



JUDGE WORKSHEET

Open Interpretation

Description of Event

Judge: _____

Room: _____ Round: _____

Open Interpretation is an interpretive speech event in which a competitor seeks to interpret and develop the intellectual, emotional, and artistic aspects of a selection(s) of literature for a uniquely original presentation. Literature may be dramatic or humorous in nature, and it may include narrative storytelling, single voice monologues, or thematic compilations. Literature may be chosen from any genre, including, but not limited to plays, poems, novels, short stories, children's literature, song lyrics, great speeches, biographies, the Bible, essays or self-written work. However, media transcriptions from movies, TV, or audio recordings are not allowed. Consideration will be given to the literary merit of the selections.

Guidelines

- The presentation must be confined to the front and center of the presentation space.
- Time limit is 6 minutes; no minimum time; grace period of 15 seconds
- Memorization is required. No scripts, notes, or prompting are allowed.
- Movement should be limited and suggested rather than exaggerated.
- This is a literary interpretation and NOT a theatrical performance.
- The presenter may present one or more characters.
- Presenters are to maintain an off-stage focus while in character.
- 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.
- A piece that is deemed unsuitable or offensive should be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director.
- VIOLATIONS:
 - Failure to cite the title and author results in a 1-rank penalty.
 - Exceeding the time limit results in a 1-rank penalty.

Judge Worksheet Instructions

1. Record the topic of each speaker as they present.
2. After they are finished, rank speakers by the point totals from the ballots. (1st place is noted by "1", 2nd place "2", etc.) Place these rankings in column 1. There can be no ties in rankings.
3. Record violations, if any (see above), in column 2. If no violations occur, go to step 4.
4. Add columns 1 and 2 and record in column 3, if applicable.
5. In column 4, record the final rank. Break ties from column 3 by advancing the participant with no or fewer violations. (For example, if two are tied for 3rd place, advance the speaker with no violations to 3rd place and the other speaker *with a violation* to 4th place.)
6. IMPORTANT step: after filling out column 4, go back to the ballots and circle the final rank that each speaker was awarded based upon this worksheet.

Name of Speaker (in planned order)	Topic of Speech	Column 1: Original rank	Column 2: Violations, if any	Column 3: Add columns 1 & 2	Column 4: Final rank Break any ties

