

STORYTELLING



STORYTELLING TRAINING FOR JUDGES

STORYTELLING OVERVIEW

Storytelling promotes ideas in an engaging way. Successful stories appeal across cultures and to all ages. Storytelling is a format in which an individual student presents a true and memorable story on a specific topic inviting the audience into their experience.

Students are provided with a statement and respond. Each storyteller earns points toward the team total, and stories run no longer than 10 minutes.

STORYTELLING FORMAT

Each story should be developed, organized and delivered to meet the needs of the story. Story content, how it is organized and the way in which the story is shared are crucial components of impactful stories. Judges should score each story considering the following factors:

Story Development:

- Content of the story should relate to the overall event theme
- Speaker should take audience point of view into consideration
- Story context
- Characters and plot
- Call to action that is reasonable

Story Organization:

- Use of tension, resolution and surprise that makes sense
- Perceived truthfulness
- Movement of the story
- Relevant details
- Journey of the story that is enjoyable and exciting

Story Delivery:

- Emotions in the story used effectively
- Vivid language
- Nonverbal communication used to reinforce the story
- Fluidity of the storyteller that combines non-verbal with verbal language

Keep in mind for storytelling:

- True stories have personal meaning.
- Organized with a clear beginning, middle and end. (This doesn't preclude starting action to set the stakes before flashing back to the beginning.)
- Details are crucial, but stories should also be succinct and on point.
- Stories need physical and vocal variety for emphasis and to increase pathos.
- Storytellers should avoid memorization, lecturing or ranting.

TIPS FOR JUDGES: QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Does the story relate to the audience while considering the overall theme of the event?
- Does the story contain memorable characters or relevant details?
- Does the story sound truthful and contain appropriate tension, movement and surprise?
- Is the story artfully organized with a beginning, middle and end?
- Does the storyteller deliver the story in a way that is vivid and fluid?
- Is there some lesson or call to action in the story?

Guidelines for Storytelling Participants

- Students may include one small prop in their storytelling, but no presentational aids such as PowerPoints, pictures on screens, audio or video.
- Students are to approach their story content and storytelling in the spirit of the Regents' Cup with civility and respect.
- Stories will be original work adhering to university academic integrity standards.

EXAMPLE OF ONLINE FORM FOR SCORING STORYTELLING

Scoring for Storytelling - Rounds 1 and 2

1. Please select your name from the dropdown. If your name is not on the list, select other and then type in your name in the box provided.
2. Select the first student speaker.
3. Select your room.

Once you complete Speaker 1's scores, click "Next student" for Speaker 2's score card. Then again for Speaker 3. When all scores are complete click "Submit".

Choose one: *

- Room 7 Room 8

Please Select your name *

Speaker 1: *

Story Development (40 points - 8pts/ea.)

Score between 1 to 8, 8 being the highest score.

Audience Centered - Considers audience point of view. *

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Framework (clear start and end point, inciting incident, logical narrative, etc) *

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Focuses context (fits appropriately to the topic at hand) *

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Introduces us to characters - memorable and relevant *

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Story has a call to action, moral, or lesson; resonates with audience *

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Story Organization (30 points - 6pts/ea.)

Utilizes elements of tension and resolution *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Takes the narrative in unexpected directions *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Story rings true and relevant *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Story organization assists audience understanding of plot *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Story appropriately expands or narrows for allotted time *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Story Delivery (30 points - 6pts/ea.)

Uses vivid language and rich description *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Emotional level appropriate for subject matter *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Emotional language moves, alters, or motivates audience *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Nonverbal communication supports (not detracts from) story *

1 2 3 4 5 6

Delivery is fluid and extemporaneous *

1 2 3 4 5 6