An illustrated talk tells “how,” using visual aids. These aids can include charts, posters, photos, computer programs, slides, pictures, models or cut-outs. The presentation should have clearly identifiable sections including an introduction, main body, and conclusion.

The primary differences between an illustrated talk and a demonstration:

- An illustrated talk is talking and a demonstration is doing.
- An illustrated talk tells something while showing visuals, and a demonstration shows and tells how to do something.
- In an illustrated talk, the presenter uses pre-made charts, posters, photographs, computer programs, slides, pictures, models, and/or cutouts to support the information given. In a demonstration, the presenter may do the same, but also makes or does something to create a finished product.

Visual Aids

Visual aids are encouraged. Product labels should be limited to generic names and product names should be covered. The work area and table space used for the presentation should be used to the speaker’s best advantage. Handing out flyers and samples should not cause a distraction.

Length

Cloverbud, ages 5-7: 1-5 minutes
Junior/Intermediate, ages 8-13: 3-7 minutes
Senior, ages 14-18: 7-20 minutes

No specific point penalties will be applied for an illustrated talk over or under time suggestions. Judges may score a presentation at a lower quality if time was not used properly.

Number of Presenters

An individual presentation is delivered by one speaker. A team presentation is delivered by up to three speakers. Team members should divide work and speaking parts equally. An uneven distribution of work or speaking parts will impact the evaluation, as speakers are evaluated as a team.

Questions

Anyone may ask questions. Evaluators/judges generally ask questions first. Time for questions may be limited, if necessary for schedule.

Notes

Use of notes for illustrated talks is discouraged. Posters and/or visual aids should provide any necessary prompting.

Attire

Appropriate attire for the occasion. Costumes may be used.