

# Judging Instructions

## **Informative Speaking:**

Contestants will deliver an original speech. The intent of the message is to explain, describe, or demonstrate.

The use of the lectern is optional.

The speech should be between 6 and 8 minutes long.

Violation of time limits should adversely affect the contestant's score.

Notes are acceptable but, depending on how they are used, may lower credibility and, therefore, scores.

Audio and/or visual aids are acceptable but must not overwhelm the speech.

Contestants are judged according to oral delivery, nonverbal delivery, and content which includes the amount, clarity, recency, and relevance of information; source citations; reasoning; credibility; organization; attention-getting elements; topic choice, and adherence to the rules.

## **General Judging Guidelines:**

Please have the students perform in the designated order.

If a student has not yet arrived when it is his or her turn to compete then skip that student for the time and work him or her in upon arrival.

Keep time for each speaker and record it on the enclosed time sheet.

For the sake of running the contest on time, please politely stop any student who exceeds the maximum time limit by a full minute.

Please return your ballots and tally sheets to the registration table immediately following the completion of the event. We need to begin tabulating the events as soon as possible.

Thank you for supporting the contest by volunteering your time and expertise.

## **Judging Instructions**

### **Persuasive Speaking:**

Contestants will deliver an original speech. The purpose of the message is to initiate, reinforce, influence, or change beliefs. The purpose is not to endorse a product or service. Contestants are urged to select a topic from issues of local, regional, national, or international significance.

The use of the lectern is optional.

The speech should be between 6 and 8 minutes long.

Violation of time limits should adversely affect the contestant=s score.

Notes are acceptable but, depending on how they are used, may lower credibility and, therefore, scores.

Audio and/or visual aids are acceptable but must not overwhelm the speech.

Contestants are judged according to oral delivery, nonverbal delivery, and content which shall include the amount, clarity, recency, and relevance of information; source citations; reasoning; credibility; use of emotional appeals; organization; attention-getting elements, topic choice, and adherence to the rules.

### **General Judging Guidelines:**

Please have the students perform in the designated order.

If a student has not yet arrived when it is his or her turn to compete then skip that student for the time and work him or her in upon arrival.

Keep time for each speaker and record it on the enclosed time sheet.

For the sake of running the contest on time, please politely stop any student who exceeds the maximum time limit by a full minute.

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# Judging Instructions

## **Impromptu Speaking:**

Contestants will deliver a three minute minimum to five minute maximum speech which includes no more than three minutes of preparation time on a topic not previously known.

Each contestant draws three topics (One from each category) and selects one to prepare for speaking.

Time begins 10 seconds after topics are drawn.

Contestants receive verbal time cues during preparation and hand time signals during the speech.

There is no minimum time requirement for preparation.

Adherence to the selected topic is imperative.

Speeches can be informative, persuasive, or humorous.

Contestants are judged according to clarity, conciseness, originality, organization, delivery, and adherence to the rules.

The use of the lectern is optional.

Violation of time limits should adversely affect the contestant=s score.

Notes are acceptable.

## **General Judging Guidelines:**

Please have the students perform in the designated order.

If a student has not yet arrived when it is his or her turn to compete then skip that student for the time and work him or her in upon arrival.

Keep time for each speaker and record it on the enclosed time sheet.

For the sake of running the contest on time, please politely stop any student who exceeds the maximum time limit by a full minute.

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# Judging Instructions

## Poetry Interpretive Reading:

The contestant reads published poetry. Original poetry is not acceptable. More than one poem may be read in this event, as long as the poems are consistent thematically or by author.

The reading should be between six and eight minutes long.

Lecterns **may not** be used in oral interpretation events.

The performance should include a prepared (memorized) introduction which briefly highlights the message and gives the title of the poem(s) and the poet's name(s).

Manuscripts are required and should be in hardcover folders. Books may not be used.

No props, scenery, costumes or makeup are permitted.

A minimum of pantomime (suggestion of movement with the hands and upper body) is allowed. No blocking (staging) is allowed. Contestants remain virtually stationary, but turning the back is permitted.

Contestants are judged on character choices (where relevant), sensitivity to mood and tone, delivery, and general adherence to contest rules.

## General Judging Guidelines:

Please have the students perform in the designated order.

If a student has not yet arrived when it is his or her turn to compete then skip that student for the time and work him or her in upon arrival.

Keep time for each interper and record it on the enclosed time sheet.

For the sake of running the contest on time, please politely stop any student who exceeds the maximum time limit by a full minute.

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# Judging Instructions

## **Prose Interpretive Reading:**

The contestant reads a cutting from a novel or short story.

The reading should be between six and eight minutes long.

Lecterns **may not** be used in oral interpretation events.

The performance should include a prepared (memorized) introduction which briefly highlights the message and gives the title of the literature and the author's name.

Manuscripts are required and should be in hardcover folders. Books may not be used.

No props, scenery, costumes or makeup are permitted.

A minimum of pantomime (suggestion of movement with the hands and upper body) is allowed. No blocking (staging) is allowed. Contestants remain virtually stationary, but turning the back is permitted.

Contestants are judged on character choices (where relevant), sensitivity to mood and tone, delivery, and general adherence to contest rules.

## **General Judging Guidelines:**

Please have the students perform in the designated order.

If a student has not yet arrived when it is his or her turn to compete then skip that student for the time and work him or her in upon arrival.

Keep time for each interper and record it on the enclosed time sheet.

For the sake of running the contest on time, please politely stop any student who exceeds the maximum time limit by a full minute.

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# Judging Instructions

## **Dramatic Interpretive Reading:**

The contestant reads a cutting (scene or scenes) from a play. The contestant is encouraged to read a cutting which presents more than one character. Monologues are often limiting.

The reading should be between six and eight minutes long.

Lecterns **may not** be used in oral interpretation events.

The performance should include a prepared (memorized) introduction which briefly highlights the message and gives the title of the play and the writer's name.

Manuscripts are required and should be in hardcover folders. Books may not be used.

No props, scenery, costumes or makeup are permitted.

A minimum of pantomime (suggestion of movement with the hands and upper body) is allowed. No blocking (staging) is allowed. Contestants remain virtually stationary, but turning the back is permitted.

Contestants are judged on character choices, sensitivity to mood and tone, delivery, and general adherence to contest rules.

## **General Judging Guidelines:**

Please have the students perform in the designated order.

If a student has not yet arrived when it is his or her turn to compete then skip that student for the time and work him or her in upon arrival.

Keep time for each interper and record it on the enclosed time sheet.

For the sake of running the contest on time, please politely stop any student who exceeds the maximum time limit by a full minute.

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# Judging Instructions

## **Dramatic Duo Interpretive Reading:**

The contestants read a cutting (scene or scenes) from a play.

Partners **do not** make eye contact with each other. Focus should be external.

Readers may portray only one character per scene.

The reading should be between six and eight minutes long.

Lecterns **may not** be used in oral interpretation events.

The performance should include a prepared (memorized) introduction which briefly highlights the message and gives the title of the play and the writer's name.

Manuscripts are required and should be in hardcover folders. Books may not be used.

No props, scenery, costumes or makeup are permitted.

A minimum of pantomime (suggestion of movement with the hands and upper body) is allowed. No blocking (staging) is allowed. Contestants remain virtually stationary, but turning the back is permitted.

Contestants are judged on character choices, sensitivity to mood and tone, delivery, and general adherence to contest rules.

## **General Judging Guidelines:**

Please have the students perform in the designated order.

If a student has not yet arrived when it is his or her turn to compete then skip that student for the time and work him or her in upon arrival.

Keep time for each duo and record it on the enclosed time sheet.

For the sake of running the contest on time, please politely stop any student who exceeds the maximum time limit by a full minute.

Please return your ballots and tally sheets to the registration table immediately following the completion of the event. We need to begin tabulating the events as soon as possible.

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