may be used as a guide when selecting material.
- b) Candidates may bring brief reference notes with them to the examination.
- c) Talks should neither be written nor memorised.
- d) Candidates who wish to proceed to the Certificate in Public Speaking must have completed grade 5 in Public Speaking and must be 17 years or older. The standard and quality of the candidates speech will be assessed during the whole period of the examination

Grade 1

Candidates must be over 12 years of age

Schedule of maximum marks	
Talk	40
Poetry or Prose	20
Prepared Reading	20
Questions	20

Talk

Candidates will be required to give a talk on a topic of their own choice for which the time limit is 3 minutes.

Poetry or Prose

Candidates will be expected to speak from memory a passage of Prose or a Poem of their own choice.

Prepared Reading

Candidates will be required to read aloud an extract chosen by the examiner from a chapter of their own choice. Marks will be awarded for reading techniques and suitability of choice. A discussion relating to the work will follow.

Questions

The examiner will ask the candidates a series of questions relating to their prepared work.

Grade 2

Candidates must be over 13 years of age

Schedule of maximum marks	
Talk	40
Poetry or Prose	20
Prepared Reading	20
Questions	20

Talk

Candidates will be required to give a talk on a topic of their own choice for which the time limit is 3 minutes.

Poetry or Prose

Candidates will be expected to speak from memory a passage of Prose or a Poem of their own choice.

Prepared Reading

Candidates will be required to read aloud an extract chosen by the examiner from a chapter of their own choice. Marks will be awarded for reading techniques and suitability of choice.

Questions

The examiner will ask the candidates a series of questions relating to the following areas:

- ❖ Prepared work
- ❖ The Techniques of Good Speech
- ❖ Using visual aids during a presentation

Grade 3

Candidates must be over 14 years of age

Schedule of maximum marks	
Talk	40
Prose	20
Unprepared Reading	20
Questions	20

Talk

Candidates will be required to give a talk on a topic of their own choice for which the time limit is 4 minutes.

Prose

Candidates will be expected to speak from memory a selection of Prose.

Unprepared Reading

Candidates will be required to read aloud a passage of prose, which will be selected by the examiner on the day of the exam. Preparation time will be given in the examination and once again marks will be awarded for reading techniques.

Questions

The examiner will ask the candidates a series of questions relating to the following areas:

- ❖ Prepared works
- ❖ Any aspects covered by the candidates in previous Grades.
- ❖ How the candidates went about preparing for the formal presentation of their talk and how they would go about preparing for formal talks.

Grade 4

Candidates must be over 15 years of age

Schedule of maximum marks	
Talk	40
Poetry or Prose	20
Unprepared Reading of a Poem	20
Questions	20

Talk

Candidates will be required to give a talk which should not exceed 5 minutes on one of the following topics:

- ❖ Corrective measures for young offenders
- ❖ Smoking – A health hazard
- ❖ Changing Fashion
- ❖ Traffic congestion in cities
- ❖ My Favourite Book
- ❖ Football

Poetry or Prose

Candidates will be expected to speak from memory a selection of Prose or Poetry. The selection should not exceed 2 minutes.

Unprepared Reading of a Poem

Candidates will be required to read aloud a Poem, which will be selected by the examiner on the day of the examination. Preparation time will be given in the examination and once again marks will be awarded for reading techniques.

Questions

The examiner will ask the candidates a series of questions relating to the following areas:

- ❖ Prepared works
- ❖ Any aspects covered by the candidates in previous Grades.
- ❖ Debating techniques and procedures

Grade 5

Candidates must be over 16 years of age

Schedule of maximum marks	
Introduction	20
Talk	40
Social Speech	20
Questions	20

Introduction

As Chairperson, candidates will be requested to introduce the “Speaker” who will speak about a subject from section 2.

Talk

Candidates will be required to take their position as the speaker following the Chairperson’s introduction. The subject of the talk can be the candidates own choice. This talk must not exceed 5 minutes.

Social Speech

Candidates will be required to deliver a social speech lasting no longer than 2 minutes, which would be suitable for delivery at one of the following occasions:

- ❖ Giving a presentation to someone who is for example retiring or perhaps presenting an award to someone.
- ❖ Responding to a presentation – Receiving an award or a presentation and responding to that within a social environment.
- ❖ Opening a bazaar or a Speech and Drama Festival OR any social event.

Questions

The examiner will ask the candidates a series of questions relating to the following areas:

- ❖ Prepared works
- ❖ Any aspects covered by the candidates in previous Grades.
- ❖ Platform and Committee Procedures: - The Duties of the Chairperson
The Proposer of Vote of Thanks

Certificate in Public Speaking

Candidates must be over 17 years of age

Schedule of maximum marks	
Talk	40
Extempore Speech	20
Performance Selection	10
Unprepared Reading	10
Questions	20

Talk

Candidates will be required to give a talk on any subject of topical interest appearing in the recent or current news media – political, religious, artistic, and medical. This talk should be not shorter than 8 minutes and not longer than 10 minutes.

Extempore Speech

The candidates are required to deliver an extempore speech from a list presented by the examiner during the examination. 2 minutes preparation time will be given and the speech must not exceed the 3 minute time limit set.

Performance Selection

Candidates will be expected to deliver from memory a passage of prose, a selection of Drama or a poem of their choice by an Irish Writer. This must be prefaced by introduction. The time limit for this section is 3 minutes.

Unprepared Reading

Candidates will be required to sight read a passage of prose selected by the examiner on the day of the examination. Preparation time will be allocated and marks will be awarded for reading techniques.

Questions

Candidates will be asked questions on the following:

- ❖ Prepared Work
- ❖ Any aspect of Public Speaking from previous Grades
- ❖ Presentation Skills
- ❖ Microphone Techniques.