

Apologetics Tournament Room Tips

1. As you enter, place your belongings on the empty desk/table (usually to the side of the judges). Set your personal timer to 2:00. Don't turn it on yet!
2. Deep breath. Big smile.
3. Walk to the center of the judges. "Hello, my name is _____."
4. If the judges are quiet, ask something like, "May I take my topics?"
5. There will be slips of paper in front of the judges. Choose 2 slips of paper.
6. Return to the table/desk. Start your 2:00 timer counting down. Choose one of the topics and prepare for your speech. This is your 2 minutes of prep time. You can read through your speech and make notes on your note cards or write the speech on note cards using your Bible for reference.
7. When you hear the alarm, reset your timer to 0:00. Grab your topic slip, note cards, and timer.
8. Deep breath. Big smile.
9. Walk to the center of the judges.
10. Show the timer and say, "My timer is set to 0." Ask "Are the judges ready?"
11. Start the timer and place it on a judge's desk or table facing yourself. Give your speech. Say "Thank you" at the end. Turn off your timer. Tell and show the judges' the time of your speech.
12. Thank each judge while shaking his/her hand.
13. Gather your belongings.
14. Keep your topic slip, return the other slip upside down on the desk and leave the room.

It is very important you practice these steps at home! Muscle memory will kick-in when you are nervous to help you.