**Rubric for Oral Debate – Grade 9 Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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|  |  | **Fully meeting expectations, with enriched understanding (EU)** | **Fully meeting grade level expectations (FM)** | **Mostly meeting grade level expectations (MM)** | **Not yet meeting grade level expectations (NY)** |
| **Message/Meaning** | **Clear purpose** | There was no doubt in the audience’s mind as to your position in the debate. You supported your position with highly convincing arguments. | You stated your position clearly and convincingly. | With assistance, you were able to state your position and provide arguments. More research would provide ideas and evidence to support your argument. | You needed more assistance to clearly identify your position and outline your key points. What are you trying to say, and how can you convince others? |
| **Relevant material** | Your arguments were well-supported and convincing. You used a wide variety of quality resources. | You supported your position with relevant, accurate details and explanations. You used a variety of sources. | You needed help to support your position. Use research to determine the key arguments. Spend more time gathering and organizing information before forming your argument. | You needed more assistance while you were doing your research. How many sources did you find? Were they relevant to your topic? |
| **F**  **Focus on audience** | The audience was highly engaged in the debate. You did an excellent job of holding their attention and explaining your position. | Your topic was of interest to your audience and the information you provided enhanced your audience’s understanding of your position | With help, you were able to add some interesting information to your speech. Before writing, spend more time thinking about who will be listening to your speech and how you can make the topic interesting for the audience. | Ask yourself what topic most interests you and how you can make that topic interesting to others. |
| **Organization** | **Consideration of opposing arguments** | You did an excellent job of thinking on your feet, recognizing your opponents’ arguments, and used strong sources to counter their claims. | You analyzed the oral statements made by your opponents and addressed their concerns, biases, and counterclaims. You referred to multiple authoritative sources. | You needed some help to pick out the arguments made by your opponents. When preparing for a debate, remember to consider what the other side will say. Check out a variety of sources on both sides of the resolution. | When preparing for a debate, ask for help to find information on both sides of the topic. Think about how you would win an argument at home. |
| **Differentiation of fact from opinion** | You had strong evidence to support your arguments. You pushed your opponents to support their opinions with evidence. | You were able to differentiate fact from opinion in your opponents’ arguments and support your position with detailed reasoning and examples. | To distinguish fact from opinion you must be very familiar with the arguments on both sides of the resolution. Spend more time talking about your ideas with a partner. | To effectively argue both sides of a resolution, you need to think about how opinions and facts are different. |
| **Content** | You used clear and concise arguments. Ideas were clearly related to your topic and provided strong evidence to support your position. | You were able to stick to your topic, group related ideas, use examples and provide evidence to support your position. | With help, you were able to group related ideas and support your argument with evidence. Ask yourself: does this information relate directly to the argument I am making right now? | Go back to your graphic organizer to be sure all ideas relate to your topic. Ask for help to find evidence to support your key points. |
| **Beginning, middle, conclusion** | Your speech was very well organized. The introduction grabbed the audience’s attention and the conclusion left them thinking. The details in the body contributed in an interesting way to your argument. | You presented your arguments in a logical sequence. In the beginning you identified your position and main arguments. In the middle, you provided supporting evidence and details. In the conclusion, you generalized the comments and arguments presented. | You needed some assistance to organize your speech in a logical sequence. Spend more time in the planning stage and ask for feedback on your outline before moving forward. Share your speech with a partner to see if it seems to flow well. | Let’s work together to see if we can organize your ideas into a beginning, middle and end. Your graphic organizer will help organize your ideas. |
| **Style and Language Choices** | **Body language** | You adjusted your body language to fit your message. You looked very comfortable during the debate and like you enjoyed “performing” for the audience | You used expressive body language which matched your message and helped to hold your audience’s attention | Practice speaking in front of a mirror and pay attention to your body language. Are there times during your speech when you could use body language to get your audience’s attention? | Watch the body language of other speakers. What do they do at different times during the speech to gain the audience’s attention? |
| **Facial expression** | It was a pleasure to watch your facial expression during the debate. It was almost like the audience could read your thoughts by looking at your expression. | You used expressive facial expressions which matched your message and helped to hold your audience’s attention. | Don’t be afraid to show your thoughts and emotions in your facial expressions during a debate. What do people look like when they are thinking and debating? | Practice your speech in front of a mirror and notice your facial expressions. How can you change your facial expression to add interest to your words? |
| **Expressive tone** | Your effective use of expressive tone contributed to the audience’s engagement during the debate. | You adjusted your tone to suit your audience and purpose. Your tone enhanced the effectiveness of your speech | Record yourself while practicing your speech. Are there certain sections that require more emphasis or expression? | Show your interest in your topic by changing your tone of voice. Practicing your speech will make you more comfortable speaking in front of an audience. |

**Feedback:**