DUO IMPROMPTU

In the Duo Impromptu category, the speakers are given five minutes to prepare a scene about a randomly drawn setting, conflict, and set of people.

Specific Duo Impromptu Rules

- In duo impromptu, two students work together to create an impromptu scene from three prompts.
- A judge in each room will have three containers of topics for the round. One will be the setting, one the conflict, and the final one the characters. The speakers will draw three topics from each container, choose one from each, and return the other two to the container.
- The timekeeper will start the stopwatch when the speaker draws from the FINAL container and give auditory countdown signals every thirty seconds until five minutes have elapsed.
- The speakers may write notes on a blank sheet of paper during preparation time, but he or she may not use or refer to the notes during the scene.
- The speakers may use the topics in any way they choose but the topics must be the central theme of the speech.
- Scene creation may be humorous, dramatic, or a combination of the two.
- The scene should provide a balanced performance between the two students.
- The students are not permitted to look at each other or touch each other.
- Each speech should be a fresh, unique, original presentation, developed from the chosen topic and prepared on the spot.
- The students must state their chosen topics prior to the speech. A one rank penalty is required for failure to do so.
- Students must adhere to the setting, conflict and characters. A one rank penalty is required for failure to do so.

General Impromptu Rules

- One judge in each room will be given instructions regarding room administration as well as the envelope of topics to distribute to the student. A list of possible topics will be given to each of the other judges in the room.
- Unused preparation time may not be added to the speaking time.
- No costumes, props, audio or visual aids may be used.
- No computers Kindles, iPods, cell phones, or other electronic media devices may be used for Impromptu preparation or presentation.
- Gratuitous vulgarity is strictly prohibited
- The students MAY listen to other competitors speaking before them in the room.
- Audience laughter, which extends the time of a piece, should not penalize the speaker.
- Limited singing and dancing is permitted.
- All action should generally take place center stage. Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.

Preparation time: five (5) minutes ----- Speaking time: seven (7) minutes. No minimum time.

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Contestant(s):_____ Code:_____

Topic Drawn:_____

Round:_____ Section:_____ Judge's Name & Code:_____

Circle the points that indicate your evaluation of this entry, with 10 being the best.

I. **ANALYSIS OF TOPIC**...1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Is the topic clear? Is there a clear thesis? Do the
speakers stick to the general topic? Do they use
transactions?
COMMENTS:

II. **ORGANIZATION**...1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Is there an effective introduction? Is there an
organized body that is appropriate to the topic?
Is the organization clear? Is there an effective
conclusion?
COMMENTS:

III. **SUPPORTING MATERIALS**.....................................1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Is there an effective use of creative and
humorous/serious ideas? Is there effective use
of experience and authority?
COMMENTS:

IV. **ENSEMBLE EFFECT**...1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Do the actors work well together? Do they
complement each other? Do they deliver well
as a team?
COMMENTS:

V. **TOTAL EFFECTIVENESS**.......................................1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Were they appropriate? Did they convey the
mood?
COMMENTS:

***TOTAL RATING POINTS:_____

The contestants can be disqualified for:
_____Not presenting the judge with topic drawn
_____Not speaking on topic
_____Obviously not having an original speech
_____Using a notecard
_____Using props
_____Using more than 2 actors
The contestants can be lowered 1 rank for:
_____Overtime or undertime (exceeding 30 seconds)

TIME:_____ RANK:_____

**Assign a "1" to the top performance of the group, a "2" to the second best, etc.