**City Olympiad 2024/2025**

**Speaking**

**for 9th Form Students**

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|  | **Choose a favorite holiday.** | • Explain why you like this holiday so much.  • Tell a story from your life that illustrates what this holiday means to you.  • Explain how your family’s traditions are typical, or not, for Ukraine. |
|  | **Your local radio station is interviewing you because you are the representative from your town/city for the National Olympiad.** | • Tell a little about yourself.  • Explain how your academic achievements have led you to this competition.  • Explain what you will do while you are visiting venue of the National Olympiad that will make the people of your hometown proud of you. |
|  | **What is the most important quality a friend can have?** | • Why is this quality so important?  • Do your closest friends have this quality? Do you?  • How can you work to improve on this quality? |
|  | **Technology has rapidly changed the way we live, work, and communicate. It makes our lives easier in many ways, but is it always beneficial?** | • How has technology changed the way you communicate with others? • What is the most useful piece of technology you own, and why? • Can people become too dependent on technology? Why or why not? |
|  | **What do you believe are the most popular free-time activities among youth today in Ukraine?** | • Why do you believe they are so popular?  • Are these activities beneficial to Ukraine’s youth as a whole?  • What are some free-time activities that can help your society? |
|  | **Linguist Frank Smith said, “One language sets you in a corridor [a narrow passageway] for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”** | • What does this quote mean? Explain it in your own words.  • Does this quote apply to your own experiences, learning and speaking English?  • Is it important to learn foreign languages? Why, or why not? |
|  | **Every day millions of people visit video-hosting sites such as YouTube.** | • Why have these sites become so popular? Do you or someone you know watch these clips?  • What makes such sites different than television?  • How do these clips influence society? Give examples. |
|  | **The world is becoming increasingly urbanized.** | • Why are more and more people living in cities?  • In the future, do you think people will live in the countryside?  • Is living in a city a sustainable lifestyle? Explain. |
|  | **Imagine that you are a TV journalist. You have the opportunity to interview any person in the world.** | • Who would you choose to interview?  • How has this person influenced people’s lives?  • What three questions would you ask first |
|  | **Imagine you have the power to see the future.** | • What advantages and disadvantages accompany this gift?  • What responsibilities come with this gift?  • Would you make the knowledge of your ability public? Why or why not? |
|  | **Social media has become an integral part of daily life for many teenagers. It allows for communication, entertainment, and staying informed. However, it also has its challenges.** | • How often do you use social media, and for what purposes? • What are the positive and negative effects of social media on teenagers? • Do you think social media influences your self-image? Why or why not? |
|  | **C.S. Lewis said, “Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art.... It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things which give value to survival.”** | • What does friendship mean to you? What kind of people can become your friends?  • Are your family members or your friends more important to you? Do you consider your family your friends?  • How do you make new friends? |
|  | **For teenagers, finding a balance between school responsibilities and personal interests can be difficult. Time management and setting priorities are crucial.** | • How do you manage your time between studying and personal interests? • What is more important for you: academic success or personal happiness? • Have you ever experienced stress from trying to balance too many responsibilities? |
|  | **Saint Augustine said, “The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page”.** | • Have you ever been abroad? Where have you been? (If you have not yet been abroad, where would you like to go?)  • Describe the most interesting person that you have met on one of your travels (either in Ukraine or in another country).  • Have you ever been in a difficult situation while traveling? Describe it. |
|  | **Mary Ritter Beard said, “Certainly, travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living”.** | • Which foreign country would you most like to visit? Why?  • Have you ever got lost while traveling? If so, tell about it.  • What kind of souvenirs are you interested in collecting when you travel? |
|  | **Robert Louis Stevenson said, “We are all travelers in the wilderness of this world, and the best we can find in our travels is an honest friend”** | • Have you ever made friends with other people while traveling? Do you still keep in touch with them?  • What are some benefits of travel? Why do people travel?  • Do you prefer to travel with friends, family, or alone? Why? |
|  | **Sport is not only about physical strength but also about collaboration and teamwork. Being part of a team teaches us valuable life lessons.** | • Do you play any sports? What do you like about it? • How important is teamwork in sports or other activities? • Have you ever learned something valuable from losing a game or competition? |
|  | **Describe a memorable meal that you have had.** | • Why was it memorable? Was the food excellent? Was the company delightful? Is there another reason?  • Have you ever had an awful meal? Why was it awful?  • If you could share a meal with anyone in the world (alive or deceased), who would you choose? Why? |
|  | **Do you read for pleasure? (Do you read books that you do not have to read for school?)** | • How much do you read for pleasure? If you do not currently read for pleasure, would you like to? Why or why not?  • What have you read recently that you would recommend? Why are you recommending this book?  • Do you prefer to read paperback books, or books displayed on a computer/e- reader? |
|  | **Some people like to do only what they already do well. Other people prefer to try new things and take risks.** | • Which do you prefer? Why?  • How can taking risks be positive? How can taking risks be negative?  • Provide several specific examples to support your opinions? |