

Humorous Interpretation Judging Rules and Guidelines

a. Contest requirements

1. Literature

- (a) Literature for performance will be from published, printed novels, short stories, plays or poetry. The material should be of recognized literary merit.
- (b) Recorded material that is not printed and published is prohibited.
- (c) Material from the Internet that is not printed and published in any other media is prohibited.
- (d) A student may not use a cutting from a work of literature that the student used in THSSDL competition in any previous contest year.
- (e) The original published source of any selections used must be immediately available at the tournament, as well as a complete script of the cutting.
- (f) The literature may not be the student's own work.
- (g) Monologues are acceptable

2. Time

- (a) The maximum time limit is ten (10) minutes with a 30 second "grace" period.
- (b) The introduction to the selection is considered part of the overall time limit.
- (c) Penalties will be imposed for exceeding the time limit

3. Performance

- (a) Vocal, facial, and bodily expressions may be used as long as they do not call attention to the interpreter as a performer; detract from the meaning of the material, or constitute acting or impersonation.
- (b) Evaluation will be based on the student's ability to reveal insight into the mood and implications of the selection, projection of the dramatic qualities, and success in creating a uniform scene or story.
- (c) Literature will be performed from memory.

b. Judging criteria

Oral Interpretation of Humorous Literature will be judged on the choice of selection: its appropriateness, and literary merit and the challenge it offers the performer. The contestant will also be evaluated on the development of the characters within the scene and effective use of comic skills — timing, etc. Vocal and physical control and the ability to suggest characters will be important, as well as the overall effect of the selection. Evaluation will be based upon the student's ability to reveal insight into the mood and implications of the selection, projection of the dramatic qualities, and success in creating a uniform scene or story.