**Original Oratory Format**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic:</th>
<th>Notes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1. Introduction** – 2 min. | - Attention grabber-story, illustration, quote, humor, questions.  
- Link the A.G. to the rest of your speech  
- Background-why is this important? Why should we care?  
- Significance-Cite an authority to support your thesis.  
- Thesis-state a precise, concise thesis  
- Roadmap-tell the audience where you are going |
| **2. Problem** | - Explain the problem (focus on how, where and/or why)  
- Support your claims with:  
  - Facts (cite experts) Anecdotes (important, too).  
  - Use humor if possible  
  - Try to connect with your audience so that they can identify with your problem  
  - Clincher – drive your point home |
| **3. Effects** | - Explain how the problem negatively impacts society  
- Support your claims (as above) |
| **4. Solutions** | - Be careful with your solutions; some will not agree with you.  
- Be more serious in this section. Use a serious tone.  
- Don’t be too specific on solution but don’t be vague either.  
- If applicable, give institutional and personal solutions.  
- Be reasonable, be realistic, be inspirational. |
| **5. Conclusion** | - Transition-link back to your Attention Grabber is best.  
- Roadmap-review what you told the audience  
- Talk heart to heart-inspire your audience  
- Creative Clincher-use a full circle ending and connect back to your AG |

**Original Oratory** – This is a memorized, persuasive speech, which attempts to convince, inspire, stimulate thinking, or move the listener to action. The subject should be of political, economic, social, or philosophic significance and should be limited to a specific topic. The orator may use any suitable pattern of organization, which will provide a clear, logical development of his/her thesis. The oration should be the result of research, analysis, evaluation and personal conviction. An oration is not an essay; it is a speech. Thus, emphasis should be placed on oral communication and the student should remember that direct, communicative speech, not stilted or artificial delivery is their goal.

Check out the videos below:
NSDA '16 Original Oratory - Aekta Mouli (National Champion) "Off Balance, On Purpose"
NSDA '16 Original Oratory - Hanna Watson (National Runner-Up) "The Quantum Society"
NSDA '16 Original Oratory - Justin Cooper (3rd Place) "Open the Door"
NSDA '16 Original Oratory - Seth Herschkowitz (4th Place) "Drink Up"

*Note: there are other videos you can watch on YouTube. Just make sure they are NSDA speeches.*