

CCofSE
Official Description of Junior Interpretation

WHAT ARE “INTERPRETATION” SPEECH EVENTS?

Interpretive speech events are events in which the competitor chooses a selection of published literature and creatively interprets the author's words for presentation from memorization and within the time limit.

WHAT IS JUNIOR INTERPRETATION?

Junior Interpretation is an interpretive speech event in which a competitor seeks to interpret and develop the intellectual, emotional and artistic aspects of a work of published literature or poetry for a uniquely original presentation.

LITERATURE

Literature may be chosen from the genre of prose (meaning literature in paragraph form) or poetry. Consideration will be given to the literary merit of the selection. Original work is prohibited, except for background information in an introduction and transitional words. The use of transitional words and the changing of verb tenses should be very limited. The presenter may not add language or take lines from a character and give them to another character. In cutting the selection, the presenter must always honor the author's intent and the integrity of the original work.

NATURE OF SELECTION

The selection may be humorous, serious or both. Humor must be beneficial. Vulgarity and profanity are prohibited. Humor and/or drama must come from the author's words and not solely from the creativity of the competitor.

JUNIOR INTERPRETATION SPEECH STRUCTURE

The selection should have a clear beginning, middle and end. The title and author of the selection must be introduced near the beginning, but may follow a teaser (lines from the selection) or other background information in an original introduction. There is a penalty for neglecting to cite the title and author.

A teaser shall not exceed thirty seconds; an introduction shall not exceed thirty seconds. The selection may need to be cut to fit the time limit, which could include one continuous scene, or cut from one or more scenes.

TIME LIMIT

Time begins when the speaker begins speaking and ends when the speaker has finished speaking. Maximum speech length for junior competitors is 5 minutes total. There is no minimum time requirement.

JUNIOR INTERPRETATION PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

- The presentation must be confined to center stage.
- Movement should be limited and suggested rather than exaggerated.
- This is an interpretation and NOT a theatrical performance.
- The presenter may present one or more characters.



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- The presenter is to maintain an off-stage focus while in character (and not make eye contact with the audience), except during narrative parts of the piece and original words in the introduction and transitions, during which they may make eye contact with the judges and audience.
- Dancing is prohibited.
- Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.
- Very brief singing that is suggested by or included in the literature may be utilized to enhance the emotional impact of the piece.
- No props, costumes, or audiovisuals may be used.



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