

English Oratory Rules

I. Original English Oratory

1. Write an original English oratory using the theme of the state convention: *Non progredi est regredi*, “To not go forward is to go backward.”
2. The speech should incorporate classical style and references.
3. The length of the speech should be between 3 minutes and 4 minutes. However, there is a 15 second leeway margin allowed at either end.
4. No costume or special dress may be worn.
5. The oration must be memorized. No notes will be allowed.
6. No indication of school affiliation (*i.e.* nametags or club t-shirts) is allowed.
7. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Introduction: 5%
 - b. Body of oration: 20%
 - c. Conclusion: 5%
 - d. Delivery: 20%
 - e. Originality: 10%
 - f. Memorization: 15%
 - g. Adherence to theme and use of classics: 15%
 - h. Overall effectiveness: 10%