

ARTICLE IX

Acting

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

Section 2. Selections. The selection(s) used will be such as normally falls within the generally understood meaning of acting material. It may be either humorous or dramatic or a combination of both. It may be of an original nature. The selection may be a monologue. A member school will not use material in this area which is identical to that used in any other individual event. All material must be memorized. The contestant may render the same selection in the District Contest and State Contest.

Section 3. Length. The selection will not exceed eight minutes.

Section 4. Preparation and Presentation.

Clause 1. A single chair may be used in any way a student deems necessary and appropriate.

Clause 2. Students must not costume. They may, however, adjust normal wearing apparel to enhance characterization (i.e. straightening tie, pushing glasses down on nose). Students may not use wearing apparel as a property (i.e. removing it and placing it somewhere in the room). Properties (other than the chair) will not be used.

Clause 3. Prompting of any kind will disqualify a contestant.

Section 5. Timing. 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 seven will be held up, at the end of the second minute, a six will be held up and so on down the scale of numbers - 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 1/2 and 0. At the end of eight 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. In rating the contestant, the judges will be instructed to observe the following criteria: choice of material, analysis of material, assimilation of material, projection of thought and emotion, use of bodily activity and use of vocal technique.

CASEBOOK**Questions - Answers**

1. Q. May a student use their own person such as using a lapel, fooling with hair or glasses without considering this a prop?
A. Yes, this would be allowed.
2. Q. A contestant, when playing the part of a grandmother, puts her glasses down and looks over them slightly. When out of this character, she simply pushed them back up a bit. Is this permissible stage accessory?
A. Yes, this would be allowed.
3. Q. May a student give a short introduction before beginning the presentation?
A. Yes, but it must be included within the time limit associated with this activity of participation.
4. Q. May a contestant use a chair of their own choice?
A. No. The contestant will use the chair provided by the contest manager.
5. Q. A contestant performs a selection that is only dramatic in nature. Will this be allowed?
A. Yes. The selection may be all dramatic, all humorous, or a combination of dramatic and humorous.
6. Q. Will impersonation be permitted?
A. Yes, but the creative individuality of the student should be encouraged.
7. Q. May singing be permitted in Acting?
A. Yes, as long as it is not the sustaining force of the presentation.
8. Q. Students have used hats, sometimes complete costumes, gloves, etc., in Acting. Under the By-Laws, are these acceptable?
A. The use of appointments, such as hats, costumes, gloves, etc., in Acting is expressly forbidden.
9. Q. Is the contestant required to use a chair?
A. No.
10. Q. Could the student use two selections of contrasting or similar nature - i.e. one humorous and one serious?
A. Yes.
11. Q. Must the introduction come first?
A. No, the introduction can follow a preview/teaser.
12. Q. Does a contestant performing multiple characters need to use blocking?
A. No.
13. Q. May the contestant use either a monologue or a multi-character cutting?
A. Yes, a contestant may choose either.
14. Q. May contestants use any part of the performance room except the floor?
A. Contestants should not use parts of the performance room that could be considered props, such as doors, tables, desks, windows, walls, etc.
15. Q. Are stand-up comic routines acceptable in Acting?
A. No, this is an acting area. Stand-up routines which are merely a series of jokes may invite a lower rating.