



# **CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

**(530)**

**REGIONAL 2026**

**FINAL**

**Judge Key**

## TOPICS

- Should cities grant tax breaks to student entrepreneurs who start businesses locally?
- How might a four-day academic week affect businesses that rely on student traffic?
- Is early investing in the stock market a wise move for students? Explain why or why not.
- Should food-delivery apps face caps on commissions charged to independent restaurants near campuses?
- Do protected bike lanes justify removing curbside parking around busy campuses?
- Is selling handmade crafts on online sites, such as Etsy, a solid first venture for student entrepreneurs?
- Should electric scooter rentals be limited to roadways rather than sidewalks in dense college towns?
- How can school cafés cut single-use waste without sharply raising drink prices?

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## EVENT GUIDELINES

- **Prep Room Details**
  - The contestants will draw two (2) different business topics and will select either one. The topics may deal with Business Professionals of America, office situations, the business world, etc.
  - The contestants will be provided ten (10) minutes to develop the topic. Notes will be made on the note cards provided by the event proctor. No advisor contact will be allowed between the time of receiving the topic and the delivery.
- **Presentation Details**
  - Contestants will be introduced by Contestant ID. **Contestants may continue to wear their name badges.**
  - Contestants will present before a panel of judges and timekeeper.
  - The length of the speech will be no less than three (3) minutes and no more than five (5) minutes.
  - The contestant will be given warnings via flash cards when there are two (2) minutes remaining and when there is one (1) minute remaining during the speaking time.
  - The speech will be stopped at five (5) minutes.
- **Judge Details**
  - No time is allotted for judges' questions.
  - Contestants should be dismissed upon completion of their speech.
  - There can be no ties in the top 10 teams. Judges are responsible for breaking any ties.
  - The administrator will fill out the ranking sheet before dismissing the judges.
  - If more than one (1) section is necessary, finalists will be determined by selecting an equal number from each section.
  - No audience is allowed in the contest room.

- **Scoring**
  - Individual scores are not to be given to students.
  - Only general statements are to be shared.
  - Contestants are not allowed to ask questions.
  - Please share your comments directly online. Contestants will see these comments which will help prepare them for future competitions.
- **Post-Presentation:**
  - **Materials:** Give any contest materials to the administrator.
  - **Audience:** No audience is allowed in the contest room.

## FINAL STEPS

Double-check and verify all scores.