



Presentations: Speech vs Illustrated Talk vs Demonstration

The presentation contest allows members to give a speech, demonstration, or illustrated talk. The goal of this contest is to allow one or more 4-H members the opportunity to teach others about a project, activity, or an area of personal interest.

The greatest value of participation in this contest with a speech, demonstrations, or illustrated talk is that members can gain new skills while preparing, planning and presenting information on their chosen topic. Through these presentations, 4-H’ers can:

- Work on something they like and are interested in
- Gain new knowledge and learn about a specific subject
- Learn to plan and organize their thoughts so they can express themselves more clearly
- Emphasize the major points of a presentation with or without visuals or examples
- Increase in poise, confidence, and self-assurance
- Develop the ability to demonstrate good judgment and speak and act well before an audience
- Listen to the opinions of others

| SPEECHES | ILLUSTRATED TALKS | DEMONSTRATIONS |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A speech is sharing information without visual aids • A speech is talking without visual aids • The key to a speech is “here is information.” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An illustrated talk is talking with visual aids • An illustrated talk is telling how while showing visuals • In an illustrated talk, the presenter uses pre-made charts, posters, photographs, computer programs, slides, pictures, models, and/or cutouts to support the information given | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A demonstration is doing • A demonstration is showing how to do something while telling how to do it • In a demonstration, the presenter makes or does something; there is a finished product • The key to a good demonstration is “go and do likewise.” |

*Adapted from “4-H Public Presentation Guide: Educational Presentations and Talks” by Mark Tarpley, Extension Program Specialist – 4-H, The Texas A&M University System