

Rhetoric Speech Meet

Friday, February 28th, 2013

Guidelines

- All selections must be approved by the teacher.
- The presentation will be graded once in class and once during the speech meet. The final performance is worth a test grade. (10th grade English, 11th & 12th grade Rhetoric)
- Microphones, cameras, or other recording equipment are not permitted in the meet.
- All selections should include an introduction which is included in the time.
- Students going over or under the time allotment for the category will be penalized one point for each 30 seconds over or under. Students not following the category guidelines will be penalized five points.
- Students may not perform a piece which they have memorized for a class, or for a previous speech meet.
- Students in the same class may not choose the same piece.
- Please choose your piece carefully. Once your selection is turned in to your teacher, it may not be changed.

Categories

POETRY (Student recites a poem from memory.) Time: 3-5 minutes

- Selections must be chosen from published speeches of high literary merit. They cannot be the written work of students (or family, friends, etc.).
- Students may edit selections (with teacher's approval) but may not add words to the piece.
- An introduction should be given including the title and author of the poem.
- The poem must be memorized.
- Gestures or pantomime must be used with restraint.

DUET ACTING (2 students memorize a piece and act it out) Time: 6-10 minutes

- Two students will present one scene from a single work of literature: novel, short story, children's book, play, or poem.
- The piece must be memorized.
- An introduction will be given, consisting of the characters' names, title, author, and setting.
- Allowable props include a small table, chairs, and small hand props. No other props are permitted.
- Costume pieces are permissible (hat, scarf, glasses, etc.) to distinguish characters. Full costuming is not allowed.
- Vocal patterns, facial expressions, and posture should distinguish one character from another.
- Balanced participation between the students is required.

READERS THEATER (3-5 students read a story) Time 6-15 minutes

- 3-5 students will present one scene from a single work of literature: novel, short story, children's book, play, or poem.
- Scripts are permitted and should be in folders (all the same color). Scripts should be either held or placed on a music stand in front of each performer.
- Scripts should be read as opposed to acting the scene out.
- An introduction will be given, consisting of the characters' names, title, author, and setting.
- No scenery or props are allowed.
- There is no physical movement – performers either stand or sit in chairs.
- Costume pieces are permissible (hat, scarf, glasses, etc.) to distinguish characters. Full costuming is not allowed.
- Vocal patterns, facial expressions, and posture should distinguish one character from another.
- Balanced participation between students is required.

LITERARY INTERPRETATION (Student reads a story) Time: 3-5 minutes

- Selections must be chosen from published stories or plays.
- Gestures or pantomime must be used with restraint.
- A hardback book or manuscript in a black folder may be used.
- An introduction will be given, consisting of the characters' names, title, author, and setting.
- Vocal patterns, facial expressions, and posture should distinguish one character from another.
- Students may edit selections (with the teacher's approval) but not add words to the piece.

HISTORICAL or LITERARY SPEECHES (Student memorizes a speech) Time 3-5 minutes

- Selections must be chosen from published speeches of high literary merit or historical significance.
- Students may edit selections (with teacher's approval) but not add words to the piece.
- An introduction explaining the significance of the speech should be given.
- The speech must be memorized.
- Gestures or pantomime must be used with restraint.

ORIGINAL ORATORY Time: 3-5 minutes

This presentation is to be written by the student and may take one of the following forms:

HISTORICAL PERSONA Time 3-5 minutes

- The student is to act out or create a role for himself as an historical figure.
- Full costuming is permitted.
- An introduction may be used, but is not required.
- Direct quotes from literary works are permitted, but the presentation should be given in the first person.
- Notes may be used with restraint.

SALESMANSHIP Time: 3-5 minutes

- The purpose of this event is to sell a singular, legitimate product and may include variations of that product.
- Speaker must identify brand. "Services" are not considered legitimate products.
- The **actual** product (not a model) must be displayed and/or demonstrated.
- Presentation may be memorized. Notes on one side of a 4 x 6 card may be used, but texts are not permitted.
- In order to demonstrate the function of a product, that product may be put on as the demonstration begins.

HUMOR/TALL TALES Time: 3-5 minutes

- The selection must be the student's own work, however parts of the selection may be gleaned from a written piece, taken from a comedic routine, or a combination thereof.
- Credit must be given to the sources used.
- Costuming and props are not permitted.
- The selection must be a cohesive piece. Jokes are permitted; however, the entire performance must not be a series of "one liners."
- Manuscripts may be used.

ORIGINAL ORATORY Time: 3-5 minutes

- A persuasive speech written by the student.
- The purpose is to convince or persuade.
- The speech may be delivered from memory, or from limited use of notes.
- This speech should discuss the topic intelligently, in an interesting manner, with profit to the audience.
- Visual aids, such as a poster or picture, are allowed but not required.
- The use of quoted material is limited to 90 words.