

# THREE-MINUTE THESIS (3MT®) -- UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

## JUDGING CRITERIA

(adapted from the University of Queensland, Australia)

**Scale:** 5 = **very effective**—needs little or no strengthening  
4 = **effective**—may consider ways of strengthening  
3 = **moderately effective**—needs attention  
2 = **not very effective**—priority for improvement  
1 = **not addressed or absent**—priority for improvement

## COMPREHENSION

Does the presentation provide an understanding of the background to the research question being addressed and its significance?

Very effective—5     Effective—4     Moderately Effective—3     Not very effective—2     Absent—1

Comments:

Does the presentation clearly describe the key or preliminary conclusions or results of the research?

Very effective—5     Effective—4     Moderately Effective—3     Not very effective—2     Absent—1

Comments:

Does the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?

Very effective—5     Effective—4     Moderately Effective—3     Not very effective—2     Absent—1

Comments:

## ENGAGEMENT

Does the oration make the audience want to know more?

Very effective—5     Effective—4     Moderately Effective—3     Not very effective—2     Absent—1

Comments:

Is the presenter careful not to trivialize or generalize the research?

Very effective—5     Effective—4     Moderately Effective—3     Not very effective—2     Absent—1

Comments:

Does the presenter convey enthusiasm for the research?

Very effective—5    Effective—4    Moderately Effective—3    Not very effective—2    Absent—1

Comments:

Does the presenter capture and maintain the audience's attention?

Very effective—5    Effective—4    Moderately Effective—3    Not very effective—2    Absent—1

Comments:

## COMMUNICATION

Are the topic, key or preliminary results, and the potential impact of the research communicated in non-specialist language?

Very effective—5    Effective—4    Moderately Effective—3    Not very effective—2    Absent—1

Comments:

Does the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology and provide adequate background information to illustrate points?

Very effective—5    Effective—4    Moderately Effective—3    Not very effective—2    Absent—1

Comments:

Does the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; maintain a steady pace; and have a confident stance?

Very effective—5    Effective—4    Moderately Effective—3    Not very effective—2    Absent—1

Comments:

Does the presenter spend adequate time on each element of the presentation (as opposed to rushing through some key elements)?

Very effective—5    Effective—4    Moderately Effective—3    Not very effective—2    Absent—1

Comments:

Does the slide enhance the presentation – is it clear, legible, and concise?

Very effective—5    Effective—4    Moderately Effective—3    Not very effective—2    Absent—1

Comments:

## 3MT RULES

- The competition is limited to students currently pursuing a master's or doctoral degree at the University of Kentucky and who have not won a campus-wide 3MT competition.
- A single static presentation slide is allowed (no slide transitions, animations or 'movement' of any description is allowed; the slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration).
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
- No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment, etc.) are permitted.
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum; competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- Presentations are to be spoken-word prose (e.g. no poetry, raps, or songs).
- Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts the presentation through movement or speech.
- The decision of the judges is final.