

KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
SPEECH & DRAMA FESTIVALS

ORAL INTERPRETATION (*Reading of Poetry*)

NAME _____ CODE # _____

SELECTION _____ ROUND _____ ROOM _____

Judge's Signature: _____

"Poetry interpretation is the reading of poetry so that the performer's voice and responsive use of the body create the real or imagined world of the selection. Poetry is writing which expresses ideas, experience or emotion through the creative arrangement of words according to their sound, their rhythm and their meaning. Poetry relies on verse and stanza form. The poetry shall be no longer than 7 minutes."

—KSHSAA Speech and Drama Manual

**Please write judge's comments on the front and the back of this ballot.
Remember, this is to be a learning experience.**

Some considerations in judging Poetry Interpretation:

Choice of Selections

- A. Do the selections fit the reader's personality and capabilities?
- B. Do the selections have sufficient literary merit to warrant study and practice for interpretation before a group?

Adequacy of Introduction

- A. Does the introduction give sufficient information to establish the proper mood and understanding on the part of the student?
- B. Does it arouse attention and interest?
- C. Was the transition from the introduction to the selection done effectively and smoothly?

Comprehension of Selections

- A. Does the reader respond emotionally to the thought and mood?
- B. Does he/she understand theme, purpose and author's point of view?

- C. Does he/she understand intent of unusual words and figures of speech?
- D. Does he/she emphasize the words and phrases on which the humor or drama of the selections depends?

Audience Contact

- A. Is the reader well poised?
- B. Does he/she exhibit genuine desire to communicate with his/her audience?
- C. Are his/her face and body responsive to the mood of the selection?
- D. Is the manuscript an integral part of the performance?

Voice and Diction

- A. Is the reader's voice adequate, pleasant and responsive to the meaning of the selection?
- B. Is the pronunciation acceptable?
- C. Is the enunciation distinct without being pedantic?

Time Limit: If an official timekeeper is present, any performance in excess of the 15-second grace period shall not receive the "I" ranking in the round. Any performer(s) exceeding 30 seconds over the time limit shall receive the lowest ranking in the round. If no official timekeeper is present, no penalty shall be enforced. THE JUDGE SHALL NOT SERVE AS OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPER.

Participant's Information: Please remember that the sections of your ballot do not carry equal weight. Each judge is allowed to determine the percentage evaluation of each section.

KSHSAA SPEECH & DRAMA FESTIVALS

Check **ONE ROMAN NUMERAL (I=BEST) FOR DIVISION RATING**

I II III IV

Comments: