OVERVIEW

Team members work together to prepare and deliver an extemporaneous, debate-style presentation with participants explaining opposing views of a current technology issue. The issue is randomly selected on site.

ELIGIBILITY

Participants are limited to three (3) teams of two (2) individuals per state.

TIME LIMITS

A. Team preparation time for the presentation is limited to fifteen (15) minutes.

B. The team presentation must be a minimum of two (2) minutes up to a maximum of four (4) minutes.

C. Both members of a team must be present at the time stated in the conference program.

ATTIRE

TSA competition attire, as described in the National TSA Dress Code section of this guide, is required.

PROCEDURE

A. Participants report to the event area at the time and place stated in the conference program to receive an assigned presentation time.

B. Teams report to the preparation room at their assigned time.

C. Using a random draw procedure, the coordinator will draw one (1) topic from those listed in the sidebar on the next page. (The topics will be written on individual slips of paper; they will be shuffled and the drawing will occur in the presence of the judges.)

☑️ Successful participants should plan on a presentation that involves speaking for a minimum of two (2) minutes, up to a maximum of four (4) minutes. Participants should maintain eye contact with the audience throughout the presentation!
D. At the end of the fifteen (15)-minute preparation time, each team will be escorted to the presentation room where the team will present opposing views of the selected issue.

E. Evaluators determine the semifinalist teams. A semifinalist list, will be posted.

F. Semifinalist teams report to the preparation room at their assigned time for the same procedure used in the preliminaries.

It is essential that students and advisors routinely check the TSA website (www.tsaweb.org) for updated information about TSA general rules and competitive event guidelines. This information is found on the website under Competitions/Competition Updates. When students participate in any TSA competitive event, they are responsible for knowing of all updates, changes, and clarifications related to that event.

REGULATIONS

A. Team members may bring non-electronic reference materials for use while in the preparation room. No other form of assistance is allowed.

B. Students must provide their own pencils or pens for this event.

C. Note cards may be used during the presentation; however, the use of note cards may result in score deductions if they detract from the effectiveness of the presentation.

D. The coordinator will draw one (1) topic from the topics listed in the sidebar on this page.

E. Each team states the selected issue when prompted by the evaluators. After stating the selected issue, the presentation time will begin once a team member begins to speak.

F. Teams present opposing views of the selected issue in debate style. Teams may use the following suggested format to present opposing views:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction (pro)</th>
<th>Introduction (con)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Position (pro)</td>
<td>Position (con)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion (pro)</td>
<td>Conclusion (con)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
G. A timekeeper will notify a presenting team thirty (30) seconds before the end of the four (4)-minute time limit by holding up a “30-seconds remaining” card. Time is called at four (4) minutes, at which time the presentation must stop. No overtime speaking is allowed.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is based upon the effective presentation of opposing views of an issue. Please refer to the official rating form for more information.
STEM INTEGRATION

This event has connections to the STEM areas noted below. Please refer to the STEM INTEGRATION section of this guide.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS (CCSS) INTEGRATION

Please refer to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Integration section of this guide for more information.

LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Leadership skills promoted in this event:

• Communication: Students communicate genuinely and effectively as public speakers. Use leadership activities: Acting Out! and Communication Breakdown
• Creative thinking: Students extemporaneously produce original thoughts and ideas regarding an issue. Use leadership activities: And the Next Contestant Is... and Open Minded
• Teamwork: Students work efficiently, effectively, and equally with a partner to address both viewpoints of an issue. Use leadership activities: Bozo’s Balloons and Jump Rope

Additional leadership skills promoted in this event:

• Critical thinking
• Ethics
• Evaluation

TSA AND CAREERS

This competition has connections to one or more of the career areas featured in the TSA AND CAREERS section of this guide. Use The 16 Career Clusters chart and the TSA Competitions and Career Clusters grid as resources for information about careers.

CAREERS RELATED TO THIS EVENT

• Lobbyist
• Management executive
• Motivational speaker
• Politician
• Public policy specialist
CHALLENGING TECHNOLOGY ISSUES
EVENT COORDINATOR INSTRUCTIONS

PERSONNEL
A. Event coordinator
B. Evaluators, two (2) or more
C. Assistants, two (2) per preparation room
D. Timekeeper, one (1) per presentation room

MATERIALS
A. Coordinator’s packet, containing:
   1. Event guidelines, one (1) copy for the coordinator and each evaluator
   2. TSA Event Coordinator Report
   3. List of evaluators/assistants
   4. Results envelope with coordinator forms
B. Lined paper and 3” x 5” note cards
C. Stopwatch, one (1) per preparation room and one (1) for the presentation room
D. Written issue selections
E. A card with “30 seconds remaining” printed clearly, one (1) per presentation room
F. Tables and chairs for event coordinator, evaluators, and participants

RESPONSIBILITIES
A. Upon arrival at the conference, report to the CRC room and check the contents of the coordinator’s packet. Review the event guidelines and check to see that enough evaluators/assistants have been scheduled.
B. Inspect the area(s) in which the event is to be held for appropriate set-up, including room size, chairs, tables, outlets, etc. Notify the event manager of any potential problems.
C. One (1) hour before the event is scheduled to begin, meet with evaluators/assistants to review time limits, procedures, and regulations. If questions arise that cannot be answered, speak to the event manager before the event begins.
D. For participants who violate the rules, the decision either to
1) deduct twenty percent (20%) of the total possible points or
2) disqualify the entry, must be discussed and verified with
the evaluators, event coordinator, and CRC manager, who all
must initial either of these actions on the rating form.

E. When the teams report to the event area, assign times for their
presentations. Times should be scheduled at ten (10)-minute
intervals. Depending upon the number of entries, heats may be
necessary to determine semifinalists.

F. After each team reports to the preparation room at the
assigned time and participants have been seated, review the
time limits and distribute paper and note cards.

G. Present the team with the topic selected.

H. Start the time and inform participants of the end of the
preparation time.

I. Monitor students during the preparation time and supply extra
paper if needed.

J. At the end of the fifteen 15-minute preparation time, collect the
topic and escort the team to the presentation room.

K. After the team is in position, introduce the team by entry
number only.

L. Evaluators tell the team to begin and start timing the event.

M. The timekeeper notifies the team thirty (30) seconds before
the end of the four (4)-minute time limit by holding up a “30
seconds remaining” card. Time is called at four (4) minutes, at
which point the speakers must stop.

N. Evaluators score each team and determine twelve (12)
semifinalist teams.

O. Submit semifinalist results to the CRC for posting and assign a
time for each team’s final presentation.

P. Remove all materials from the event area and return the
coordinator’s packet with its contents to the CRC room for
safekeeping until time for the final portion of the competition.

Q. When the semifinalist teams report to the presentation room
at their assigned times, follow the same procedure used in the
preliminaries.

R. Evaluators determine the ten (10) finalist teams.

S. Submit the finalist results and all related forms in the results
envelope to the CRC room.
T. If necessary, manage security and the removal of materials from the area.
### CHALLENGING TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

#### 2016 & 2017 OFFICIAL RATING FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>Minimal performance (1-4 points)</th>
<th>Adequate performance (5-8 points)</th>
<th>Exemplary performance (9-10 points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Introduction does not show an attempt to get the attention of the audience, and/or it does not outline points clearly and distinctly.</td>
<td>Introduction shows an effort to grab attention of the audience; previewing points are somewhat organized in a logical manner.</td>
<td>Introduction employs an attention-getter, clearly states the thesis, and previews main points of the issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Ideas may not be focused or developed; the main purpose is not clear; transitions may be needed.</td>
<td>Main idea is evident, and the organizational structure is generally strong; ideas are relevant and flow smoothly; the purpose is satisfactorily stated.</td>
<td>Ideas are clearly organized, developed, and supported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic knowledge</td>
<td>Team does not have a grasp of the topic; inaccurate, generalized, or inappropriate support material is used; over dependence on notes is evident.</td>
<td>Team has a general grasp of the topic; support material is adequate; the team is at ease when it elaborates on the topic.</td>
<td>Team exhibits a clear grasp of the topic; support material is introduced and referenced accurately; the team demonstrates full knowledge of the topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>Conclusion ends abruptly (no logical and/or organized conclusion presented); it does not restate main points of the position.</td>
<td>Conclusion is generally engaging; it restates main points and wraps up with reference to the topic.</td>
<td>Conclusion restates main points of the topic in a summative yet fresh way; the position is well stated and closes with a connection to the introduction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voice and language</td>
<td>Vocabulary choice may be limited; speech is peppered with slang or jargon; presentation is too effusive or too dull; language is questionable or inappropriate for the setting.</td>
<td>Presentation is respectful and/or inoffensive; language is appropriate for the setting and word choices are generally precise.</td>
<td>Language is appropriate for the setting and free of bias; vocabulary choices are vivid and precise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery</td>
<td>Delivery detracts from the message; eye contact may be limited; presenters may tend to look at the floor, mumble, speak inaudibly, fidget, or read from cards; gestures and movements may be excessive.</td>
<td>Delivery is generally appealing; some hesitancy may be observed; posture, eye contact, gestures, facial expressions, volume, pace, etc. do not detract from the message.</td>
<td>Delivery is extemporaneous, natural, confident, and enhances the message; posture, eye contact, gestures, facial expressions, volume, pace, etc. indicate confidence.</td>
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**SUBTOTAL (70 points)**
# Con Side (70 points)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong>&lt;br&gt;(X1)</td>
<td>Introduction does not show an attempt to get the attention of the audience and/or does not outline points clearly and distinctly.</td>
<td>Introduction shows an effort to grab attention of audience; previewing points are somewhat organized in a logical manner.</td>
<td>Introduction employs an attention-getter, clearly states the thesis, and previews main points of the issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong>&lt;br&gt;(X1)</td>
<td>Ideas may not be focused or developed; the main purpose is not clear; main points are difficult to identify; transitions may be needed.</td>
<td>Main idea is evident, and the organizational structure is generally strong; ideas are relevant and flow smoothly; the purpose is satisfactorily stated.</td>
<td>Ideas are clearly organized, developed, and supported.</td>
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<td><strong>Topic knowledge</strong>&lt;br&gt;(X1)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delivery</strong>&lt;br&gt;(X2)</td>
<td>Delivery detracts from the message; eye contact may be limited; presenters may tend to look at the floor, mumble, speak inaudibly, fidget, or read from note cards; gestures and movements may be excessive.</td>
<td>Delivery is generally appealing; some hesitancy may be observed; posture, eye contact, gestures, facial expressions, volume, pace, etc. do not detract from the message.</td>
<td>Delivery is extemporaneous, natural, confident, and enhances the message; posture, eye contact, gestures, facial expressions, volume, pace, etc. indicate confidence.</td>
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**SUBTOTAL (70 points)**

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# Participation (10 points)

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<th>Exemplary performance 9-10 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Team member participation</strong>&lt;br&gt;(X1)</td>
<td>One team member does the majority of the speaking and/or debating on the topic; the other seems disengaged from the presentation.</td>
<td>Both team members are engaged in the debate, but one clearly takes the lead; the other only replies to or refutes statements.</td>
<td>Both team members are actively involved in the presentation, debate, and rebuttals of the topic; shared responsibility is evident throughout.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUBTOTAL (10 points)**
**Rules violations (a deduction of 20% of the total possible points for the above sections) must be initialed by the evaluator, coordinator and manager of the event. Record the deduction in the space to the right.**

Indicate the rule violated: ____________________

(To arrive at the TOTAL score, add any subtotals and subtract rules violation points, as necessary.)

**TOTAL (150 points)**

Comments: 

I certify these results to be true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Evaluator

Printed name: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________