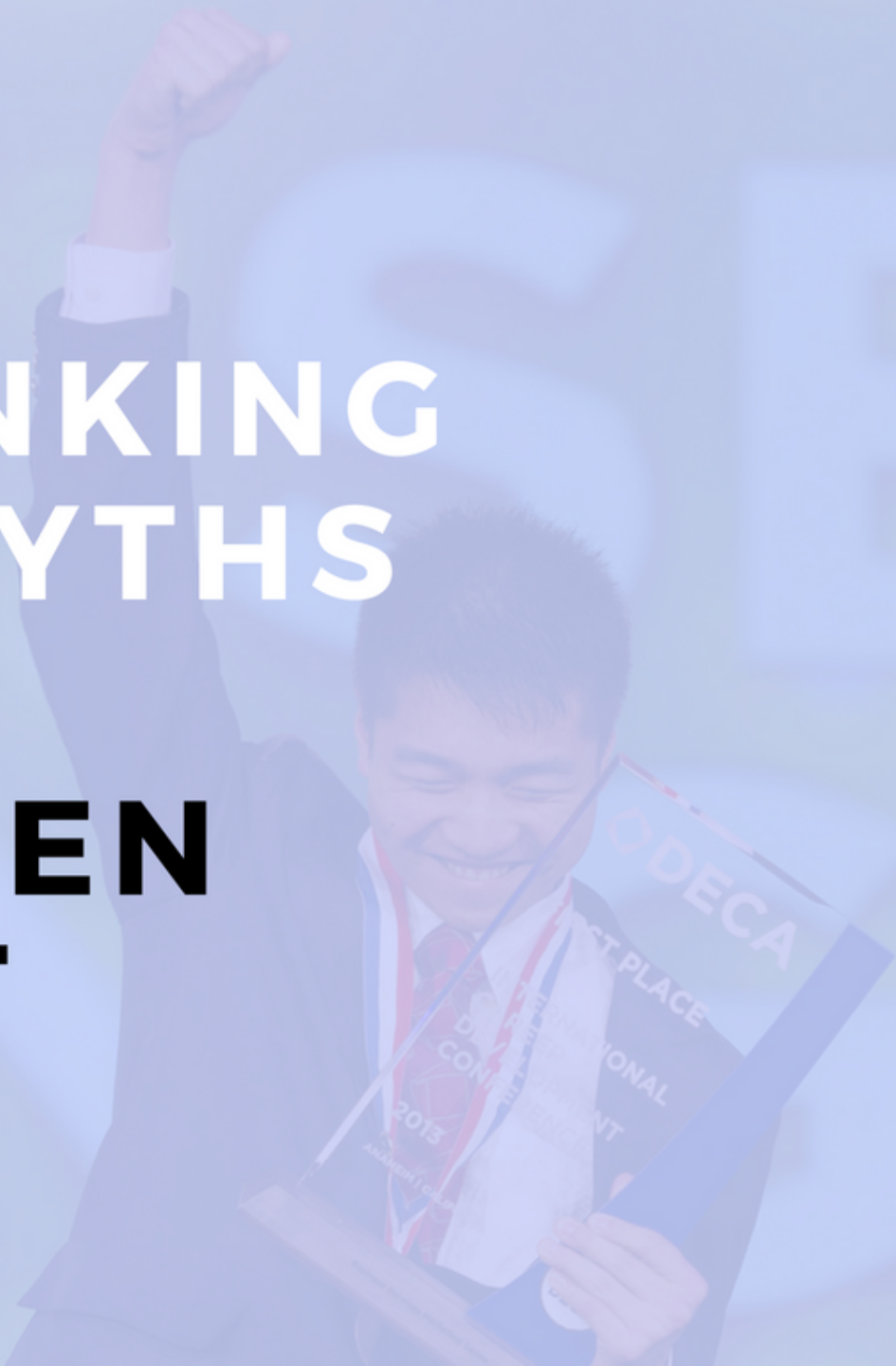


# DEBUNKING THE MYTHS OF A WRITTEN EVENT

Texas DECA



FIRST THINGS FIRST...

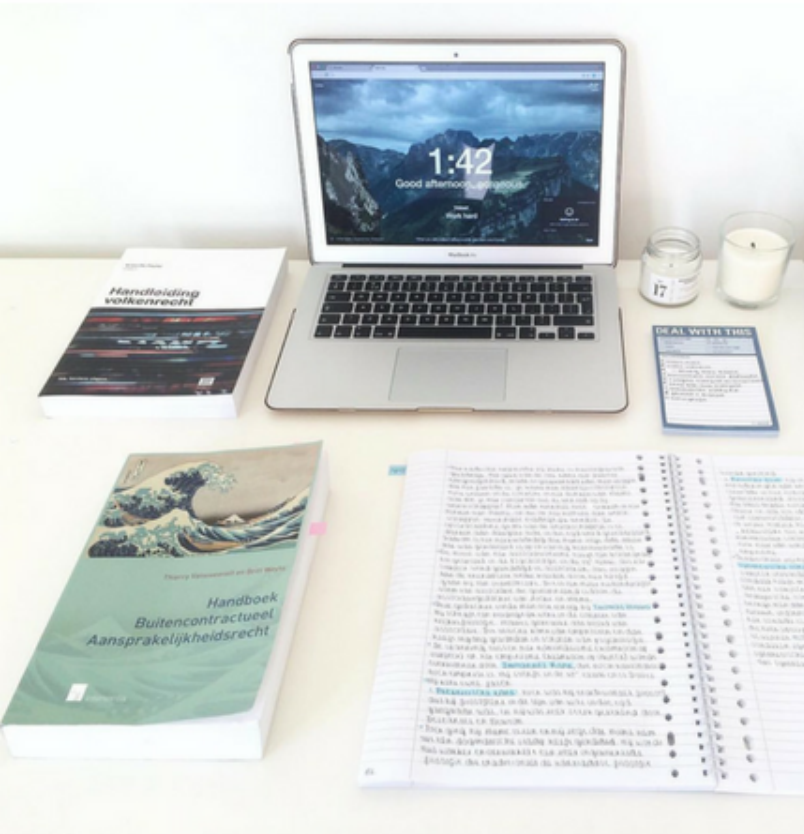
**DON'T BE  
INTIMIDATED  
BY A  
WRITTEN  
EVENT**



**LET'S GET INTO  
THE  
MISCONCEPTIONS**

## MYTH #1

# YOU HAVE TO BE GOOD AT ENGLISH



- This is a business paper not an English paper
- Skillset you need to write the written events paper is completely different
- This paper is more research focused
- Most teams learn how to write the paper along the way anyway

## MYTH #2

# YOU HAVE TO WRITE THE MAX PAGE LENGTH



- Don't get scared by the "20 page long" paper
- 20 or 10 is the MAXIMUM length for the paper
- It is possible to still do well with a shorter paper - many previous winners have shorter papers!

## MYTH #3



# THE PAPER DOESN'T REALLY MATTER

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- Although you don't have to write the full 20 pages, you should try to get close
- 10 page papers should fill up all the space they have available
- Focus your attention on the executive summary

## MYTH #4

# ONCE YOU FINISH YOUR PROJECT, YOU'RE DONE WITH IT



- Don't stop working on your project once you get past District
- Continuously update your project with new research and additions to your plan
- Change parts of you project based on previous judges' feedback

## MYTH #5

# SINCE YOU'RE ALLOWED NOTECARDS, YOU SHOULD USE ONE



- Unless you're under a time crunch to memorize your presentation, don't use notecards
- You look more prepared and professional if your presentation is completely memorized



## MYTH #6



# YOU CAN WEAR ANY KIND OF PROFESSIONAL DRESS

- Match your teammates and presentation
- Color coordination makes you stand out to the judges
- You need to be as memorable as possible so the judge remembers you when they're scoring everyone

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