

Event Description

IMPROVISATIONAL STORYTELLING

The best improvisational storytelling performance will utilize narration and characterization. The student will present an improvisational story situation involving the portrayal of an unlikely character in an unusual setting. An introduction is required to set the scene.

A resolution of a conflict has to be obvious at the end of the scene. The improvisation must be self-contained unit holding a together a story (beginning, climax, and resolution).

PROCEDURES:

1. The student will have fifteen minutes to prepare when they receive their topic.
2. The student will wait in the Improv Pairs prep room until their code is called.
3. There will be no outside assistance in the prep area.
4. The student may not leave the prep area until called to perform.
5. The Improv prep room monitor will time the prep period and announce when speakers should leave the prep area to perform.
6. Students will receive a different topic each round.
7. The student may make use of one chair, if needed. No other props or stage accessories are allowed.
8. The scene must involve the main central character, but may include additional minor characters as desired.
9. No profanity or sexual innuendos will be tolerated.
10. An introduction is required to set the scene.
11. A resolution of conflict has to be obvious at the end of the scene.
12. The improvisation must be a self-contained unit holding a story together (beginning, climax, resolution).
13. Maximum Time Limit: 5 minutes including the introduction. There is a 30 second grace period.
14. Critics will rank and rate speakers and give constructive written criticisms. The total score automatically provides a rating by use of the rating scale on all evaluation forms.
15. Completed ballots, plus the summary sheet, and all topic slips with ballots should be turned in at meet headquarters promptly. After tabulation, each ballot is given to the participant via his or her coach.

IMPROVISATIONAL STORYTELLING BALLOT

Starting Time _____ Section _____
Ending Time _____
Round _____ Room _____ Total Time _____ Date _____ Judge _____

Name _____ Code _____

CRITERIA	COMMENTS
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Story

Did the performer adequately develop a setting, conflict, and resolution throughout the piece? Was the story logical or easy to follow? Was the conflict resolved at the end of the performance?

Characterization

Is the performance limited to a central character and a limited number of side characters? Does the performer clearly distinguish each of the characters in the selection? Are the characters and their attitudes clear and vivid?

Delivery

Does the character dialogue reflect a genuine sense of interaction, not a mechanical exchange of lines? Does the performer vary pitch, rate, phrasing, tone, and volume? Is there creative and expressive use of appropriate gestures?

Use of Time

Did the performer make appropriate use of the time limit given? Was the story adequately developed and evenly distributed within time constraints?

General Effectiveness

Does the performer maintain the listener's interest? Does the performer maintain a high energy in the selection? Is the performance consistent?

RANK _____

DO NOT INFORM THE STUDENT OF HIS/HER RATING.

CRITIC _____

DO NOT GIVE STUDENTS ORAL CRITIQUES