

# QVHS 2019 Commencement Speech Rubric

## ORGANIZATION/OVERALL

Area to Improve	Area of Strength					
	0	2	4	6	8	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The speech should be written in paragraph form with correct grammar/mechanics, use appropriate transitions, and emphasize key points for development.</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The speech is original, creative, well developed and organized with an overarching thesis/theme, which is unified in the introduction and conclusion.</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The speech clearly inspires, motivates, and makes interesting connections to the intended audience (graduating class and entire QV community); the speech includes a message that is appropriate for sending off the Class of 2019 and provides a personal expression on the significance of graduation from QVHS.</li> </ul>						

## QUALITY & EFFECTIVENESS

Area to Improve	Area of Strength					
	0	1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Timing:</b> Speech must be 4 - 5 minutes in length (points deducted for being outside the range).</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Introduction/Attention Getter:</b> Speech includes a strong introduction with an appropriate and interesting attention getter – draws audience into the subject quickly and enthusiastically (begins development of theme, sets tone).</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Thesis:</b> Speech includes a thesis that is clearly stated, focused, and echoed throughout the piece.</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Personal Stories/Examples:</b> Speech includes personal (struggles/accomplishments) and/or inspirational stories and examples to support the thesis</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Stylistic Devices:</b> Speech includes stylistic/rhetorical devices to increase effectiveness.</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Supporting Evidence:</b> Speech includes credible and persuasive sources that support and unify the thesis.</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Conclusion:</b> Speech includes a strong conclusion that offers inspirational words, summarizes the ideas and leaves an appropriate, memorable final impression.</li> </ul>						

## DELIVERY

### Area to Improve

### Area of Strength

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Eye Contact:** The speaker has good eye contact distributed equally with the entire audience.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Posture:** The speaker stands up straight & keeps weight balanced evenly on both feet without locking knees.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Gestures:** The speaker uses effective gestures that were big and above the waist; able to keep hands relaxed to sides when not gesturing.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Facial Expressions:** The speaker uses appropriate, animated facial expressions.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Volume:** The speaker uses appropriate volume so everyone in the room can easily hear.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Articulation:** The speaker uses clear articulation and pronounces words correctly; hits word endings nicely with no slurring.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Vocal Expression:** The speaker uses variety in rate, pitch, and volume, and has good vocal quality with appropriate emphasis on key words.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Composure:** The speaker appears to be confident by displaying fluency, vocal confidence, & controlled body (no vocalized pauses, looks very relaxed and in control, uses appropriate timing to carry off humor)

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Energy & Enthusiasm:** The speaker presents a positive energized and enthusiastic image.

---

0                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5

- **Overall Impression:** The speech delivery demonstrates outstanding oral communication skills including eye contact, posture, gestures, facial expressions, volume, articulation, vocal expression, composure, energy, enthusiasm, and a strong personal voice that connects to the audience.