



JV Prose Interpretation

Description: *JV Prose 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 for a uniquely original presentation.*

Goal: *To learn to select and analyze literature, then bring it to life through the creative use of voice, facial expression, and movement, in order to captivate and move an audience.*

JV Prose Administration Rules:

1. One judge in each room will be given room administration instructions.
2. The timepiece must be **facing toward the competitor and counting up**. Local tournaments may still choose to give verbal countdown signals every thirty (30) seconds until three (3) minutes have elapsed.

JV Prose Preparation Rules:

1. Literature must be chosen from the genre of prose (meaning literature in paragraph form). Stage plays and poetry are prohibited. Consideration should be given to the literary merit of the selection.
2. The selection(s) must be from a published work and may not be authored by the speaker.
3. The selection may be humorous, serious or both. Humor and/or drama must come from the author's words and not solely from the creativity of the competitor. Vulgarity, racial slurs and profanity are prohibited.
4. The use of transitional words and the changing of verb tenses should be very limited.
5. The competitor may not add language or take lines from one character and give them to another character.
6. Literature should be edited to fit the 8-minute time limit and could include one continuous scene, or be cut from one or more scenes. In cutting the selection, the speaker must always honor the author's intent and the integrity of the original work.
7. The selection should have a clear beginning, middle and end.
8. A teaser shall not exceed thirty seconds; An introduction shall not exceed one minute.
9. Once the competitor uses a selection (book, play, short story, etc.) in any competition in any venue, that speaker may not reuse any part of the published work in subsequent years of competition. (The Bible excepted).
10. The competitor may enter only one interpretive selection per event.
11. At each tournament the competitor must provide a script and scanned or photocopied pages from the original source. See the **Script Submission Form**.

JV Prose Presentation Rules:

1. The script must be memorized and delivered as written in the script. There is a two (2) rank penalty for use of a written script or notes in competition.
2. The title and author of the selection must be introduced near the beginning of the presentation, but may follow a teaser (lines from the selection) or other background information in an original introduction. There is a one (1) rank penalty for neglecting to cite the title and author.
3. No audio or visual aids or props may be used.
4. Competitors 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 or when speaking original words in the introduction and transitions, during which they may make eye contact with the judges and audience.
5. The presentation must be confined to the front and center of the presentation space. Movement should be limited and suggested rather than exaggerated. Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.
6. Very brief singing and dancing that is suggested by or included in the literature may be utilized to enhance the emotional impact of the piece.
7. Maximum speaking time is eight (8) minutes. There is no minimum time limit. Competitors will receive a one (1) rank penalty for going over time by 15 seconds or more.