



## IMPROMPTU SPEAKING GUIDELINES

Impromptu was developed to encourage increased student participation in Concours at the grades 9 - 12 level and heighten interest in public speaking. As a natural evolution from the student's "discours" experience, Impromptu provides an opportunity for students to use their writing and research skills, as well as their presentation skills. Impromptu can readily be incorporated into the FSL curriculum.

1. Before beginning Impromptu practice it is recommended that the basics of Speech writing be reviewed with the students.
2. Practice with your students often to allow for the development of research and writing skills that are fundamental to achieving ease of expression for several types of public speaking; serious, humorous, argument, etc.
3. Select a topic for students to address, keeping the subject broad enough to allow for personal interpretations. (i.e. Winter in Canada, Music in Your Life, Dining alone etc.) Students should be given different topics to allow for unique ideas.
4. Students may use a dictionary or thesaurus; however, caution against over-researching as time is limited and speech construction should be the primary focus.
5. Students should become accustomed to using 15 minutes to prepare notes and cue cards. Several minutes of this time should be reserved for going over their notes to prepare for the speech. Speaking time is limited to 2-4 minutes; therefore, notes should be constructed accordingly (i.e. 1 card for each major point = x number of minutes)
6. Familiarize the students with the criteria to be used by the judges. These will be the same as regular speeches, HOWEVER, questions will not be asked.
7. When your students have shown an understanding of this activity through practice and improvement you will be ready to choose representatives for the provincial Concours. Please contact your Divisional Language Coordinator to find out about divisional and provincial finals.
8. This category is combined (i.e. French: Communication and Culture, French Immersion and French First Language).