

# State Spanish Creed Speaking Invitational Guide

## Objective

The FFA Creed outlines the organization's beliefs regarding the industry of agriculture, FFA membership, and the value of citizenship and patriotism. The Creed is recited by FFA members as part of the requirements to earn the Greenhand FFA Degree. The purpose of the State Spanish Creed Speaking Invitational is to develop the public speaking abilities of seventh, eighth, and ninth grade FFA members as well as to develop their self-confidence and contribute to their advancement in the FFA degree program.

### *A. Rules and Regulations*

1. This event is open to all FFA members in good standing who are regularly enrolled in an agricultural education course between grades seventh through ninth, during one or both semesters of the current school year.
2. Each chapter will determine the number of individuals allowed to compete at the state level.
3. The top three individuals will be ranked. Other participants are eligible to receive a bronze, silver, or gold rating. The top two individuals will qualify to compete in the National Spanish Creed Invitational held prior to National FFA Convention in the fall.
4. Each participant shall wear the official FFA dress as defined in the FFA Manual: a white collared shirt or blouse, official FFA tie or scarf, black trousers or skirt, black shoes, and FFA jacket. Points may be deducted for variance from official dress.
5. Participants will be held in isolation until their presentation. Participants will not be allowed to have contact with any outside persons. No cell phones or electronic devices with communication capabilities will be allowed in the holding room. Members found to have these items in their possession will be disqualified from the competition.
6. The FFA Creed must be presented from memory, without the use of index or note cards. Each participant shall begin the presentation by stating, "The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany." Each participant shall end the presentation with the statement "...that inspiring task. Thank you." Additional introductory or concluding remarks will result in accuracy deductions as indicated on the scoring rubric.
7. The event will include answering questions directly related to the FFA Creed. Each participant will be asked three questions per round, with a five-minute time limit for responses. Sample questions will not be available prior to the event. The questions and responses will be in Spanish.
8. One timer will record the time used by each participant in delivering the FFA Creed, and this timekeeper will also monitor the time used and available for the purpose of questions asked after the delivery of the FFA Creed.

## Judges Scoring Reference Sheet: Spanish Creed Speaking Invitational

Use this sheet as a reference to complete the Student Score Sheet with feedback for each participant.

### Oral Communication

Indicator	Very Strong Evidence of Skill is Present	Moderate Evidence of Skill is Present	Strong Evidence of Skill is Not Present
Pace	Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience	Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations	Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience
Tone	Voice is upbeat, impassioned and under control	Voice is somewhat upbeat, impassioned and under control	Voice is not upbeat; lacks passion and control
Volume	Emitted a clear, audible voice for the audience present	Emitted a somewhat clear, audible voice for the audience present	Emitted a barely audible voice for the audience present

### Non-Verbal Communication

Indicator	Very Strong Evidence of Skill is Present	Moderate Evidence of Skill is Present	Strong Evidence of Skill is Not Present
Eye Contact	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100 percent of the time)	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. Mostly looks around the audience (60-80 percent of the time)	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50 percent of the time)
Mannerisms and Gestures	Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points. No nervous habits	Sometimes exhibits nervous habits. Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize	Displays some nervous Habits. Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting
Poise	Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions)	Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure	Lacks confidence and composure

**Question and Answers**

Indicator	Very Strong Evidence of Skill is Present	Moderate Evidence of Skill is Present	Strong Evidence of Skill is Not Present
Response to questions	Is able to respond with organized thoughts and concise answers	Is able to speak effectively and sometimes gets off topic. Answer lacks organization	Response fails to answer question
Support	Always provides details which support answers/basis of the question	Usually provides details which are supportive of the answers/basis of the question	Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the answers/basis of the question
Knowledge of Agriculture	Answer shows knowledge of agriculture	Answer shows limited knowledge of agriculture	Answer shows no knowledge of agriculture

## Student Score Sheet: Spanish Creed Speaking Invitational

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Oral Communication – 30 points					
Indicator	Strong	Moderate	Low	Total Points	Comments
Pace 10 points max	8-10	4-7	0-3		
Tone 10 points max	8-10	4-7	0-3		
Volume 10 points max	8-10	4-7	0-3		
Non-Verbal Communication – 30 points					
Eye Contact 10 points max	8-10	4-7	0-3		
Mannerisms and Gestures 10 points max	8-10	4-7	0-3		
Poise 10 points max	8-10	4-7	0-3		
Question and Answer – 40 points					
Response to Questions 10 points max	8-10	4-7	0-3		
Support 15 points max	11-15	6-10	0-5		
Knowledge of Agriculture 15 points max	11-15	6-10	0-5		
Sub-total Points					
-1 point per second over 4 minutes, determined by the timekeeper.					
-5 points per word at the state event, determined by accuracy judge.					
Total Points					

General Comments:

## “El Credo de FFA” por E.M. Tiffany

Creo en el futuro de la agricultura, con una fe que no nace de las palabras sino de los hechos— logros conseguidos por las generaciones presentes y pasadas de agricultores; en la promesa de días mejores a través de mejores maneras, así como creo que las mejores cosas de las que gozamos hoy han llegado a nosotros como resultado de las luchas de años anteriores.

Creo que vivir y trabajar en una buena finca, o dedicarse a otras actividades agrícolas, es agradable, y al mismo tiempo es un reto, porque conozco las alegrías e inconvenientes de la vida agrícola y mantengo una afición innata por aquellas asociaciones que no le negaré ni siquiera en horas de desaliento. Creo en nuestro propio liderazgo y en el respeto a los demás.

Creo en mi propia capacidad de trabajar de manera eficiente y de pensar con claridad, con cuantos conocimientos y habilidades pueda adquirir, y en la capacidad de los agricultores progresistas para servir nuestros propios intereses y el interés público en la producción y la comercialización del producto de nuestro trabajo.

Creo en menos dependencia de la caridad y más poder en la negociación; en la vida abundante y en que haya suficiente riqueza honesta para ayudar a que así sea—tanto para los demás como para mí; sin necesidad de caridad y más de ella cuando sea necesario; creo en ser feliz y en ser más honesto con aquellos cuya felicidad depende de mí.

Creo que la agricultura de Estados Unidos puede y debe mantenerse fiel a las mejores tradiciones de nuestra vida nacional y que puedo ejercer influencia en mi hogar y en la comunidad, que se mantendrá firme por mi parte en esta inspiradora tarea.