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**Sample 2023-2024 FAQ’s**

**District 5930 Four Way Test Speech Competition**

**(an opportunity for substantial scholarship awards)**

1. **What is the Rotary Four Way Test speech contest for high school students?**

Students give a 5-7 minute speech that illustrates the Four Way Test of Rotary International and how it applies to their lives, activities, goals, and/or interests. The Four Way Test of the things we think, say or do is: (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?

1. **Why should a high school student participate?**

In our world today, we talk a lot about ethics, yet little time is spent applying them in a thoughtful, considered way. The more opportunities we take to do this, the easier and better our decisions become. This is an opportunity that allows students to critically examine ethical principles and analytically and systematically apply them during a critical transitional time in their lives. Students will gain confidence and poise, and have the opportunity to win serious scholarship money.

1. **What are the details about the scholarships available?**

Students at the local \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [name of your club] CLUB competition on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will win $500.00 (first place), $300.00 (second place), and $200.00 (third place) [These figures were from a recent CC Rotary Club competition; insert your Club’s amounts]. These three students [Determine with your Area Coordinator how many students will advance to your Area competition] will advance to the AREA competition at \_\_\_\_\_\_:00 \_\_m on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_\_\_ [date of your Area competition] at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_[location].

The top three students at the AREA competition will win $500.00 (first place), $250.00 (second place), $150 (third place), and $50 (fourth place) (these amounts are subject to change). [These figures were from Area 5 (Corpus Christi) from a recent competition; insert your Area’s amounts] The thirteen Area winners will compete at the District Competition will be at the Harlingen Convention Center in Harlingen, Texas on **Saturday, April 27, 2024,** starting at 9:00 am; students need to sign-in by 8:15 am. The top three students at the District Competition will win $1,500, $1,000, and $750. Every student competing at the District level will win at least $100, and the top three will also receive a certificate. If a student won first place at each of these three levels, he or she would win about $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in scholarships. [Insert number based on your Club’s and Area’s amounts. If this is not yet settled consider: “would earn very substantial scholarship funds”]

Unlike many scholarship competitions that are geared to seniors, students in all grades are eligible to win scholarships.

The winning contestants from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [your Club’s name] Club competition MUST attend the Area and District competitions if they advance to either (or both) of these levels (if they do not, they forfeit scholarship winnings). District scholarships will only be awarded to those who have competed at all three levels: Club, Area, and District.

The winners of the Club competition, the Area competition, and the District competition, will be sent a check in the amount of the award, or their awards will be paid to the student’s college before the student’s freshman year in college, as each Club and Area, determine most appropriate. Students at the District competition will receive their checks that day or shortly thereafter.

1. **What is the date and time of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**[Your Club’s name] **Club’s competition, and where will it be held?**

The competition will be held on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_.m. at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Lunch will be provided immediately after the competition that will be free to the students [Optional]. Friends, parents, or school personnel are welcome to join us at their cost. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [number of] winning students will be announced at the conclusion of this lunch. All students need to be present by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_.m to sign in before the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_.m. starting time, and they must stay until the lunch concludes. Who speaks in what order will be determined by lottery. Students may, but are not required to be, in the room when other students give their speeches.

1. **What high schools will compete in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** [your Club’s name] **Club’s competition on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** [date of your Club’s competition]

Students from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [insert schools assigned to your Club] will compete in the Club competition on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_\_\_.

1. **How does the competition work?**

Students must be currently enrolled in one of the schools listed above to compete in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [insert your Club’s name] Club’s competition (other Rotary Club’s host their own similar competitions). Up to 18 students [recommend no more than 3 per school; 18 used here for a Club that had 6 schools in 2016] can compete on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_\_\_ [date of your Club’s competition] [Determine this with your Area Four Way Test Coordinator]. If more than three students have registered from each of the six schools, each school can have no more than three students participate. Who these three are from each school will be determined by year in school (preference is given to older students, since younger students will have more opportunities to participate later) (if still a tie (for example, five seniors from a single school register) the tie will be broken by random draw). If, however, for example, two of the above six schools do not participate, it is okay if more than three students come from one or more of the four participating schools, but in no event will more than 18 students compete at the Club level on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [date of your competition].

Ideally, the school holds its own Four-Way Test competition to determine which student who will have compete in the initial Club competition. Student of course must be enrolled in the school.

Parents, family and friends, and school personnel are welcome to attend any of the three competitions (Club, Area, and District).

1. **How are the students judged?**

No essay is required. Contestants’ speeches will be scored 50% on Content (this includes 20% of the total score addressing the specific points of the Four Way Test), 30% on Organization, and 20% on Delivery. The speech must address each of the Four Way Test questions in a way that relates to the life of someone 14-18 years old. Sometimes students give a great speech but do not apply the Four Way Test in doing so. Such a speech will score poorly because following the Four Way Test theme throughout is 20% of the score. The judging score sheet is attached.

The speech must be original work, and not previously used in a UIL (or other) competition.

Speeches that fall outside of the 5-7 minute time frame will be disqualified.

Note cards are allowed, but they will likely result in point deductions for delivery if relied on too heavily. The speech cannot be read. To maximize a student’s chance to score well, it is advisable to not use note cards. Other than one instance at the Area & District competitions, I have seen none of the top three students use note cards. Most students at District did not use note cards.

1. **Who judges the students?**

A three or five member panel of members of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [name of your Club] Club will judge the students at the Club competition on [Date]. Rotary members from various Rotary Clubs will judge at the Area and District competitions. The judges will not be told what school a student is from or the students’ names before they score the speeches.

1. **Other points.**
2. One or more of our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [number] Club winners will have the opportunity to give their speech to our Club at its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ luncheon [or breakfast or dinner] [the Area competition must be completed by April 10, 2024; Club competitions need to be held before March 30, 2024; recommend that Area occur promptly after the Club competition; doing this in effect gives students the chance to practice before the Area competition]. This lunch is free to the students. Parents or school personnel are welcome to attend at their expense.
3. A first place District winner in any prior year is not eligible to compete again.
4. **What is the deadline to sign up for this competition, and how**

**does a student sign up?**

A fully completed registration form must be delivered to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [name of your Club] Rotary Club’s Four Way Test chairman, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [name of your Club’s Four-Way Test chair] by 4:30 pm on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ [date of your Club chair’s choice]. Delivery can be by mail or personal delivery to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [address] or by fax (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) (but NOT by email) [recommended: It is too easy for an email to get waylaid or caught in a spam folder]. Registrations delivered late will not be considered.

There is no registration fee. See the last page here for the form to register.

1. **What is Rotary International?**

Rotary is a service organization that works to make the world the best place it can be. It does so by completing service projects all over the world and by investing in our youth. Rotary, for example, has been instrumental in almost eliminating polio from the globe, and is working hard to achieve that noble objective.

1. **How do I get more information about the competition?**

Contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [name of your Club Four Way Test chair] at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [phone] or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [email] from 9-12 or 1-5, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Student Application for the [name of your Club] Club’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [date] Four Way Test Competition**

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

School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Year I am in school (freshman, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents(s)’ name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)’ phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)’ email(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I agree to the following:

* 1. The speech that I will present on April 27, 2024 will be my original work for this competition, and will not be a speech that I have previously used in a UIL or other competition. I may use the speech that I gave at my Rotary Club or Rotary Area competition.
  2. I recognize that the Rotary District Four Way Test competition will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024.
  3. By signing below I agree that my speech will likely be recorded, and it likely will be placed on the Rotary District 5930 web site where others can view it, and/or it may be placed on Youtube. You are not required to agree to this paragraph 3 to compete on April 27, so if you do not wish you have your April 27, 2024 speech posted online, please cross out this paragraph 3 and place your legible initials in the right margin.
  4. I will email this complete form to the coordinator for the April 27, 2024 competition, Anna Putegnat Garcia (annaputegnat@gmail.com), no later than 5:00pm on April 14, 2024.
  5. I will attend the competition’s orientation that begins promptly at 8:15am on Saturday, April 27, 2024 in the Harlingen Convention Center, 701 Harlingen Heights Drive, Harlingen, TX. Barring some true emergency I will not be late for this critical 8:15am meeting.

Student’s signed name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On the date I signed this form I was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years old (if this is 17 or less, at least one parent or guardian must sign below)

Signed the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2024

Parent’s (or guardian’s) signed name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s (or guardian’s) printed name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2024