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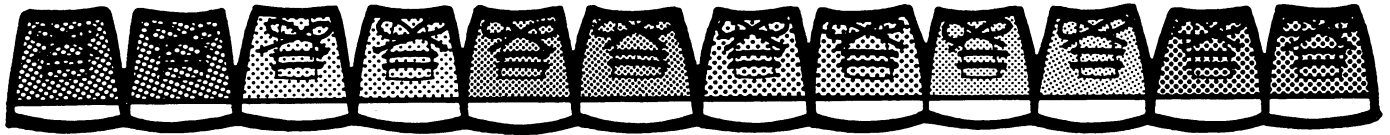
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Introduction

Today's teaching places a strong emphasis on reading, comprehending, memorizing, and repeating facts. Few assignments require students to analyze issues, form opinions, and present their own ideas. As a consequence, kids spend a lot of time learning how to **learn** but very little time learning how to **think**.

Think on Your Feet is a collection of open-ended topics designed to elicit student opinions without requiring extensive background research. Ranging from humorous to serious, these topics made perfect subjects for extemporaneous speeches and for creative or expository writing assignments.

The topics in Think on Your Feet have been divided into four sections: **Just for Fun**, **What If**, **General Topics**, and **Current Issues**. In general, the topics in the **Just for Fun** section exhibit a touch of whimsy. They require little factual knowledge and lots of imagination.



Speech Evaluation Form

5 = Outstanding 4 = Very Good 3 = Good
2 = Okay But Could Improve 1 = Needs Practice in This Area

Name: _____ Date: _____

Content

1. Began in an interesting and attention-getting manner. _____
2. Stuck to the topic throughout. _____
3. Supported opinion with at least three facts and/or examples. _____
4. Presented facts and/or examples in logical sequence. _____
5. Had a strong ending _____

Total Number of **Content Points** (possible = 25) _____

Delivery

1. Stood straight and tall. _____
2. Maintained good eye contact with the audience. _____
3. Spoke in a voice that was sharp and clear, and could be easily heard and understood. _____
4. Varied expression to make the speech interesting. _____
5. Spoke at a pace that was neither too fast nor too slow. _____

Total Number of **Delivery Points** (possible = 25) _____

Creative or Expository Writing Evaluation Form

5 = Outstanding 4 = Very Good 3 = Good
2 = Okay But Could Improve 1 = Needs Practice in This Area

Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Title is appropriate. | _____ |
| 2. Composition has a definite beginning, middle, and end. | _____ |
| 3. Opening sentence is interesting and attention-getting. | _____ |
| 4. Main idea is clearly stated. | _____ |
| 5. Main idea is well supported or explained. | _____ |
| 6. Words are spelled correctly. | _____ |
| 7. Punctuation marks are used correctly and consistently. | _____ |
| 8. Recognized grammar rules are followed throughout. | _____ |
| Total Number of Points Received (possible = 40) _____ | |

