



Dogwood Speech & Debate League Speech/IE Critique Sheet

ROUND: 1 2 3 4 5 Q S F

SECTION: _____

EVENT: Program Oral Interpretation

SPEAKER'S NAME: _____ CODE: _____

ROOM #: _____ TITLE/TOPIC OF PERFORMANCE: _____

Judge Instructions: Please use the space below to write substantive comments about the performance of the speaker. It is important that you identify areas of both strength & weakness for improvement. Questions regarding the rules of the event may be found in the DSDL Judging Manual or by asking the tournament official at the ballot check-in table. Evaluate the speaker using the following criteria. There is a 10 minute maximum time limit with a 30 second grace period. If a contest goes over the grace period, they cannot be ranked first. For accuracy, please use a digital timer. If requested, please provide competitors with time signals. . A script may be used during the performance; be mindful that the script is not a prop & should be used as an essential part of the performance. The contestant should at least appear to be reading from the script.

Introduction: Are the title & author clearly stated? The introduction must name all selections & authors as well as provide necessary background information & establish the mood; however, there are no set guidelines as to when or how this information should appear. The introduction should set the stage, enhance the interpretation of the literature to the audience by providing information & analysis of the chosen theme.

Projection of Literature: The competitor should demonstrate a clear understanding of the literature & project the chosen theme, message & tone. Does the speaker convey the plot & its development? Is there a unifying theme to the program as a whole? Two or three genres:- prose, poetry or drama - can be used & consideration should be given to the literary merit of the selection.

Narrator/Character Creation: The narrator should be believable & conversational. Was the narrator able to lead the audience through the details of the literature, keeping a consistent & clear attitude toward people, objects, & events within the literature? Does the competitor develop & maintain a unique & distinctive narrative voice for each selection within the program? Is the interpreter able to demonstrate the characters' feelings & thoughts through the use of vocal inflections, facial expressions & appropriate intensity?

Voice, Diction, & Delivery: Is pronunciation acceptable? Is enunciation distinct? Is the performer speaking clearly? Are pitch, rate, & volume appropriate? Is there enough vocal variety? The interpreter should appropriately play with sound devices such as alliteration, & attend to the sound & meaning of every word. For poetry, the interpreter should capture & effectively vary existing poetic rhythm, making use of rhyme when necessary & avoiding it when not. Do gestures & expressions contribute to the interpretation of the material? Adaptations may only be used for the purpose of transitions.

Audience & Script Contact: Is there a natural balance between the audience & the script, where one does not take precedence over the other. Is the interpreter staying in the moment with facial expression & emotional consistence, when making contact with the manuscript? The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop so long as it remains in the contestants control at all times. The contestant must address the script: however, the introduction & transitions may be memorized. No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted.

Performance Overall: Does the speaker clearly communicate the selection? The overall performance should build to various moments & have a climax. Does the speaker maintain the listener's interest? Is the performance consistent?

RANKS & POINTS

Judges: The master ballot will provide some clarification on ranks & points.

This speaker earned a rank of 1 2 3 4 5 6/ 7 out of _____ in this round. (There are no ties permitted)

This speaker earned a total of _____ points in this round. (Points range from 80 – 100. Think of 80 as a C/average & 100 as an A+/perfect & ties are permitted).

Judge Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

School affiliation: _____

Briefly explain your REASON for Decision:

Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments.