

Public Speaking

General Objectives

This Public Speaking Syllabus seeks to offer Learners the opportunity to:

- Participate in public speaking
- Speak and present confidently to an audience
- Increase self-confidence - Develop clear speech
- Develop clarity of thought
- Stimulate speech writing
- Share their ideas and experiences with ease and clarity
- Engage, interest, persuade and inform their selected audience

Guidelines for Public Speaking Learners

- Learners should state the situation and age of the audience they are addressing.
- Brief notes or where specified bullet points may be used discreetly.
- Visual aids may be used where appropriate but should assist and not overwhelm the speaker.

Foundation Level

Grade 1 (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Give a talk on a subject of your own choice
(Time limit 3 minutes)
2. Discuss with the Examiner
 - The content of the talk

Grade 2 (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Give a talk on one of the following subjects:
(Time limit 3 minutes)
 - An interesting place you have visited
 - A challenge you have overcome
 - A charity or cause you feel strongly about
2. Read a passage of prose at sight.
3. Discuss with the Examiner:
 - The content of the talk
 - Sight reading points to remember

Grade 3 - Foundation Medal (15 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Deliver a talk on one of the following subjects:
(Time limit 3 minutes)
 - Something you would banish forever if you had the chance
 - Your ambitions and aims for the future
 - An interesting person in history
2. Read a passage of prose at sight.
3. Discuss with the Examiner:
 - The content of the talk
 - How to present a talk successfully
 - Vocal skills needed for public speaking

Marks
Awarded

90

10

80

10

10

80

10

10

Level 2 - Intermediate

Grade 4 (15 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Deliver a speech on one of the following subjects:
(Time limit 4 minutes)
 - Pros and cons of school uniforms
 - Should smoking be made illegal?
 - Homework does more harm than good
 - Social media, its use and misuse
2. Read at sight a passage of prose.
3. Discuss with the Examiner briefly:
 - The contents of the talk
 - The importance of well-formed consonant and vowel sounds to the public speaker

Marks
Awarded

60

20

20

Grade 5 (15 Minutes)

The Ronald Marsh Certificate of Excellence is awarded annually to the Learner gaining the highest Distinction mark in this examination.

Learners should:

1. Deliver a speech on one of the following subjects:
(Time limit 4 minutes)
 - Should the age to vote be brought down to 16?
 - Climate change
 - Does the lottery encourage gambling?
 - Social Media : its use and misuse
2. Read at sight a passage of prose.
3. Discuss with the Examiner briefly:
 - The contents of the talk
 - The way to introduce a speaker
 - The way to propose a vote of thanks

60

20

20

Level 3 - Advanced

Grade 6 - Bronze Medal (20 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Deliver a speech on one of the following subjects
(Time limit 7 Minutes)
 - "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room on earth"
Muhammad Ali
 - "A business that makes nothing but money is a poor business"
Henry Ford
 - "Where there is a great deal of free speech there is always a
certain amount of foolish speech" Winston Churchill
 - "No one can make you inferior without your consent" Eleanor
Roosevelt
2. Read at sight a passage of prose.
3. Discuss with the Examiner:
 - The contents of the talk
 - The proposal of toasts
 - The reply to a toast
 - The importance of effective breath support and well formed
vowels to the public speaker

Grade 7 - Silver Medal (30 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Either Propose or Oppose one of the following motions (as if it were
part of a debate)
(Time limit 8 minutes)
 - This house would make voting compulsory
 - This house believes social deprivation causes crime
 - This house believes newspapers are a thing of the past
 - This house believes there should be free movement of people
throughout the world
2. Deliver a short impromptu speech of no longer than 6 minutes on
one of four subjects, which will be handed to the learner 10 minutes
before the examination
3. Read at sight a passage of prose
4. Discuss with the Examiner:
 - The contents of the talk
 - Chairmanship
 - Debate procedure
 - Impromptu speaking

Marks
Awarded

70

10

10

35

35

10

20

Level 3 - Advanced (Continued)

Grade 8 - Gold Medal (40 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Deliver a speech on one of the following subjects
(Time limit 10 minutes)
 - A personal response to a world event
 - My greatest fear for the next generation is
 - The biggest threat to our society is
 - Improvements you would make to society if you were in a position of power
2. Deliver a short impromptu speech of no longer than 5 minutes on one of three subjects which will be handed to the Learner 10 minutes before the examination
3. Deliver a short speech for a special occasion
(Time limit 4 minutes)
4. Read at sight a passage of prose.
5. Discuss with the Examiner:
 - Clarity
 - Breath support
 - The planning and arrangement of a speech
 - Vocal projection
 - Communication with the audience

Marks
Awarded

30

20

20

10

20