



UNIVERSIDAD
SAN SEBASTIAN | FACULTAD
DE EDUCACIÓN



INTERESCOLAR

USS

TALK

• 2025 •

USS TALK CONTEST GUIDELINES

PUERTO MONTT



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CONTEST OBJECTIVE:

This contest invites 12 Year-11 students from Los Lagos Region to deliver an original TED Talk-style presentation on a relevant and meaningful topic. The goal is to inspire, inform, and provoke thought—just like the world-famous TED Talks.

The theme is open, but your talk must be rooted in ideas worth spreading, such as:

- Social justice and equity
- Environmental and climate issues
- Technology and its impact
- Mental health and well-being
- Education and personal growth
- Gender equality, inclusion, or identity
- Cultural perspectives in the 21st century
- Any other topic that reflects your vision and voice

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

- Open to all students currently enrolled in 3° Medio (Year 11) at any educational institution from Los Lagos Region (one per school).
- Participation has to be individual.

2. FORMAT & LENGTH

- Presentation style: TED Talk (3–5 minutes).
- Language: English.

3. STRUCTURE OF THE TALK

Your talk should have:

- A Hook: Start with something that captures attention (a story, a fact, a quote).
- A Clear Message: What is the main idea you want to communicate?
- Personal Voice: Share your perspective, stories, or lived experience.
- Conclusion: Leave your audience with something to remember—an idea, a challenge, or a reflection.



4. VISUAL AIDS (OPTIONAL)

- You may use slides, images, or video clips, but they should support—not dominate—your message.
- Visuals should be minimal, clear, and relevant.

5. DATES

The contest will take place on October 17th 2025 from 8:30-13:00, at Universidad San Sebastián, Puerto Montt.

6. REGISTRATION

Registration guidelines are as follows:

- Registration will remain open until all spots are filled (12 participants maximum / 1 per school).
- The registration form will only allow one ID (RUT) number.
- If your ID number ends with the letter K, use a capital letter.
- Submitting your application does not guarantee a spot in the competition. You will need to receive a confirmation email from the USS team of English Program.
- If you are placed on a waiting list and a spot opens up, you will be contacted via email.
- For further details or to clarify doubts, contact us at soledad.yermany@uss.cl

7. PRIZES

The competition will award:

1st Place	The winner receives a certificate and Gift Card \$80.000 CLP
2nd Place	Receives a certificate and Gift Card \$50.000 CLP
3rd Place	Receives a certificate and Gift Card \$40.000 CLP

8. JUDGING PANEL

The judging panel will consist of 3 members:

2 English teachers and a student from the English Pedagogy Program.

9. JUDGING CRITERIA

The panel will judge participants based on the following criteria:



- Originality and clarity of the idea
- Organization and structure
- Effectiveness of delivery and public speaking skills
- Personal engagement and authenticity
- Relevance and social impact of the topic

10. PR & PUBLICITY

Universidad San Sebastián holds the right to include any recordings, videos, or pictures from this event for any public relations or publicity actions. This includes social media and marketing venues.

11. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FACULTIES

- * The committee is entitled to disqualify any participant due to bad manners or misbehavior during the contest.
- * The committee does not provide feedback to any participant.
- * The committee holds the faculty to change the contest date.



RUBRIC FOR EVALUATION (TALK WITH USS)

Criteria	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Satisfactory (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
Relevance of Topic & Clarity of Message	Deeply engaging, timely topic with a powerful, clear message.	Relevant topic with a mostly clear message.	Topic somewhat relevant or message lacks clarity.	Weakly developed or off-topic; message is unclear or missing.
Structure & Coherence	Talk is logically organized with smooth transitions and a strong conclusion.	Mostly clear structure; transitions may be minorly awkward.	Structure is present but ideas feel disconnected.	Lacks structure or logical flow.
Delivery & Voice	Engaging, expressive, confident; uses voice effectively.	Clear delivery, with good pacing and some expression.	Delivery is understandable but lacks energy or varies too much in pace.	Monotone, rushed, too quiet, or unclear.
Personal Connection & Originality	Speaker's personality and ideas shine; fresh and authentic voice.	Some originality and personal connection.	Limited personal voice or predictable approach.	No sense of personal voice; content feels copied or generic.
Audience Engagement	Strong eye contact, gestures, and connection with the audience.	Occasional audience connection; mostly effective.	Limited engagement; speaker may look down or avoid interaction.	Speaker does not engage audience; overly reliant on notes or slides.
Use of Visuals (optional)	Visuals (if used) clearly enhance the talk and support the message.	Visuals support the talk but are not essential.	Visuals are poorly integrated or slightly distracting.	Visuals are missing or distracting, or not used effectively.
Timing	3–5 minutes	2.5–5.5 minutes	2– 6 minutes	Below 3 or above 5 minutes

Score: ____ / 28



ASSESSING SPEAKING PERFORMANCE - LEVEL B1

B1	Grammar and Vocabulary	Discourse Management	Pronunciation
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Shows a good degree of control of simple grammatical forms, and attempts some complex grammatical forms.Uses a range of appropriate vocabulary to give and exchange views on familiar topics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Produces extended stretches of language despite some hesitation.Contributions are relevant despite some repetition.Uses a range of cohesive devices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is intelligible.Information is generally appropriate.Sentence and word stress is generally accurately places.Individual sounds are generally articulated clearly.
4	Performance shares features of bands 3 and 5.		
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Shows a good degree of control of simple grammatical forms.Uses a range of appropriate vocabulary when talking about familiar topics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Produces responses which are extended beyond short phrases, despite hesitation.Contributions are mostly relevant, but there may be some repetition.Uses basic cohesive devices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is mostly intelligible and has some control of phonological features at both utterance and word levels.
2	Performance shares features of bands 1 and 3.		
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Shows sufficient control of simple grammatical forms.Uses a limited range of appropriate vocabulary to talk about familiar topics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Produces responses which are characterised by short phrases and frequent hesitation.Repeats information or digresses from the topic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is mostly intelligible, despite limited control of phonological features.
0	Performance below Band 1.		