



## **DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION & HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION**

### **Rules:**

- a. **SELECTION** -- Selections used in Dramatic or Humorous Interpretation shall be cuttings from a single source from a published printed novel, short story, play, poem or screenplay. One-character selections, or monologues, may be used. No contestant may use the same literary work that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. The material may be humorous or dramatic, or combine both tones depending on the selected work. Contestants may not combine two or more pieces of literature. A piece of literature shall be defined as one piece of writing which was written with the intent to be published as one work.
- b. **PUBLICATION** -- All contestants must use published materials. "Published" as used in these rules means materials commercially printed, published, readily available, and nationally distributed. Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions of interpretations shall be the original work of either or both of the contestants. Transitions and other added material must not change the author's intent.
- c. **MANUSCRIPT** – In the event of a protest regarding publication, coaches may be asked to submit a manuscript of the cutting, along with proof of publication. All introductory, transitional and updating of material shall be clearly indicated as such on the manuscript. Transitions and other added material must not exceed 150 words and must not change the author's intent. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during rounds.
- d. **TIME** -- Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall be penalized by a lowering of one rank.
- e. **PERFORMANCE** -- The interpretation is most commonly delivered from memory; however, the contestant may also perform from a manuscript. No costumes or props shall be permitted.



## INFORMATIVE SPEAKING

Rules:

A. TOPIC — An informative speech is an original memorized speech designed to explain, define, describe, or illustrate an object, idea, concept or process. The general purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge of a topic that the student believes important for the audience. Informative speaking avoids predominantly persuasive subjects and techniques. All speeches must have been prepared during the current competitive year.

B. TIME — Speeches shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time. Speakers exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall not be ranked first.

C. QUOTATIONS— No more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotations from another speech or writing. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited.

D. MANUSCRIPT- In the event of a protest, coaches may be asked to submit a digital copy of the speech with all quotations clearly identified. The manuscript must follow the MLA or APA style guidelines for internal citations and must include a "works-cited" page. Quoted material must not exceed 150. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during rounds.

E. VISUAL AIDS- The use of visual aids is optional. It is important to note that a visual aid is an integral part of the speech content and not an unnecessary gimmick. Visual aids may be two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional, but may not violate local, state or federal laws and/or school policies. The use of animals or any additional people as visual aids is not allowed during the speech. Electronic equipment such as projectors, cell phones, radios, iPads, computers are allowed, but all equipment and any risks associated with using these devices is the speaker's responsibility.

F. PERFORMANCE - The speech is most commonly delivered from memory, however, the contestant may also perform from a manuscript.

G. VIOLATION – A violation of any of the rules stated above may result in disqualification.



## ORATORY

### Rules:

- a. TOPIC -- All speeches entered must be the original work of the contestant. Any appropriate subject may be used, but the orator must be truthful. Any non-factual reference, including a personal one, must be so identified. All speeches must have been prepared during the current competitive year. Speeches that have been used in tournaments or service club contests in previous years shall be disqualified; this rule applies to a new speech by a speaker based on the same subject used in a previous year or to any subject used for any original speech by the same contestant during the same or previous years.
- b. TIME -- Speeches shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall be penalized by a lowering of one rank.
- c. QUOTATIONS -- No more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotations from another speech or writing. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited.
- d. MANUSCRIPT -- In the event of a protest, coaches may be asked to submit a digital copy of the speech with all quotations clearly identified. The manuscript must follow the MLA or APA style guidelines for internal citations and must include a "works-cited" page. Quoted material must not exceed 150 words. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during rounds.
- e. AIDS -- No notes, visual or audio aids shall be permitted in the contest rounds. The speech is most commonly delivered from memory, however, the contestant may also perform from a manuscript.



## **PROSE**

### **Rules:**

a. **SELECTION** -- No contestant may use exactly the same literary work(s) that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. Prose expresses thought through language recorded in sentences and paragraphs: fiction (short stories, novels) and non-fiction (articles, essays, journals, biographies). No plays or other dramatic materials, such as a movie script, may be used.

b. **PUBLICATION** -- All contestants must use published materials. "Published" as used in these rules means materials commercially printed, published, readily available, and nationally distributed. Only the original printed source or a photocopy of the original printed source shall be considered adequate proof of publication. Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions of interpretations shall be the original work of the contestant. Transitions and other added material must not change the author's intent.

c. **MANUSCRIPT** -- In the event of a protest regarding publication, coaches may be asked to submit a manuscript of the cutting, along with proof of publication. All introductory, transitional and updating of material shall be clearly indicated as such on the manuscript. Transitions and other added material must not exceed 150 words and must not change the author's intent. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during rounds.

d. **TIME:** Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall be penalized by a lowering of one rank.

e. **PERFORMANCE** -- The selections must be interpreted from a manuscript in the hand or hands of the contestant. The contestant may interpret the selection by referencing the manuscript or may give the selection solely by memory without reference to the manuscript, but in either event must hold the manuscript in his/her own hand or hands at all times. No costumes or props, with the exception of the intact manuscript, shall be permitted in prose interpretation.



## POETRY

### Rules:

a. **SELECTION** -- No contestant may use exactly the same themes and/or literary work(s) that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. Poetry is writing which expresses ideas, experience, or emotion through the creative arrangement of words according to their sound, their rhythm, their meaning. Poetry may rely on verse and stanza form. Plays or fiction written in verse would be acceptable material in this event. A student may use one long poem or a combination of two or more poems unified by author or theme.

b. **PUBLICATION** -- All contestants must use published materials. "Published" as used in these rules means materials commercially printed, published, readily available, and nationally distributed. Only the original printed source or a photocopy of the original printed source shall be considered adequate proof of publication. Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions of interpretations shall be the original work of the contestant.

c. **MANUSCRIPT** -- In the event of a protest regarding publication, coaches may be asked to submit a manuscript of the cutting, along with proof of publication. All introductory, transitional and updating of material shall be clearly indicated as such on the manuscript. Transitions and other added material must not exceed 150 words and must not change the author's intent. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during rounds.

d. **TIME**: Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall be penalized by a lowering of one rank.

e. **PERFORMANCE** -- The selections must be interpreted from a manuscript in the hand or hands of the contestant. The contestant may interpret the selection by referencing the manuscript or may give the selection solely by memory without reference to the manuscript, but in either event must hold the manuscript in his/her own hand or hands at all times. No costumes or props, with the exception of the intact manuscript, shall be permitted in poetry interpretation.



## STORYTELLING

- a. **SELECTION** -- No contestant may use exactly the same literary work(s) that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. A single published, printed story, anecdote, tale, myth, or legend must be retold without notes from memory. An introduction must be included.
- b. **PUBLICATION** -- All contestants must use published materials. "Published" as used in these rules means materials commercially printed, published, readily available, and nationally distributed. Only the original printed source or a photocopy of the original printed source shall be considered adequate proof of publication. Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions of interpretations shall be the original work of the contestant.
- c. **MANUSCRIPT** -- In the event of a protest regarding publication, coaches may be asked to submit a manuscript of the cutting, along with proof of publication. All introductory, transitional and updating of material shall be clearly indicated as such on the manuscript. Transitions and other added material must not exceed 150 words and must not change the author's intent. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during rounds.
- d. **TIME** -- Interpretations shall be no more than five (5) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall be penalized by a lowering of one rank.
- e. **PERFORMANCE** -- The interpretation is most commonly delivered from memory; however, the contestant may also perform from a manuscript. No costumes or props shall be permitted. Gestures, pantomime and characterization may be used in order to enhance the story. A chair, stool or cube may be used during the performance.



## DECLAMATION

- a. **SELECTION** -- No contestant may use exactly the same literary work(s) that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. The student must present their rendition of a speech that has previously been delivered in public. An introduction must be included.
- b. **PUBLICATION** -- All contestants must use published materials. "Published" as used in these rules means materials commercially printed, published, readily available, and nationally distributed. Speeches from a publicly available website will also be permissible.
- c. **MANUSCRIPT** -- In the event of a protest regarding publication, coaches may be asked to submit a manuscript of the cutting, along with proof of publication. All introductory remarks shall be clearly indicated as such on the manuscript. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during rounds.
- d. **TIME** -- Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall be penalized by a lowering of one rank.
- e. **PERFORMANCE** -- The interpretation is most commonly delivered from memory; however, the contestant may also perform from a manuscript. No costumes or props shall be permitted. The speaker should present an introduction that states the title, author, and date of the speech they are reciting.