

SUGGESTED SCRIPTS FOR TIMER

Timer's instructions to decathlete before prepared speech:

Remember: A prepared speech is “in time” if you speak between 3 ½ and 4 minutes. After you have spoken for three minutes, I will hold up the 1-minute card, (*show the student the card*) meaning you have 1 minute left to speak. After you have spoken for 3 ½ minutes, I will hold up the 30-second card, (*show the student the card*) meaning you have spoken 3 ½ minutes and still have 30 seconds left if you need them. After you have spoken for 4 minutes, I will hold up the “0” card, (*show the student the card*) meaning time is up. I will not say “stop,” but you have **no** grace period and will be penalized if you continue.

Timer's instructions to decathlete before impromptu speech (read only if requested by student):

Remember: An impromptu speech is “in time” if you speak between 1½ and 2 minutes. After you have spoken for one minute, I will hold up the 1-minute card, (*show the student the card*) meaning you have 1 minute left to speak. After you have spoken for 1 ½ minutes, I will hold up the 30-second card, (*show the student the card*) meaning you have spoken 1 ½ minutes and still have 30 seconds left if you need them. After you have spoken for 2 minutes, I will hold up the “0” card, (*show the student the card*) meaning time is up. I will not say “stop,” but you have **no** grace period and will be penalized if you continue.

(The head judge will explain the impromptu procedure to the student and will then instruct the student to begin to prepare for their impromptu speech. As soon as the student turns over the impromptu card, begin timing the one-minute prep time. After one minute has elapsed, announce: “Time.”)