Oral Communication — Practice Test

Ontario English, Grade 12, University Preparation (ENG4U) • 25 questions

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

1 **A seminar leader who paraphrases a participant point is**

- A showing agreement with the point
- B checking understanding before moving the discussion forward
- C ending the discussion on that point
- D repeating the point to fill time

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2 **Rhetorical questions in a speech work mainly by**

A requiring an immediate spoken answer

B proving the speaker is uncertain

C replacing evidence with opinion

D prompting listeners to think about an issue

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3 **When a speaker acknowledges a strong opposing argument, the effect is often to**

A confuse the audience completely

B end the speech early

C strengthen credibility by showing fairness

D weaken the speaker own case

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4 **A persuasive speech that relies only on emotion risks**

A using too many examples

B failing to convince listeners who want reasons and evidence

C being too short for the audience

D sounding too formal and distant

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5 **In a formal debate, the role of the second speaker is often to**

A rebuild the team case and answer the other side attacks

B repeat the first speaker word for word

C introduce the topic for the first time

D give the final summary only

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6 **A speaker who adapts a talk for a new audience should change**

- A the thesis in every case
- B the length to exactly ten minutes
- C the topic to a new subject
- D examples and level of detail to suit listener knowledge

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7 **The most reliable sign that an audience is following a complex talk is**

- A listeners taking no notes at all
- B applause at the start of the talk
- C listeners asking questions that build on earlier points
- D complete silence throughout the talk

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8

A panel moderator who keeps time fairly is

A avoiding difficult questions

B protecting equal speaking opportunity for all members

C favouring the most experienced member

D shortening the discussion needlessly

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9

When presenting research orally, a speaker should

A distinguish findings from personal opinion clearly

B present opinions as findings

C hide the research methods used

D list every source in full aloud

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10 **An impromptu speech is best approached by**

A listing every idea that comes to mind

B speaking until time runs out

C apologizing for lack of preparation

D choosing one main point and supporting it briefly

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11 **A speaker who uses a pause after a key statistic is**

A waiting for applause from listeners

B signalling the end of the speech

C giving listeners time to grasp its significance

D showing uncertainty about the number

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12 **In a group presentation, smooth transitions between speakers show**

- A that the talk is too long
- B planning and a shared sense of structure
- C that one speaker wrote the whole talk
- D that speakers memorized each other parts

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13 **A listener who identifies a logical fallacy is noticing**

- A an argument whose reasoning does not support its conclusion
- B a speaker who speaks too quietly
- C a speech with no examples
- D an argument with too much evidence

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14 **The appeal to authority in a speech is strongest when**

A the authority is famous in any field

B the authority agrees with the speaker

C the authority is quoted at length

D the authority is a genuine expert on the topic

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15 **A speaker who previews the structure of a talk helps listeners to**

A skip to the conclusion early

B ignore supporting details

C follow the argument as it unfolds

D memorize the whole talk

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16 **When a discussion grows heated, a skilled participant will**

A attack the other person character

B restate the issue calmly and focus on reasons

C raise the voice to match others

D leave the discussion at once

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17 **A keynote style talk differs from a classroom report mainly in that it**

A aims to inspire or reframe thinking for a large audience

B contains no evidence at all

C is always read from a script

D avoids any main point

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18 **The best response to a hostile question is usually to**

A answer with equal hostility

B refuse to answer any question

C change the topic immediately

D answer the substance calmly without accepting unfair premises

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19 **A speaker who cites a source orally should give**

A only the author first name

B no detail at all

C enough detail for listeners to identify the source

D the full bibliography aloud

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20 **When evaluating a speech, content should be judged before delivery because**

- A audiences prefer style to substance
- B a polished delivery cannot rescue a weak argument
- C delivery never matters at all
- D content is always easy to judge

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21 **A discussion question that asks for evidence will**

- A push participants beyond opinion toward support
- B end the discussion quickly
- C force a single correct answer
- D discourage quiet members

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22 **A speaker who uses inclusive language is**

A using only formal vocabulary

B avoiding all pronouns

C speaking to one group only

D choosing words that do not exclude listeners

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23 **The main risk of reading a speech word for word is**

A forgetting the thesis

B making the speech too short

C losing connection with listeners through flat delivery

D speaking too loudly

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24 **A good closing line for a persuasive talk**

A apologizes for the talk length

B leaves listeners with a clear call to thought or action

C repeats the opening line exactly

D introduces a new topic

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25 **When a team plans a debate, the strongest preparation is to**

A anticipate the other side best arguments and prepare replies

B memorize one speech perfectly

C avoid discussing the topic together

D choose the easiest arguments only

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ANSWER KEY

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. D
7. C
8. B
9. A
10. D
11. C
12. B
13. A
14. D
15. C
16. B
17. A
18. D
19. C
20. B
21. A
22. D
23. C
24. B
25. A

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