

POETRY INTERPRETATION

Interpreters may choose one or multiple poems unified by poet, theme, character, and/or subject. The literature should be published and of literary worth. The selection(s) may be either serious or humorous, but cuttings from plays, monologues and children's literature are not allowed. **An oral interpretation must be delivered from a prepared manuscript.** A brief, well-crafted, rehearsed, and creative introduction must be included, noting the poet(s) and title(s) of the poem(s) to be performed and the theme(s) that will be developed. Interpreters may choose to include segues between selections. Interpreters should focus on communicating their material to the audience in its intellectual, emotional, and aesthetic entirety with suggestive movement only. No crosses, sitting, kneeling, or other large bodily movements are permitted in oral interpretation. Gestures, facial expressions and movements from waist-up are appropriate and encouraged. The camera frame should be waist-up. Characters should be created with clear physical and vocal variations. **TIME LIMIT:** 4-6 minutes including introduction(s)

NAME _____ School _____
 Excellent = 10 Poor = 1 (10 possible points per section) Comments

_____ **Quality of Literature and Introduction**
 Literature from published source(s) of literary merit?
 Was literature suitable for audience and interpreter?
 Challenging choice(s)? (If applicable, did compilation script work?)
 Intro stated author(s), title(s), and theme(s)?
 Intro brief, well-crafted, rehearsed, and creative?
 Did introduction effectively set up literature without summarizing it?

_____ **Communication of Literature**
 Theme of the performance consistent with introduction?
 Presentation of literature consistent with writing?
 Intellectual and emotional content communicated?
 Characterization(s) created through effective vocal and/or physical variations?
 Character relationships clear (if applicable)?

_____ **Vocal Technique**
 Volume & diction appropriate and varied?
 Voice appropriate for the emotional & intellectual levels of the literature?
 Articulation clear & pronunciation accurate?
 Suitable to basic mood of literature and personality of character(s)?

_____ **Delivery**
 Posture, gestures, & facial expressions appropriate?
 Sufficient eye contact while still using the manuscript?
 Body and voice engaged to create the story or poem(s)?
 No large bodily movements (i.e., crosses, sitting, kneeling)?
 Focus points consistent when portraying multiple characters?
 Clear choices when interpreter spoke directly to audience or not?

_____ **Overall Effectiveness**
 Poised and well-rehearsed?
 Professionalism and confidence displayed?
 Rapport with audience?
 Climax of the literature clear?
 Innovative?

_____ **Total points (50 possible)** Judge's Signature _____

Time: _____ Minutes (Limit: 4-6 minutes) Judge's Affiliation _____

Tally Room Use Only
 -5 Deduction for Over or Under time in Preliminary rounds; **DISQUALIFIED** for Over or Under time in **FINALS**
 _____ **TOTAL ADJUSTED POINTS**