# dramatic interpretation Online Ballot Text

**What is Dramatic Interpretation?**

The Dramatic Interpretation contest is defined as an individual event where the student memorizes and then delivers a dramatic cutting arising from dramatic literature suitable to the contestant’s personality and maturity to convey orally the meaning of that dramatic literature through characterization and narration.

**General Judging Instructions for the Tournament:**

Presentation should be from memory. If it is not, please use your discretion in ranking. Use of physical items or costumes is not allowed.

The selection shall be chosen from short stories, novels, plays or poetry published in printed form.

This is to be regarded as a speaking situation.  Speaker should remain in a general upright position.  Speaker may portray one or several characters.

Time limit is ten minutes with a grace time of 30 seconds.  Overtime should affect score at judge’s discretion.

**Guiding Questions for Judging the Piece**

Introduction: Does the introduction give a title, author and necessary background for understanding the selection? Does it establish a mood that leads naturally into the interpretation?

Characterization: Is the character/are the characters easy to identify and consistently presented?  Do vocal quality, fluency, enunciation and gestures enhance communication?

Delivery: Is the communication clear and does it convey the mood or idea of the selection as a whole?  Does the speaker demonstrate emotional involvement with the selection?

Overall Effect: Is the selection dramatic and a good vehicle for interpretation?

# duo interpretation Online Ballot Text

**What is Duo Interpretation?**

The Duo Interpretation contest is defined as a two-person event where the students memorize and deliver a cutting arising from literature suitable to the contestants’ personality and maturity to convey orally the dramatic meaning or humor of that literature through dual and/or multiple characterization and narration.

**General Judging Instructions for the Tournament:**

Presentation should be from memory. If it is not, please use your discretion in ranking. Use of physical items or costumes is not allowed.

The selection shall be chosen from short stories, novels, plays or poetry published in printed form.

No touching or eye contact is allowed other than in the introduction and/or transitions. Contestants must remain in a general upright position. Movement is allowed.

Time limit is ten minutes with a grace time of 30 seconds. Overtime should affect score at judge’s discretion.

**Guiding Questions for Judging the Piece**

Introduction: Does the introduction give a title, author and necessary background for understanding the selection? Does it establish a mood that leads naturally into the interpretation?

Characterization: Are the characters easy to identify and consistently presented? Is the relationship between characters clearly defined? Do the speakers react to each other appropriately?

Delivery: Is the communication clear and does it convey the mood or idea of the selection as a whole? Does the speaker demonstrate emotional involvement with the selection?

Overall Effect: Is the effect a good vehicle for interpretation? Do the speakers demonstrate emotional involvement with the selection?

# humorous interpretation Online Ballot Text

**What is Humorous Interpretation?**

The Humorous Interpretation contest is defined as an individual event where the student delivers a humorous cutting arising from literature suitable to the contestant’s personality and maturity to convey orally the humor of that literature through characterization and narration.

**General Judging Instructions for the Tournament:**

Presentation should be from memory. If it is not, please use your discretion in ranking. Use of physical items or costumes is not allowed.

The selection shall be chosen from short stories, novels, plays or poetry published in printed form.

This is to be regarded as a speaking situation.  Speaker should remain in a general upright position.  Speaker may portray one or several characters.

Time limit is ten minutes with a grace time of 30 seconds.  Overtime should affect score at judge’s discretion.

**Guiding Questions for Judging the Piece**

Introduction: Does the introduction give a title, author and necessary background for understanding the selection? Does it establish a mood that leads naturally into the interpretation?

Characterization: Is the character/are the characters easy to identify and consistently presented?  Do vocal quality, fluency, enunciation and gestures enhance communication?

Delivery: Is the communication clear and does it convey the mood or idea of the selection as a whole?  Does the speaker demonstrate emotional involvement with the selection?

Overall Effect: Is the selection humorous and a good vehicle for interpretation?

# program of oral interpretation Online Ballot Text

**What is Program of Oral Interpretation?**

Program of Oral Interpretation is defined as a program of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays). At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used. All selections must be verbally identified by title and author. Competitors are encouraged to devote approximately equal times to each of the genres used in the program. This distinction pertains to these two or three genres as a whole, not types of literature within a genre (such as fiction/nonfiction).

**General Judging Instructions for the Tournament:**

Presentation shall be **SCRIPTED**. Use of a binder for selection(s) is acceptable, but props or costumes are not allowed.

The POI is a program of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays). At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used.

This is to be regarded as a speaking situation. Speaker should remain in a general upright position. Speaker may portray one or several characters.

Time limit is ten minutes. Overtime should affect score at judge’s discretion.

**Guiding Questions for Judging the Piece**

Programming: Were at least two of the three genres of literature (Poetry/Prose/Drama) used in the program? Did all of the literature contribute to the theme or argument? Did the flow of the performance make sense? Was there a balance among genres in the performance?

Blocking: Can you tell what the performer was doing in each scene? Was it clear what selection the performer was using in each section? Did the performer maintain control of the manuscript at all times? Was the movement motivated in the performance?

Characterization: Did each selection have distinct and engaging characters? Did the performance match the genre (e.g., did the performer emphasize poetic elements when performing a Poetry selection)? Was the performance dynamic?

Overall Effect: Is the reading effective and a good vehicle for interpretation?

# original oratory Online Ballot Text

**What is Original Oratory?**

Original Oratory is defined as an individual event where the student writes, memorizes, and then delivers a persuasive speech arising from her/his personal feelings, convictions, or a source of concern regarding their community, beliefs and/or the larger world.

**General Judging Instructions for the Tournament:**

Original oratory is a persuasive speech that is created, written and memorized by the contestant.

Presentation shall be from memory. No props or costumes are allowed.

Movement and gestures are allowed. No more than 150 words of quoted or paraphrased material may be used.

Time limit is 10 minutes. Penalty for overtime determined by judge’s discretion.

**Guiding Questions for Judging the Piece**

Thought Content: Does the speaker establish a central theme? Does the speaker demonstrate the importance of the topic?

Organization/Development of Ideas: Is there an adequate and interesting introduction? Is the material organized? Does the conclusion grow out of what has preceded?

Language Use: Is the language used clear and concise? Is there effective use of language in word choice and phrasing?

Delivery: Do fluency, enunciation and vocal quality enhance communication? Are movements and gestures natural and unobtrusive? Does vocal tone convey the meaning of the speaker?

Overall Effect: Does the speaker keep the attention of the audience being addressed?

# extemporaneous speaking Online Ballot Text

**What is Extemporaneous Speaking?**

Extemporaneous Speaking is defined as an individual event where an original synthesis of the speaker is presented with current fact and opinion on a designated current event topic, usually presented in conjunction with numerous sources.

**General Judging Instructions for the Tournament:**

Preparation of the speech occurs half an hour before the round in an extemp prep room.

The speaker may use gestures. Movement is not restricted.

Seven minute time limit ONLY if signals provided. Overtime penalty at judge’s discretion

Notecards are permitted in preliminary rounds ONLY, and should be taken into consideration when deciding final rankings.

**Guiding Questions for Judging the Speaker**

Content: Does the speaker show insight in regards to the topic? Does the speaker adhere closely to the topic? Is there a balance between fact and opinion in the speech?

Organization: Is there an organized, logical expression of ideas? Are transitions smooth and easy to follow?

Analysis: Does the speaker demonstrate a knowledge of the topic and logical thought about its implications?

Delivery: Do fluency, enunciation and vocal quality enhance communication? Are movements and gestures natural and unobtrusive? Does vocal tone convey the meaning of the speaker?

# Impromptu speaking Online Ballot Text

**What is Impromptu Speaking?**

Impromptu Speaking is defined as an individual event where an original synthesis of the speaker is presented with current fact and opinion on a designated topic of general knowledge. This speech is usually presented as an informative speech with possible evidence of personal or educational experience, regional and national common knowledge, and/or generally accepted information from sources of broadcast news or programming, Internet or other published media.

**General Judging Instructions for the Tournament:**

Contestant draws three topics from the envelope that you have, and chooses one. After choosing the topic, they have the option to use prep time.

They have a total of 7 minutes of time – no more than two minutes of this allotment can be used for prep time. Penalty for overtime determined by judge’s discretion.

**Guiding Questions for Judging the Speaker**

Thought Content: Does the speaker establish a central theme? Does the speaker demonstrate the importance of the topic?

Organization: Is there an organized, logical expression of ideas? Are transitions smooth and easy to follow?

Analysis/Creativity: Does the speaker use creativity when answering the topic chosen? How well do they analyze the topic?

Delivery: Do fluency, enunciation and vocal quality enhance communication? Are movements and gestures natural and unobtrusive? Does vocal tone convey the meaning of the speaker?