

Public Speaking History and Technical Standards

Public Speaking · Practice Test · 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