

INDIVIDUAL SPEAKING EVENTS. Following are the rules specific to each individual event. Be certain you have read and understood all the rules/suggestions listed under the general topic of Speaking Events.

A. DUET ACTING

1. Time:
 - a. 12 minute maximum
 - b. 8 minute minimum
 - c. 10 second grace period.
2. Purpose: Interpret cuttings from dramatic/humorous works. Introduction and all material must be memorized.
3. Notes, manuscripts, props, or costumes are not permitted. The performer's hair, glasses, clothing, etc. must remain the same during the performance as it was in the introduction. The performer may pantomime the removal of glasses, letting hair down, etc., but must not actually do so. No permanent adjustment can be made to the appearance of the contestant (ie – removal/addition of glasses, clothes or shoes, taking hair down or permanently putting in a ponytail, etc.) but any use of the body is appropriate to communicate the message of the scene. Failure to comply will result in a disqualification.
4. Exception:
 - a. Two chairs may be used in duet acting to create atmosphere and environment. Chairs will be supplied by the District Director at the district level and by appointees of the State Speech Committee. All contestants must use the same chairs provided for them.
 - b. Contestants interpret material through characterization and blocking. This is part of acting so stage blocking and movement are expected.
5. Selections: Selections must be cuttings from published, printed novels, short stories, plays or poetry. Recorded material that is not printed and published is prohibited. Adaptations may be for the purpose of continuity only. Material may be serious or humorous in nature. A selection must be from a single source. No Internet sources are allowed. The dialogue portion of a musical may be used. No more than 2 minutes of a song may be sung.
6. Introduction: A memorized introduction should set the scene and mood and include the title and author. Time for the introduction is included in the overall time limit.
7. Accept suggestion and criticism with good grace.

B. ORIGINAL ORATORY.

1. Time:
 - a. 10 minute maximum
 - b. **6 minute minimum**
 - c. **10 second grace period.**
2. Purpose: Contestant should present an oration which they have composed personally and which is memorized. No props or visual aids are permitted.
3. Contents:
 - a. Any appropriate subject may be used.
 - b. Speech should be persuasive in nature
 - c. Not more than 150 words of the oration may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing. Such quotations must be identified. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited.
 - d. The work can be edited after the district competition.
 - e. An Original Oratory is not poetry, nor song.
4. Documentation: Quotations from any other speech or writing must be identified in a typewritten copy of the oration supplied to the meet director. A copy of Statement of Originality should be attached to the speech.
5. Copy of the Speech. The district meet director will forward a copy of the speech to the State Speech Classification Coordinator for all State Qualifiers and Certified Alternates. Since work may be edited after the district meet, the state qualifiers and certified alternates will bring a copy of their speech with cited sources for quotes and a Statement of Originality to the State Meet for the State Speech Classification Coordinator.
6. Movement: No restrictions
7. No podium or similar device allowed.
8. Accept suggestions and criticism with good grace.

C. PERSUASIVE SPEAKING.

1. Time:
 - a. 7 minute maximum;
 - b. no minimum.
 - c. 10 second grace period.
2. Purpose: To train contestants to analyze a topic about a current issue, choose a point of view, and develop an original synthesis of current fact and opinion on the topic. The contestant then organizes and delivers an extemporaneous speech that seeks to persuade the listeners to agree with his viewpoint.
3. Materials: One 3 x 5 card may be used by the contestant when delivering his speech. No limit is placed on the information on that one card. Other than that one card and the topic slip, no other materials may be taken out of the preparation room.
4. Sources. Contestants should prepare for this contest by reading a daily newspaper and any of the many news magazines, as well as listening to the radio and television news broadcasts.
5. References. To prepare their speeches, contestants may use magazines, newspapers and other printed source materials and legal copies made by a copier as long as the material cannot be considered an outline of a speech. Published material from computer on-line data services may be used. The source of the published material should be included. Computer or other electronic retrieval devices may not be brought into the preparation room. Typed mimeographed or hand-written materials may not be brought into the preparation room except as a card index file prepared by the contestant solely to find references to specific topics.
6. Procedure. The following process will be used to conduct this contest.
 - a. *Drawing.* The Speech Director will separate the topics into individual slips, leaving one topic on each slip. These slips will be placed in a receptacle and one contestant will be required to draw out five slips. Each contestants must draw all five (5) slips before looking at any slip. He may then take as his topic any one of those slips. After he has made his selection and the Speech Director has recorded the topic selected, the remaining four slips will be returned to the receptacle. The slips should be mixed before the next contestant is allowed to draw. Contestants draw topics at approximately seven-minute intervals. After drawing topics, contestants should not discuss them with others. Coaches/spectators are not allowed in the preparation room.
 - b. *Preparation Time.* Preparation time begins for each contestant when the 5th slip has been drawn. A contestant is allowed thirty (30) minutes for preparation. He is not allowed to discuss his topic with others. A monitor on duty will make certain the contestants work quietly in preparing their speeches. At the end of 30 minutes of preparation, the contestant will be sent to the speaking room to deliver his speech.
7. Movement: No restrictions
8. Accept suggestion and criticism with good grace.

D. **POETRY INTERPRETATION.**

1. Time:
 - a. 7 minute maximum;
 - b. **3 minute minimum.**
 - c. **10 second grace period.**
2. Manuscript: Student should **read** selection(s) from a folder or notebook. Students shall not read from books or magazines. While students have usually practiced their selections often enough to have them memorized, they must visually refer to the manuscript as though it is being read.
3. Introduction: Must be memorized and delivered with notebook closed; it must contain the name and author of each selection, and include commentary which prepares audience for the performance. Imbedded introductions are allowed.
4. Selection: Cutting must be from a single poem or medley of poems from the same source (book) but not necessarily the same poet. Selections must be published. Selections from plays, screen plays, or song lyrics shall not be used in this category.
5. Movement: Spontaneous changes in posture and gesture are permissible, however the speaker must be careful to draw the line between “acting” and “moving.” Use of movement should
 - a. Be appropriate to the demands of the selection;
 - b. Be a natural outgrowth from the literature being read;
 - c. Not call attention to itself; and
 - d. Be limited to one (1) step in any direction and returning to the base position before any other movement is begun. The idea is the same as a basketball pivot – the contestant can have one foot planted while the other can move but the foot must return to the base position before picking up the other foot.
6. No props or costumes may be used. Dress appropriately for a public presentation.
7. No podium or similar device allowed.
8. Accept suggestion and criticism with good grace.

E. **PROSE INTERPRETATION.**

1. Time:
 - a. 7 minute maximum;
 - b. 3 minute minimum
 - c. 10 second grace period.
2. Manuscript: Student should **read** selection from a folder or notebook. Students shall not read from books or magazines. While students have usually practiced their selections often enough to have them memorized, they must visually refer to the manuscript as though it is being read.
3. Introduction: Must be memorized and delivered with notebook closed; it must contain the name and author of each selection, and include commentary which prepares audience for the performance. Imbedded introductions are allowed.
4. Selection: Cutting must be from a single source (book). Selections must be published in hard copy (no Internet sources). Documentation must be provided in advance. Selections from plays, screen plays, or song lyrics shall not be used in this category.
5. Movement: Spontaneous changes in posture and gesture are permissible, however the speaker must be careful to draw the line between “acting” and “moving.” Use of movement should
 - a. Be appropriate to the demands of the selection;
 - b. Be a natural outgrowth from the literature being read;
 - c. Not call attention to itself; and
 - d. Be limited to one (1) step in any direction and returning to the base position before any other movement is begun. The idea is the same as a basketball pivot – the contestant can have one foot planted while the other can move but the foot must return to the base position before picking up the other foot.
6. No props or costumes may be used. Dress appropriately for a public presentation.
7. No podium or similar device allowed.
8. Accept suggestion and criticism with good grace.

F. SOLO ACTING.

1. Time:
 - a. 10 minute maximum.
 - b. 6-minute minimum
 - c. 10 second grace period.
2. Purpose: Interpret cuttings from dramatic/humorous works. Contestants evaluate literary material through research and study and translate their interpretations into physical performances.
3. Notes, manuscripts, props, or costumes are not permitted. The performer's hair, glasses, clothing, etc. must remain the same during the performance as it was in the introduction. The performer may pantomime the removal of glasses, letting hair down, etc. but must not actually do so. No permanent adjustment can be made to the appearance of the contestant (ie – removal/addition of glasses, clothes or shoes, taking hair down or permanently putting in a ponytail, etc.) but any use of the body is appropriate to communicate the message of the scene.
4. Exception: Exception:
 - a. One chair may be used in solo acting to create atmosphere and environment. Chairs will be supplied by the District Director at the district level and by appointees of the State Speech Committee. All contestants must use the same chairs provided for them.
 - b. Contestants interpret material through characterization and blocking. This is part of acting so stage blocking and movement are expected.
5. Selections: Selections for Solo Acting may be cuttings from published, printed novels, short stories, plays or poetry. Recorded material that is not printed and published is prohibited. Adaptations may be for the purpose of continuity only. Monologues are acceptable. Material may be humorous or serious in nature. A selection must be from a single source. No Internet sources are allowed. The dialogue portion of a musical may be used. No more than 2 minutes of a song may be sung.
6. A memorized introduction should set the scene and mood and include the title and author. Time for the introduction is included in the overall time limit.
7. Accept suggestion and criticism with good grace.

(Sections 225-227 reserved for expansion.)