



CCofSE Official Description of Humorous Duo

WHAT ARE “INTERPRETATION” SPEECH EVENTS?

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

WHAT IS HUMOROUS DUO INTERPRETATION?

Humorous Duo is an interpretive speech event in which two competitors seek to interpret and develop the intellectual, emotional and artistic aspects of a work of published literature for a uniquely original dual presentation.

LITERATURE

Literature may be chosen from the genre of dramatic scripts (meaning stage plays only; no movie, radio or television scripts), prose (meaning literature in paragraph form) or poetry. Dramatic scripts and prose must come from a single piece of literature while poetry may be taken from a variety of sources united by a single poet.

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.

HUMOR

Selections must have beneficial humor. Vulgarity and profanity are prohibited. Humor must come from the author's words and not solely from the creativity of the competitor.

HUMOROUS DUO PRESENTATION 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 one minute. 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 speakers begin speaking and ends when the speakers have finished speaking. Maximum speech length for varsity competitors is 10 minutes total. There is no minimum time requirement.

HUMOROUS DUO PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Academically Focused

Christ Centered

Family Oriented
20081120



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- The presentation must be confined to the front and center of the presentation space.
- Movement should be limited and suggested rather than exaggerated.
- This is a literary interpretation and NOT a theatrical performance.
- The presenters may present one or more characters.
- Presenters are 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.
- Presenters are not allowed to make physical contact with each other during the presentation nor make eye contact. They should convince the audience that they truly see the other character(s) making no eye contact with each other.
- 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.
- Memorization is required. No scripts, notes, or prompting are allowed.