

## Instructions for the Four-Way Test Speech Contest

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 12:00 PM

**Location:** Temple Theatre

### Prizes:

- 1st Place: \$100
- 2nd Place: \$50
- 3rd Place: \$25

### Contest Overview:

Our club is hosting a speech contest as part of the District Four-Way Test Speech Competition. The winner of our club contest will advance to the District Semi-Finals. The main goal of this contest is to develop future leaders by promoting ethical behavior.

### Advancement & District Competition Details:

- **District Semi-Finals:** Saturday, May 10, 2025, at 10:00 AM via Zoom
  - The top three contestants from the Semi-Finals will each receive \$100 and move on to the District Finals.
- **District Finals:** Saturday, June 7, 2025, at the District Conference
  - **Location:** The Lodge at Paris Landing (State Park), 400 Lodge Road, Buchanan, TN 38222
  - **District Prizes:**
    - Winner: \$2,500
    - 1st Runner-Up: \$1,500
    - 2nd Runner-Up: \$1,000

### Contest Rules & Resources:

- The method of selecting the club's winner is at the discretion of our club.
- Complete contest rules can be found on page 2 of the official contest document.
- Additional support materials are available on the District 6760 website under the "Resources" section: [www.rotary6760.org](http://www.rotary6760.org) (Select "Four-Way Test Speech Contest").
- Examples of past speech winners can be viewed at: [www.youtube.com/user/rotaryspeechcontest](https://www.youtube.com/user/rotaryspeechcontest).

We encourage all eligible participants to prepare and compete for a chance to represent our club at the District level!

### Contacts

Lacy Perkins, President [lperkins@thefarmersbank.net](mailto:lperkins@thefarmersbank.net)

Sonja Schuette, Secretary [sonja@davisbrownpcpas.com](mailto:sonja@davisbrownpcpas.com)

Daniel Burgess, Chairman  
Rotary District 6760  
Four Way Test Speech Contest  
cell 217-719-9658

## **Rotary District 6760 Four Way Test Speech Contest**

### **2025 Contest Rules**

Grade: All contestants must be in the 9-12th grade at time of club contest competition.

Speech Topic: Each contestant shall choose the topic of his/her speech. The purpose of the speech is to address an ethical problem using the principles of the 4-Way Test. The problem to be addressed should be something from the speaker's personal experience or general knowledge. There are no restrictions regarding the choice of topic as long as it is not blatantly offensive. If a contestant or coach is in doubt about the appropriateness of a topic, he or she should check with the Club Contest Chair or Club President. The decision of the Contest Chair or Club President will be final.

In the speech, the topic must be specifically related (connected) to the Rotary 4-Way Test. **This must be addressed during the body of the speech and not reserved for concluding statements only. Each one of the four parts of the Four Way Test should be addressed during the speech.** They should be specifically stated, as the intent of the speech is to use the Four Way Test to guide one's decision making about an issue. Examples of previous speeches can be found at [www.youtube.com/user/rotaryspeechcontest](http://www.youtube.com/user/rotaryspeechcontest).

These are to be speeches and not dramatic presentations. Content should be relevant and in good taste.

All speeches must be the original work of the speaker.

Speech Length: Speeches must be **at least 4 minutes and no more than 6 minutes in length.** Two penalty points will be deducted from the contestant's score for each 15 second violation of time constraints either under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes.

Props: **No props are to be used.** Audience participation will be considered a prop. Two points per infraction will be deducted for use of props.

Notes: Contestants may use note cards as an aid at the club level competition, Semi-finals and Finals. The use of note cards is to be done judiciously. **Use of note cards may result in point deductions if a judge determines it to be excessive. Five points for excessive use of note cards will be deducted.**

Former District Winners are not eligible to compete.

The Four-Way Test:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

**Judge's Scoring Sheet**

<b>Items to be Judged</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b><u>CONTENT</u></b>							
Practical application of the 4-Way Test 5 points for each point covered—all four points should be covered	<b>20</b>						
Uses examples from peer group experience	<b>8</b>						
Human interest appeal and color	<b>8</b>						
Clarity and expressiveness of language and vocabulary	<b>8</b>						
<b>SUBTOTAL OF POINTS FOR CONTENT</b>	<b>44</b>						
<b><u>ORGANIZATION</u></b>							
Introduction: captures audience attention and establishes major theme of the speech	<b>8</b>						
Development: ideas presented, supported and explained in clear logical order with smooth transitions	<b>8</b>						
Conclusion: emphasizes major theme in the speech, leaving the audience with a clear, concise message or point of application	<b>8</b>						
<b>SUBTOTAL OF POINTS FOR ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>24</b>						
<b><u>DELIVERY</u></b>							
Clear enunciation of words; limited use of unnecessary expressions i.e. "uh, you know, OK"	<b>8</b>						
Good vocal projection, voice expressiveness, tone and pace	<b>8</b>						
Good eye contact and rapport with the audience	<b>8</b>						
Relaxed yet commanding use of posture and gestures	<b>8</b>						
<b>SUBTOTAL OF POINTS FOR DELIVERY</b>	<b>32</b>						
<b>MAXIMUM TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>100</b>						
(Less) Penalty points (if any) reported by the timekeeper.							
(Less) Penalty points (if any) for use of props. (-2 points per infraction) or excessive use of note cards (-5 points).							
<b>NET POINTS</b>							

**RANKING**

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ROTARY DISTRICT 6760  
FOUR WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST

ROTARY YEAR 2025

Speaker Registration

Contestant's Name:  
(Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest(s) Attending the Competition:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Sponsoring Rotary Club: \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Contact Person's Name & Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Photograph & Video Release Permission:

I hereby grant permission to Rotary International, Rotary District 6760 and local Rotary Clubs the rights of my image, likeness and sound of my voice as recorded on audio or videotape without payment or any other consideration. I understand that my image may be edited, copied, exhibited, published or distributed and waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of my image or recording. I also understand that this material may be used in diverse educational settings within an unrestricted geographic area. Photographic, audio or video recordings may be used for the following purposes:

- Conference presentations
- Educational presentations or courses
- Informational presentations
- On-line educational courses
- Educational videos

By signing this release, I understand this permission signifies that photographic or video recordings of me may be electronically displayed via the Internet or in the public educational setting. I will be consulted about the use of the photographs or video recording for any purpose other than those listed above. There is no time limit on the validity of this release nor is there any geographic limitation on where these materials may be distributed. This release applies to photographic, audio or video recordings collected as part of the sessions listed on this document only.

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have completely read and fully understand the above release and agree to be bound thereby. I hereby release any and all claims against any person or organization utilizing this material for educational purposes.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If this release is obtained from a presenter under the age of 19, then the signature of that speaker's parent or legal guardian is also required.

Parent's or Legal Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or email by Friday, May 2nd, 2025 to:

Daniel Burgess  
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Brentwood, TN 37027

Email: Daniel.Burgess@multiylinelutions.com  
Phone: 217-719-9658