

# MASSACHUSETTS MIDDLE SCHOOL SPEECH LEAGUE

## Declamation Response Ballot

Student Code 107 Student Name Mark Free Round **I** II III F

Title of Selection/Author How to Sound Smart in Your TED Talk Total Time: 6:11  
*by Will Stephen*

**Declamation:** An event in which the student delivers a readily accessible spoken speech, from text or memory, which was originally written and given as a public address by another speaker. The student should effectively convey the message of the original speaker in a sincere and realistic style--imitation is not the goal. The presentation must include an introduction (author, place, and date of delivery) and any other relevant information about the author, oration or its historical significance at some point. (**Note:** Do not critique the content of the message presented, as it is not the work of the individual student. Evaluate the student's presentation regardless of your own opinion on the subject matter.)  
**Time limit: 7 minutes with a 30-second grace period. Judges should offer to provide visual time signals.**

During this performance the student demonstrates the following skills:	Excellent Throughout	Usually	Sometimes	Improve Here
<b>INTRODUCTION:</b> provided substantial and compelling information that set up the speaker's text; was delivered in a conversational manner.			X	
<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> Did the speaker make an honest connection to the content of the speech? Did the speaker make you feel that the words were their own?	X			
<b>VOCAL VARIATION:</b> effectively varies volume, pitch, speaking rate, tone, pauses, emphasis and mood.	X			
<b>PHYSICAL VARIETY:</b> uses eye contact and varies facial expressions, gestures, and body language to support their presentation.	X			
<b>CONNECTION TO AUDIENCE:</b> creates interest and holds your attention; appears poised, confident and comfortable during the presentation.	X			
Based on your choices above, suggest a specific improvement that this student could make to better their presentation.	<i>Your introduction should sound more like you personally speaking and less like the piece - it's our chance to "meet" you and in this delivery it was too similar in content and style-so it blended into the piece too much. Please also slow the delivery of the name of the author-too quick to understand.</i>			
Based on your choices above, describe a specific outstanding part of this student's presentation.	<i>You really made these words your own - I really believed you especially because you had such natural and effective gestures and facial expressions. Great job! Excellent strong presence and comfort with your material.</i>			

Please use the space below to write your observations and comments *while* the student is presenting. Students welcome your additional responses here and on the back of this page. Thank you!

*Watch speed and drop in volume, a few words hard to hear.  
 Enjoyed your delivery of the numbers - funny!  
 Good natural gestures. Super job!*

Judge's Code 26 Judge's School OH/B Judge's Name K. Vanaman

Students who speak beyond 7minutes, 30seconds may not be ranked 1st. Check here if over 7:30

PLEASE DO NOT TIE STUDENTS IN EITHER RANK OR RATING Rank (1st-9th) 1

80-85 Fair 86-90 Good 91-95 Excellent 96-100 Superior Rating (100-80) 98