



Lions Australia
Multiple District 201 of
Lions Clubs International inc.

Australia, Papua-New Guinea
and Norfolk Island

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Guide to Judges - 2009/2010

The quest began in Queensland in 1964, and because of its popularity soon became a Lions project strongly supported by all Lions Districts involving thousands of contestants each year. It is now the envy of many countries throughout the world.

Our aim is to encourage personality development, confidence, self-expression, citizenship and leadership in young people. We ask our judges to help in doing this by selecting ultimately the "Youth of the Year" – a youth under 19 years of age, with poise and personality who can take his or her place in any community and who would be a fine ambassador for the youth of today whether travelling within Australia or overseas under the auspices of the Lions Clubs of MD201.

Such ambassadors must have a good knowledge and appreciation of local and world issues. Secondly and probably more importantly, they must be able to express themselves clearly and adequately at an interview when faced with unrehearsed questions, seeking opinions on topical matters or in delivering a short formal address.

The standard of competition is very high, especially at District, State and National levels. To assist you, we will summarise what Lions see as the objectives of Youth of the Year Quest judging:

- To select the youth most likely to lead and influence youth and society successfully.
- To select the youth who will be the best ambassador as representative of the youth of today.

After the contest, your advice privately to the contestants would be appreciated (without giving any points scored).

Your Role as a Judge

You will be supplied with a score sheet and a copy of the each contestant's entry form. In assessing the suitability of each contestant, judges should ascertain if the successful contestant is prepared to accept the responsibility of commitments of the next level.

1. The Score Sheet

Indicates the categories to be judged and the points allocated to each. The points for each category cannot be altered, however the Youth of the Year Quest Committee does not set a breakdown of points within the categories.

The score sheet has six (6) categories for your guidance. Within each category, there are suggestions that may or may not be applicable or adequate in the case of every contestant. They are certainly not definitive or exhaustive and we ask you to use fair discretion in assessing each contestant in each category.

There is no predetermined stereotype for the successful contestant. The committee would like each one to be judged as a unique individual, with individual characteristics, interests and abilities.

2. The Entry Form

Supplies a source for your question and discussions. Academic levels have to be compared for allocation of points, but for the rest, the contestant's manner and method of response are the real basis of judging.

www.lionsclubs.org.au/yoty

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3: Guide to Judging Categories

A) Private Interview: minimum time 30 minutes maximum time 40 minutes.

1. Leadership:

This can be assessed only from information supplied by the contestant, augmented by discussion of the duties and problems associated with the areas of leadership. Take into account: - age-group involved in areas of leadership. - Size of organisation and extent of activities, extent to which contestant's example influences others.

2. Sporting and/or Cultural Activities:

These are often direct alternatives, depending on natural ability. Participation implies similar elements - individual skill and effort, selection, training, teamwork, public competition and rewards. Additional credit is to be given if the candidate excels in both areas.

3. Citizenship and Community Involvement:

These include youth clubs, welfare, humanitarian and public associations. Assessment should be made on the extent of involvement shown on the contestant history sheet, augmented by discussion to determine the depth of the contestant's commitment.

4. Academic:

Obviously, point allocation in this category is comparative. Where applicable, judges should make allowance for the different assessment systems used by the different States, and be able to equate these.

5. General Knowledge:

These questions are prepared by the judging panel and should be selected collectively well before the start of the first interview. Please note that we are not interested in quiz-type or trick questions. We prefer the assessment to be made through discussions of a range of State, Australian and International affairs, during which the contestant's knowledge of relevant facts will become apparent. A prepared range of topics will: avert the temptation to spend too long on any one topic, be fairer to all contestants, conform with the aims of the Youth of the Year Quest. Please make a note of each contestant's topics for the 5 minutes prepared speech in the Public Function judging and avoid this topic during the interview.

6. Personality:

Your longest official period of contact with the contestants will be during the interviews, when they are in a state of considerable nervous tension. Therefore, we ask you to mingle informally with them whenever possible during the day. This unofficial contact is of great assistance in distinguishing between genuinely and superficially attractive personalities, and in assessment of the attributes listed in the personality category.

Please endeavour to create a relaxed atmosphere at all times during the judging, and encourage contestants in the objectives of the Youth of the Year Quest - confident self-expression and attainment of worthy goals.

B) Public Function Judging:

The contestant who wins the Public Speaking section of each Youth of the Year Quest judging will receive a certificate of recognition. The winner does not necessarily have to be the winner of the overall judging. The Public Speaking winner does not proceed to the next round unless they are also the overall winner.

1. Impromptu Questions:

These are included because the 5 minute prepared speech may be an over rehearsed and therefore an unrealistic example of the contestant's ability to respond spontaneously under pressure of publicity.

Each judge is asked to bring two sample questions to the first panel meeting, and to select between them the best two fitting these criteria:

- Concise phrasing arranged to draw contestant's opinion.
- Current affairs rather than overall general knowledge of Australia.
- Topical enough to allow a maximum 2 minute response commencing from the last word of the question read. A double bell is sounded after 2 minutes to signify the end of the allocated time.
- Avoidance of any 5 minute prepared speech topic.

The chairperson of the judging panel will present the questions in the same order to all contestants in the draw. A copy of each question will be placed before the contestant while being enunciated by the chairperson. The impromptu questions section will be completed by each contestant before the 5 minute prepared speeches begin.

2. Prepared Speeches:

The normal rules for public speaking apply, with a warning bell at 4 minutes and a double bell at 5 minutes. We ask for a simple, clear address in the time allowed, which holds the audience interest without being theatrical.

4: Category Allocation and Sub - section suggestions

Reminder: Categories and point allocations are fixed. Allocation of points within each category is at the discretion of the judging panel.

A) Private Interview: Total 80 points

The items listed below are suggestions only. They are not definitive or exhaustive. The judging panel may add or remove items if required

1. Leadership: School and/or Community: (15)

The ability to command respect and direct the development of others eg:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> School captain | <input type="checkbox"/> Form captain | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefect (or equivalent) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Vice captain | <input type="checkbox"/> S.R.C. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports or Team captain or Vice captain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peer group leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Non School Group Leadership roles | |

2. Sporting and/or Cultural Activities, school and/or community: (10)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <u>Participation in Sport:</u> | <u>Participation in Music, Drama, Art, literature:</u> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awards | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Drama |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Artistic | <input type="checkbox"/> Debating / Public speaking |
| <u>Representing in Sporting and Cultural at:</u> | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District | <input type="checkbox"/> State | <input type="checkbox"/> National |
| <u>Hobbies / Interests:</u> | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Range of Hobbies | <input type="checkbox"/> Other interests | |

3. Citizenship and Community Involvement: (10)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Councils / Forums | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Office or responsible positions held |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Overall attitude and conviction | |

4. Academic: (10)

Achievements in general studies during the past two years:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships held | <input type="checkbox"/> Special academic awards | <input type="checkbox"/> Subjects and levels passed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subjects and levels studied currently | | |

5. General Knowledge: (20)

Four questions prepared by judging panel are submitted in the same format to each candidate to test knowledge of National and International affairs in Australia/Papua New Guinea.

6. Personality: (15)

Impact of interview:

- | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maturity | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Confidence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sense of humour | <input type="checkbox"/> Friendliness | |

B) Public Speaking: Total 20 points

Refer also to "Suggested Guide to Marking" sheet.

1. Impromptu Questions: (5)

Chairman of judging panel to ask each contestant the same two questions, two (2) minutes maximum being allowed for each answer.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge and reasoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Coherence of presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Logical Exposition |
|--|--|---|

2. Prepared Speech: (10)

Five (5) minutes on subject of own choice:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opening impact | <input type="checkbox"/> Organisation of material in logical sequence | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge of topic | <input type="checkbox"/> Relative importance of topic | <input type="checkbox"/> Logical Exposition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engagement of audience | | |

Time penalties for less than 4 1/2 minutes or overtime.

3. Presentation: (5)

- | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Language | <input type="checkbox"/> Clarity / Diction | <input type="checkbox"/> Conviction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deportment | <input type="checkbox"/> Confidence | |

YOUTH OF THE YEAR - SUMMARY SHEET

CANDIDATES NAME										
										Leadership 15 points
										Sporting/ Cultural 10 points
										Citizenship/ Communtiy 10 points
										Academic 10 points
										General Knowledge 20 points
										Personality 15 points
										SUB TOTAL 80 points
										Impromptu Question 5 points
										Prepared speach 10 points
										Presentation 5 points
										SUB TOTAL 20 points
										TOTAL 100 points