

JUDGING INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

Explanation: Students are given a current event topic. Students have thirty minutes to prepare a response.

Judging tip: As these speeches concern controversial issues, please be as unbiased a listener as possible.

Time Limit: 7 minutes

Note: The speech should contain facts and statistics from reputable news sources. They should give their sources.

INFORMATIVE SPEAKING

Explanation: Students compose an original speech with the purpose of informing listeners about something new and pertinent. It must be delivered from memory. Students MAY use visual aids but they are not necessary.

Time Limit: 10 minutes.

Judging Tip: Students should not be advocating a position - merely discussing what it is and its importance.

ORIGINAL ORATORY

Explanation: Students write an original speech with the purpose of persuading the listeners. It must contain no more than 150 words of quoted material and be delivered from memory.

Judging Tip: Delivery is very important. Gestures and movement should add to the speech, not distract from it. Voice inflection and time should be employed to convey a mood or a feeling.

Time Limit: 10 minutes

RADIO SPEAKING

Explanation: Contestants read a newscast they have written in the past 24 in radio announcing style.

Time Limit: 5 minutes. This time limit should be strictly enforced.

Note: Judges in this event do not look at the contestant, but judge them only on the sound of their voice and the content of their newscast.

HUMOROUS/ DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

Explanation: Interpretation is the performance of a piece of literature by one person. The contestant's goal is to use their voice, gestures, face and posture (although movement should be limited) to draw you into the scene or story. The selection must be memorized.

Judging Tip: There should be a clear beginning, middle, and end. The introduction should give you a starting place and enough information to make the cutting understandable and purposeful.

Time Limit: 10 Minutes, including introduction.

DUO INTERPRETATION

Explanation: DUO Interpretation is the performance of a piece of literature by two people with offstage focus. The performer's goal is to use their voices, gestures, face and posture to draw you into the scene or story. The selection must be memorized.

Judging Tip: There should be a clear beginning, middle, and end. The introduction should give you a starting place and enough information to make the cutting understandable and purposeful.

Time Limit: 10 Minutes, including introduction.

PROSE/ POETRY READING

Explanation: One contestant will present a selection from published literature (prose); either a short story, novel, diary or essay, or one or several poems connected by theme or author.

Judging Tip: Their goal is to share the experience of the literature with you as a listener, by using their voice, facial expressions, and gestures to make the story come alive. The selection must include an introduction which gives enough information for a listener to understand the selection.

Time Limit: 8 minutes, including introduction.

PROGRAM ORAL INTERPRETATION (POI)

Explanation: Students combine plays, prose, and poetry to create their own story and argument.

Time Limit: 10 minutes

Judging Tip: Their goal is to share the experience of the literature with you as a listener, by using their voice, facial expressions, and gestures to make the story come alive. The selection must include an introduction which gives enough information for a listener to understand the selection.

STORYTELLING

Explanation: Student interprets a story intended for children through energetic vocal and physical delivery.

Time Limit: 8 minutes

Judging Tip: The performance should be lively, appropriate and entertaining for children.

JUDGING DEBATE EVENTS

Public Forum Debate

Explanation: This style of debate is designed to appeal to an audience. Two teams of two students each will debate the resolution (topic) below. In Public Forum Debate there is no specific terminology and there are no complex format rules in this style of debate.

Judging Tip: The resolution (topic) they will be debating for this tournament is:

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its military presence in the Arctic.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Explanation: In LD debate, two people debate each other on issues of **value**. The affirmative advocates a value (individual liberty? Justice?) and the negative will offer a value that clashes (societal welfare? Progress?). Often, the two debaters value similar things; however they will clash in terms of how they achieve their value, otherwise known as a **criterion**. The debaters should advocate their own position as well as refute the opponent's position.

Judging Tip: The resolution (topic) they will be debating for this tournament is:

Resolved: The United States ought to guarantee the right to housing.

POLICY DEBATE

Explanation: This is a two on two debate that asks the debaters to advocate or reject specific government action - laws and regulations - in terms of the given resolution. The affirmative team can select any specific law to implement that fits within the given resolution and the negative will try several strategies to convince you that such a policy action is not needed.

Judging Tip: The resolution (topic) they will be debating for this tournament is:

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase fiscal redistribution in the United States by adopting a federal jobs guarantee, expanding Social Security, and/or providing a basic income.