

ARTICLE XVIII

Storytelling

Section 1. Entries. Each school may enter from one to three contestants in the District Contest.

Section 2. Selections/Materials. Stories may be taken from any source, e.g. children's literature, science fiction, classical literature, fables, mythology, etc. Winners at the District Contest may change selections for the State Contest. The speaker may indicate the story title and author as a part of the presentation. However, the Room Chair must give the student's name, title and author.

Section 3. Length. The story will be of such nature that the introduction and the telling of the story will not exceed five minutes.

Section 4. Preparation and Presentation.

Clause 1. The storyteller must sit on a stool after Room Chair announces the student's name, title, and author or after the student optional stated introduction. The stool may not be used as a prop. Host school will provide the stool or the student may bring their own stool.

Clause 2. The contestant will be introduced by name, title, and author.

Clause 3. Students must not costume. They may however adjust normal wearing apparel to enhance characterization (i.e. straightening tie, pushing glasses down on nose, adjustment of hair). Student may not use wearing apparel as a prop. Properties may not be used.

Section 5. Timing and Signals. The Local Manager will appoint a timekeeper who will use a timing device and indicate with timing cards the time as it elapses. At the end of the first minute of the speech, a four will be held up, at the end of the second minute, a three will be held up and so on down the scale of numbers - 2, 1, 1/2 and 0. At the end of five minutes, the timer will rise and say STOP. The speaker must stop at once or be subject to the penalty of disqualification. (Article III, Section 6, By-Laws)

Section 6. Judging.

Clause 1. The presentation should reflect the speaker's ability to tell/recreate the author's story. Note cards are not to be used.

Clause 2. The role of the storyteller is primarily that of a narrator. However, the speaker may assume the role of a character when involved in direct dialogue. In addition, the storyteller might assume a character role as a narrator. The story may be given as author had written or may be reworded in students' own words.

CASEBOOK

Questions - Answers

1. Q. May a manuscript be used in Storytelling?
A. No. The contestant is not to use notes or other material.
2. Q. May I use a book in the telling of my story?
A. The use of a book in Storytelling automatically invites the placement of the presentation in "Interpretation of Prose."
3. Q. May a student use note cards during a presentation?
A. No.
4. Q. Is it permissible for a student to preface Storytelling with an introduction to establish the desired atmosphere with particular regard to the age of the audience?
A. Yes
5. Q. Should a student suggest or assume a character?
A. The role of the storyteller is primarily that of a narrator; however, the speaker may assume the role of a character when involved in direct dialogue. In addition, the storyteller might assume a character as the narrator.
6. Q. May a student give the introduction sitting on a stool?
A. An introduction may be given; however, it may be given on the stool or standing.
7. Q. **May the performer utilize body tension and movement, gestures, vocal inflection, and facial expressions to tell the story?**
A. Yes, as long as the performer remains seated. The extent of bodily tension and movement, gestures, vocal inflection and facial expression used should be dictated by content of the story.
8. Q. Must the introduction come first?
A. No, the introduction can follow a preview/teaser.
9. Q. If the author of the story is anonymous/unknown, must the Room Chair announce this?
A. Yes, the audience **MUST** be made aware of this.
10. Q. Does the student have to give an introduction?
A. No, the student may if they choose.