

Public Speaking History and Technical Standards

Public Speaking · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. In what year was the Toastmasters International organization officially incorporated?

- A) 1924**
- B) 1932
- C) 1945
- D) 1950

2. According to the Guinness World Records, what is the length of the longest speech ever delivered by a single person in hours?

- A) 24 hours
- B) 48 hours
- C) 124 hours**
- D) 150 hours

3. What is the commonly accepted average speaking rate in words per minute for a public speaker in a formal presentation?

- A) 80-100
- B) 130-150**
- C) 200-220
- D) 250-300

4. Who is often cited as having delivered the 'Gettysburg Address' in 1863, which lasted approximately two minutes?

- A) George Washington
- B) Thomas Jefferson
- C) Abraham Lincoln**
- D) Ulysses S. Grant

5. The TED organization was founded in what year?

- A) 1974
- B) 1984**
- C) 1994
- D) 2004

6. Approximately how many words are in a standard 5-minute speech delivered at a normal pace?

- A) 300-400
- B) 650-750**
- C) 1000-1200
- D) 1500-2000

7. What is the maximum time limit for a standard prepared speech in a Toastmasters club meeting, typically?

- A) 5 minutes
- B) 7 minutes**
- C) 10 minutes
- D) 15 minutes

8. In 427 BC, which Greek orator was famously known for his funeral oration, marking a significant moment in the history of public speaking?

- A) Pericles**
- B) Demosthenes
- C) Socrates
- D) Plato

9. What percentage of the total communication process is attributed to body language according to the often-cited research by Albert Mehrabian?

- A) 38%
- B) 55%**
- C) 7%
- D) 25%

10. How many minutes long was the longest speech ever delivered in the U.S. Senate by Strom Thurmond in 1957?

- A) 1,440 minutes
- B) 2,418 minutes**
- C) 1,000 minutes
- D) 500 minutes

11. Which US President holds the record for the longest inaugural address, delivered in 1841?

- A) William Henry Harrison**
- B) James K. Polk
- C) Zachary Taylor
- D) Franklin Pierce

12. The National Forensic League, now known as the National Speech & Debate Association, was founded in what year?

A) 1900

B) 1925

C) 1950

D) 1975

13. In a standard 10-minute speech, how many main points do experts typically recommend to ensure audience retention?

A) 1-2

B) 3-5

C) 6-8

D) 10+

14. The first 'TED Talk' was recorded in California. In which city was the first conference held?

A) San Francisco

B) Monterey

C) Los Angeles

D) San Diego

15. How many seconds are typically recommended for a 'pausing' effect to emphasize a point during a speech?

A) 0.5-1 second

B) 2-3 seconds

C) 5-7 seconds

D) 10-15 seconds

16. Marcus Tullius Cicero, a famous Roman orator, lived during which century?

A) 1st Century BC

B) 3rd Century AD

C) 5th Century BC

D) 1st Century AD

17. What is the name of the professional association for public speakers founded in 1973?

A) National Speakers Association

B) Global Orators Guild

C) International Public Speakers Union

D) World Speech Federation

18. What is the minimum number of audience members required to constitute a 'public' speaking event for the purpose of formal debate competitions?

A) 1

B) 3

C) 5

D) 10