

# SPEECH TEAM QUESTIONNAIRE

***BRING THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOU TO YOUR AUDITION***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One:    **Junior**            **Sophomore**            **Freshman**

GPA from 2008-2009: \_\_\_\_\_ (A GPA of at least 2.5 is required for Academic Teams)

**\*\*Please attach a copy of your CLASS SCHEDULE for 2009-2010 to this questionnaire\*\***

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

I anticipate that I will be involved in the following activities during the 2008-09 school year:

**School Sports:** *(Complete for **each** sport in which you intend to participate. Please be aware that participation on an academic team and on a SFHS sport team may create a conflict.)*

### **Sport 1:**

Season: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Games: Yes/No    If yes, what dates? \_\_\_\_\_

After-school Practices: Yes/No    If yes, which days per week? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sport 2:**

Season: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Games: Yes/No    If yes, what dates? \_\_\_\_\_

After-school Practices: Yes/No    If yes, which days per week? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sport 3:**

Season: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Games: Yes/No    If yes, what dates? \_\_\_\_\_

After-school Practices: Yes/No    If yes, which days per week? \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-School Sports:** *(Complete for **each** sport in which you intend to participate.)*

### **Sport 1:**

Season: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Games: Yes/No    If yes, what dates? \_\_\_\_\_

After-school Practices: Yes/No    If yes, how many days per week? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sport 2:**

Season: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Games: Yes/No    If yes, what dates? \_\_\_\_\_

After-school Practices: Yes/No    If yes, which days per week? \_\_\_\_\_

**School Clubs:**

*For each club, meeting times/day of the week, frequency of meetings, after-school hours anticipated:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Teams:**

*List each academic team (other than Speech), times/days of meetings, dates/number of tournaments:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Service:**

*List all anticipated school-year community service. Be particularly careful to include any community service requiring after-school and/or Saturday hours.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Council:**

*If you are currently on Student Council or intend to run for a student council office (freshmen), please list the position, meeting dates, anticipated after-school hours, and Saturday hours.*

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**Retreats**

Please choose your retreat for the 2009-2010 school year and list the dates of that retreat:  
Once you are accepted on the speech team, you will be required to bring a confirmation from Campus Ministry Department that you have signed up for that particular retreat.

Retreat Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**School Performances (Theatre, Music, Dance, Choir, etc.):**

*If you are in one of the Orchestras, Chamber Singers, Choirs, Dance Company or anticipate auditioning for a school play/musical, please list the activity, anticipated after-school hours and Saturday rehearsal/performance dates/times.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Performance (Theatre, Music, Dance, etc.):**

*If you intend to participate in any community performance activities (Sacramento Children’s Chorus, Youth Symphony, Sacramento Ballet, RCTC, Folsom Theatre Company, El Dorado Theatre Company, Davis Theatre Company, etc.), please list the activity and anticipated times/dates of rehearsals/performances, especially after-school and Saturday daytime dates.*

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend two rehearsals per week. Each week, I will attend one school-day rehearsal during my free block or lunch block, and one after-school rehearsal, for the entire speech season.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed my calendar and determined that I will be able to attend at least 3 of the 4 regular-season Saturday tournaments (held on 9/19/09, 10/03/09, 11/14/09 and 1/30/10).

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed my calendar and determined what I will be able to attend **both** the NCFL Qualifier (Jan 23, 2010) **and** the two-day State Qualifier (Feb. 26-27, 2010).

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the Speech Team is an Academic Team, for which a letter grade will be assigned each semester. My grade will be based on my attitude, preparation, rehearsal attendance, tournament attendance, academic standing and team spirit. Tournament trophies be taken into consideration when the coaches determine my grade. I further understand that my semester letter grade will appear on my transcript but will not figure into my GPA.

\_\_\_\_\_ Here is an honest assessment of the events in which I am willing to compete. I understand that I am potentially more valuable to the team if I am flexible about my event choices, and I have made my selections with care. (Complete descriptions of all events are attached to this questionnaire. Questions about the events? Contact us at *speech@stfrancishs.org*)

**INTERPRETIVE EVENTS:**

- Humorous Interpretation:
- Thematic Interpretation:
- Dramatic Interpretation:
- Oratorical Interpretation:

**INTERESTED**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**NOT INTERESTED**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT-WRITTEN EVENTS:**

- Expository Speaking:
- Original Oratory:
- Original Advocacy:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT EVENTS:**

- Impromptu:
- National Extemporaneous Speaking:
- International Extemporaneous Speaking:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**EVENTS OFFERED ONLY AT COACHES’ DISCRETION:**

- Dramatic Duo:
- Original Prose/Poetry:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ I will notify my coaches immediately if it appears that I may be placed on academic probation. Students on academic probation cannot compete at tournaments.
- \_\_\_\_\_ My parents understand that at least one parent per family will be required to judge a **minimum of two** full-day regular season tournaments *and at least one* full-day qualifying tournament during the 2009-10 school year, running roughly from 7:45 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and that they will also be required to assist in a non-judging capacity when St. Francis hosts the State Qualifying Tournament on February 26-27, 2010.
- \_\_\_\_\_ My parents understand that they must complete the school fingerprinting process (see the Dean) and fill out a Driver Information form in August, so that they can serve as judges and occasional drivers for the team. This must be completed before September 19, 2009.
- \_\_\_\_\_ My parents understand that my participation on the Speech Team will involve one after-school rehearsal per week, and they are willing to make travel arrangements so that I can fulfill this requirement throughout the school year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ My parents and I understand that, if I am selected as a member of the 2009-2010 Speech Team, I will need to attend an important team meeting on **the afternoon of Saturday, August 22**, beginning at 2:00 p.m. (Location to be announced.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **My parents understand that at least one parent for each team member must attend a mandatory Parent Meeting on September 2, 2009, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at St. Francis High School, and one of them will plan to attend. This will last until at least 6:30 p.m. Students do not attend this meeting.**

If you or your parents have questions that you would like us to answer before you make a decision about trying out for the Speech Team, please feel free to contact Mrs. Myers, the team's Head Coach, at [speech@stfrancishs.org](mailto:speech@stfrancishs.org)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

**YOU MUST BRING THIS COMPLETED FORM,**  
**INCLUDING A COPY OF YOUR 2009-2010 SCHEDULE,**  
**WITH YOU TO YOUR AUDITION**

*(See the next pages for the 2009-2010 Speech Tournament Calendar and for full descriptions of all twelve speech events.)*

**CAPITOL VALLEY FORENSIC LEAGUE**  
**2009-2010 SPEECH TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

|                      |                               |                            |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| September 19, 2009   | Speech "A" Events + Debate    | Ponderosa High School      |
| October 3, 2009      | Speech "B" Events + Debate    | Mira Loma High School      |
| November 14, 2009    | Speech A/B Mix Tournament     | (Location to be announced) |
| January 23, 2010     | National Catholic Qualifier   | McClatchy High School      |
| January 30, 2010     | Speech A/B Mix                | Highlands High School      |
| February 26-27, 2010 | Speech State Qualifier        | St. Francis High School    |
| April 15-19, 2010    | State Tournament              | Bakersfield, CA            |
| May 27-31, 2010      | *National Catholic Tournament | Omaha, Nebraska            |

\*NOTE: Underclassmen who qualify to compete at the National Catholic Forensic Tournament in Omaha, Nebraska, will need to take their final exams in English and Theology on Thursday, June 3, instead of Thursday, May 28, 2010. The administration has already approved this change.

## SPEECH EVENTS

**Each student will participate in one “A” event and one “B” event throughout the season. Coaches will help team members to select their events.** Please note that each event title, below, is followed by a designation of (A) or (B).

### INTERPRETIVE EVENTS:

**HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION (A):** A humorous selection from a short story, novel, play or script. The student is encouraged to portray multiple characters and to offer a large and lively performance. Performed from memory. Script provided by coaches. 10-minute maximum.

**THEMATIC INTERPRETATION (A):** Three or more short selections (from short stories, novels, plays or scripts) are combined around a central theme. Selections can be serious, humorous, or a blend. For Thematic Interpretation, students are required to perform from a written manuscript. Script provided by coaches. 10-minute maximum.

**DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION (B):** A dramatic selection from a short story, novel, play or script. The student is encouraged to portray multiple characters and to offer an emotionally intense performance. Performed from memory. Script provided by coaches. 10-minute maximum.

**ORATORICAL INTERPRETATION (B):** Required for freshmen and sophomores. A selection from an actual speech given by a public figure. Speech may be humorous, serious, or a blend. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders compete for a chance to attend the National NCFL Tournament in Omaha, Nebraska. 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders cannot compete in this event at NCFL but can compete in it for the State Tournament. Performed from memory. Script provided by coaches. 10-minute maximum.

### ORIGINAL EVENTS:

**EXPOSITORY SPEAKING (A):** The student writes a factual speech on a topic of their own choice, then constructs illustration boards and/or props to enhance the speech, which can be humorous, serious, or a blend. These speeches should be lively, fast-paced and informative. Performed from memory. Coaches will assist with editing of the student’s original speech and ideas for illustration boards and props. 10-minute maximum.

**ORIGINAL ORATORY (A):** The student writes an informative or opinion speech on a topic of their own choice. No illustrations or props are allowed. Speeches can be serious, humorous or a blend, but must be truthful. Performed from memory. Coaches will assist with editing of the student’s original speech and will offer advise on the speech’s topic. 10-minute maximum.

**ORIGINAL ADVOCACY (B):** The students chooses a topic about a problem that exists in the world today, then writes an original speech that advocates a specific legislative and/or regulatory government action that will help solve that problem. Research and critical thinking are required. “Shallow thinking and broad generalization do not provide adequate basis for drawing conclusion.” Students are encouraged to pick a topic about which they feel strongly. Performed from memory. 10-minute maximum.

(continued)

## **CURRENT EVENTS:**

**IMPROMPTU (A):** Prior to the tournament, students will learn a variety of methods for organizing an impromptu speech, and will then practice giving impromptu speeches at their rehearsals. At the tournament, the student will be given a choice of three words (or three phrases or three quotations, depending on the round). They will have two minutes to choose one and plan their presentation; they will then speak on that topic for a maximum of five minutes.

## **NATIONAL EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING (B): and INTERNATIONAL EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING (B) (Coached separately by Mrs. Clark):**

In the weeks prior to the tournament, the student will become familiar with either national or international current events by watching televised news and reading newspapers and magazines, especially Time, Newsweek, and U.S. News and World Report. Part of their rehearsal time will go toward helping the team to create and maintain an evidence box of research which they can take with them to the tournament. The rest of their rehearsal time will be spent learning how to construct and present answers to current-event questions.

At the tournament, the student will be shown three current-event questions. They will choose one, and will then have thirty minutes in which to create a five- to seven-minute factual presentation that responds to that current-events question.

## **EVENTS THAT CAN ONLY BE DONE AT COACHES' DISCRETION:**

**DRAMATIC DUO (A):** Two students perform a selection from a movie, play, short story or novel. Each student can portray one or more characters. Off-stage focus (rather than looking at each other) must be used. Students must be well-matched in terms of ability and must have a common free block or after-school rehearsal time consistently available to be considered for Dramatic Duo. All potential pairings for Duo must be approved by the coaches. Performed from memory. 10-minute maximum.

**ORIGINAL PROSE/POETRY (B):** The student writes her own short story, poetry, personal essay, song lyrics, etc. Participation by a student in Original Prose and Poetry is solely at the discretion of the coaches, based on both the quality of the material the student has written and the student's ability to perform the material well. Performed from memory. 10-minute maximum.

*Do you have questions about any of these events? Would you like to listen to audio tapes or view video tapes or DVDs that show award-winning presentations in these events? Contact Mrs. Myers at [speech@stfrancishs.org](mailto:speech@stfrancishs.org) to request access to our Speech Event Archives.*