

HOUSTONFEST

Pair Discussion

Critique Sheet

Contestant 1: _____ Contestant 2: _____

School: _____ School: _____

Judge's initials: _____ Beginning time: _____ Ending time: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

Please read the "Instructions to Judges" in your packet. Spread out the topic cards number-side-up on a table. Each contestant pair picks one topic card and shows you the number on the card so that you can look up which topic they have chosen on the master list provided in your packet. One judge should then begin timing the contestants for 30 seconds, during which both contestants may read the card and gather their thoughts silently. After 30 seconds, give the contestants a signal to begin discussing the topic. From this point, time them for 3 minutes. When they have 30 seconds remaining, raise your hand to signal them to wrap it up. Afterwards, set the topic card aside (do not return it to the deck of available cards), but do keep and return all cards in the judging packet.

RULES

Entry Limit: 2 entries (pairs) per school (Level 3 only)

Discussion time: 3 minutes (not including a 30-second reflection time)

A pair of contestants draws a topic instructing them to plan something (trip, purchase, celebration, etc.). Both are expected to make suggestions and voice opinions, to agree or disagree, and to make alternative suggestions. At the end of the discussion, they must come to an agreement. The topics will pertain to the daily life of teenagers. No contestant pairs will have the same topic. From the time the topic is drawn, the contestants may take up to 30 seconds to read the topic and gather their thoughts, but they may not speak to each other during this time. At the end of the 30 seconds, the contestants have 3 minutes to role-play the situation. The two team members will be scored independently of one another, but both scores will be added together to obtain the team score, i.e., contestants will be ranked and potentially advance to State as a team.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

1. **Content, Depth, and Organization:** The contestant discusses the topic accurately and appropriately and uses task-appropriate register. The contestant contributes to the discussion by making suggestions with a variety of points and justifications, by agreeing or disagreeing including a rationale, and by making alternative suggestions. (0-20 points)

<u>Contestant 1:</u>	<u>Contestant 2:</u>

2. **Voice, Diction, and Pronunciation:** Pronunciation is correct and understandable. Voice is audible and easily understood. The contestant speaks with different rates, pitches, and volumes to give vocal variety. (0-20 points)

<u>Contestant 1:</u>	<u>Contestant 2:</u>

3. **Language Style:** The contestant uses German intonation and sentence patterns and uses transitions so that speech flows in concise sentences, with logical connections. The contestant avoids non-German structures. (0-20 points)

<u>Contestant 1:</u>	<u>Contestant 2:</u>

4. **Complexity and Difficulty:** The contestant attempts advanced structures, appropriate to learner level. More credit is given for *correct* complex structures. Contestant uses a variety of level-appropriate and specific vocabulary. Use of circumlocution for a rare word is also given consideration. (0-20 points)

<u>Contestant 1:</u>	<u>Contestant 2:</u>

5. **Communication:** The contestant communicates well, is poised, and avoids distracting movements, but uses voice and body to emphasize points. The contestant uses a conversational rather than a presentational style. (0-20 points)

<u>Contestant 1:</u>	<u>Contestant 2:</u>

TOTAL POINTS: (100 possible) Contestant 1: _____ Contestant 2: _____

TOTAL SCORE: (200 possible) **Add the scores of Contestant 1 and Contestant 2:** _____

MORE COMMENTS TO HELP THE CONTESTANTS (Write on back if necessary.)

Contestant 1: _____ | Contestant 2: _____