

NATIONAL CATHOLIC FORENSIC LEAGUE

Dramatic Performance Critique Sheet

Code: _____ Name: _____ Round: _____ Room: _____ Rank: _____ out of _____

Title: _____ Author: _____

Judge's Code: _____ Name: _____ School/League: _____

Criteria For Judging:

- The introduction should name the work and the author and give the audience all necessary background information as well as establish the mood of the work.
- Eye contact should be direct and comprehensive during the introduction and transitions.
- The memorization should be natural and effective.
- Fluency, articulation, enunciation, and vocal quality should enhance communication.
- The selection should contain a reasonable depth of character and theme.
- Characters should be distinct from each other if the speaker has chosen a multi-character presentation.
- Characterization should be consistently maintained.
- Speakers should demonstrate an awareness of the selection's development and its build to a climax.
- Gesture, body language, and movement ought to be appropriate to the character(s) being portrayed.
- The speakers should have vocal variety to facilitate and enhance communication.
 - By changing pitch
 - By changing pace or rate
 - By changing tone
 - By pausing for dramatic effect or clarity
- The speakers should demonstrate emotional involvement with the selection.
- There should be clear communication of the mood or idea of the work as a whole.
- The speakers should select material appropriate to their abilities.

Rules of Procedure:

1. The presentation must be from a published play or acceptable published script (not prose or poetry). The author's words as published in the literature may not be altered for this performance with the exception that cutting is permitted. The cutting may be serious or humorous, and it should have some literary merit. Scenes from musicals are acceptable, provided that the singing be limited to a maximum of thirty (30) seconds total within the presentation. One-character plays, monologues, and soliloquies will be allowed.
2. The selection must be memorized.
3. Speakers may not take lines belonging to one character in the script and apply them to a different character in the performance.
4. No properties or costumes of any kind may be used.
5. Although this is primarily a display of vocal ability, body language will play a part in the overall performance. Since this is a memorized performance, and since it is a drama, more vocal and physical suggestion may be required in order to portray characters, conflict, and story. However, no physical action should be performed that will distract the audience's attention from the drama being performed.
6. Important consideration should be given to the quality of the selection.
7. This performance should not exceed ten (10) minutes, including at most one minute of introduction and transitional material other than the author's words. Any overtime beyond the thirty-second grace period is excessive. Judges may not award first place to any contestant speaking beyond the thirty-second grace period.

**USE THIS SIDE AND THE OTHER SIDE FOR SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS.
BE CERTAIN TO INCLUDE JUSTIFICATION FOR YOUR RANKING.**