



*A Dramatic Interpretation creatively explores and develops the intellectual, emotional, and artistic embodiment of a work of literature for performance.*

## **DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION**

### **GENERAL RULES**

- The competitor will select a non-original (written by another person) piece of literature to interpret from the genre of plays, prose, or poetry. Dramatic Interpretation material is dramatic in nature. Media transcriptions from movies, TV, or tape recordings are not allowed.
- The goal of the interpretive events is to develop a selection from a work of literature into a uniquely original performance that communicates both the oral and physical dimensions of the piece.
- Material must be prepared and used for the current NCFCA season only. (Previous seasons' speech and subject matter will be disqualified. Last season's Duo Interpretation cannot become this season's Dramatic Interpretation.) Competitors may appeal in extenuating circumstances.
- The title and author of the selection must be introduced. (A one rank penalty is required for failure to do so.) The identification of the piece should be near its beginning but may follow a teaser or other background information.
- Competitors may cut a piece of literature to fit the time limit. Up to 150 words may be added to the selection for introductory and transitional purposes as long as the additional words do not change the intent of the author.
- No props, costumes, audiovisuals, or gratuitous vulgarity will be allowed.
- Limited singing and dancing is permitted, but it must be purposeful and motivated by the literature.
- All action should generally take place center stage. Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.
- Audience participation or laughter that extends the time of a piece will not result in penalizing the speaker.
- Memorization is required. No scripts, notes or prompting are allowed. Use of a script in a National Qualifying Tournament requires a penalty of two ranks. Use of a script at the National Tournament requires disqualification.
- Each National Tournament participant will submit a copy of each script upon check-in at the National Tournament for any interpretative event in which he or she is eligible to compete.

**TIME LIMIT: 10-MINUTE MAXIMUM; NO MINIMUM TIME**

# DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION JUDGE WORKSHEET



NAME OF JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

ROOM \_\_\_\_\_ ROUND # \_\_\_\_\_

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- The goal of the interpretive events is to develop a selection from a work of literature into a uniquely original performance that communicates both the oral and physical dimensions of the piece.
- The title and author of the selection must be introduced. A one rank drop is required for failure to do so. The identification of the piece should be near the beginning of the piece but may follow a teaser or other background information.
- No props, costumes, audiovisuals, or gratuitous vulgarity will be allowed.
- Limited singing and dancing is permitted but it must be purposeful and motivated by the literature.
- All action should generally take place center stage. Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.
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## Tabulation Worksheet Instructions

- Rank presentations according to preference, 1 being the best, 2 being second best, etc., in the *Original Rank* column.
- Record penalties from the violations portion of the ballot in the *Penalties in Rank* column. Record a zero for no penalties.
- Add the original rank and penalties together and write the new rank in the *Re-Ranking* column.
- Using the *Re-Ranking* column to determine final ranks, proceed to fill in all the ranks in the *Final Rank* column. In the event of a tie, the higher rank (lower number) goes to the speaker with no, or fewer, penalties (e.g., two speakers have a 3 in the Re-Ranking column; Speaker A was originally ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> and Speaker B was 2<sup>nd</sup> with a 1 rank penalty; 2<sup>nd</sup> place now goes to Speaker A and 3<sup>rd</sup> place now goes to Speaker B.).
- Circle the final rank on each corresponding ballot.

NAME OF SPEAKER	TOPIC	ORIGINAL RANK	PENALTIES IN RANK	RE-RANKING	FINAL RANK
			+		
			+		
			+		
			+		
			+		
			+		
			+		
			+		



# DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION BALLOT

SPEAKER:	
ROOM:	
JUDGE:	
ROUND:	TIME:

**Judges:** *Your independent ballot is very important to us. Please do not discuss this ballot with anyone.  
Please rate the speaker for each of the following criteria.*

The speaker...	Poor				Superior
<b>Content Selection:</b>					
...presents quality selection of literary merit with universal appeal and unity of theme.	P	*	*	*	S
...moves, entertains, instructs, and/or provokes audience to thought.	P	*	*	*	S
...presents a selection that has a clear beginning, middle, end, climax and resolution.	P	*	*	*	S
<b>Content Analysis:</b>					
...demonstrates a thorough understanding of the emotional and intellectual complexities of the piece.	P	*	*	*	S
...defines and reflects the character's mental and emotional state; transitions smoothly between characters and scenes.	P	*	*	*	S
<b>Vocal Delivery:</b>					
...portrays character(s) with consistency and purpose, as motivated by literature.	P	*	*	*	S
...consistently creates distinct, well-defined character(s).	P	*	*	*	S
...creates mood; reinforces the emotional intent of selection.	P	*	*	*	S
...uses voice to project and articulate with appropriate emphasis; applies proper tone, pitch, rate, fluency, pacing, and inflection.	P	*	*	*	S
<b>Physical Delivery:</b>					
...portrays movement of character(s) distinctly and appropriately to age, health, purpose and emotional intent.	P	*	*	*	S
...incorporates facial expressions, poise, and posture that is purposeful and motivated by character(s).	P	*	*	*	S
<b>Overall Presentation:</b>					
...recreates emotional and intellectual intent of the literature.	P	*	*	*	S
...meets time requirement.	P	*	*	*	S
...demonstrate proficiency of delivery including poise and appropriate personal appearance.	P	*	*	*	S
...establishes emotional and mental rapport with audience.	P	*	*	*	S
<b>VIOLATIONS REQUIRING A PENALTY IF NECESSARY:</b>					
Failure to cite title & author (1 rank) + _____ Use of script (2 ranks) + _____ = Total penalty in rank(s) _____					
<b>FINAL RANK WITHIN ROUND INCLUDING PENALTIES:</b> (Circle one)					
#1 First	#2 Second	#3 Third	#4 Fourth	#5 Fifth & Below	

**Reason for Ranking and other Comments:** (Use back of sheet for additional comments.)