

ARTICLE XXV
Choral Reading

Section 1. Entries.

Clause 1. Each school will be entitled to enter one Choral Reading group in the District Contest.

Clause 2. Choral Reading groups will consist of three through fifteen students.

Section 2. Selections/Materials.

Clause 1. Material used for Choral Reading will be drawn from any form of literature. It may consist of portions from more than one large selection.

Clause 2. A member school will not use material in this area which is identical to that used in other large group events.

Clause 3. Each school will be responsible for securing performance rights.

Section 3. Length. The length of the performance will be limited to fifteen minutes.

Section 4. Preparation and Presentation.

Clause 1. All performers must have a script but may have the presentation all memorized. Scripts may be temporarily set down.

Clause 2. The Choral Reading group may use props, uniforms, costumes and/or make-up which they deem necessary to support and extend the meaning of their selection. All of these must be furnished by the participant.

Clause 3. A group will have five minutes to set up equipment in the performing room, and all time beyond this five minutes will be taken off their performance time.

Clause 4. **Singing, dancing, musical instruments, sound effects, and appropriate blocking may be used as long as it supports the main purpose of the oral interpretation, but must remain secondary to Choral Reading.**

Clause 5. The Choral Reading must be adjusted to any assigned room.

Section 5. Timing. The Local Manager will appoint a timekeeper. No signal will be given until the expiration of fifteen minutes, at which time a whistle signal will be used to call the performance to an end. The contestant must stop immediately or be subject to the penalty of disqualification. It will be the responsibility of the chairperson judge to determine whether this regulation is violated. (Article III, Section 6, By-Laws)

Section 6. Judging. Judging will be based on effective oral interpretation, creativity, ensemble blend, (projection of thought, emotion, control of bodily activity, rhythm and vocal control) and ability of the group to convey the message of the selection cutting.

Section 7. Winners.

Clause 1. The same selection must be used at State Contest.

Clause 2. Any school winning a Division I rating in the State Contest the preceding year may not use the same selection the next year.

Clause 3. A student who receives a Division I rating in Choral Reading in the State Contest may participate in Choral Reading again.

CASEBOOK
Questions - Answers

1. Q. If an accompanist is used, are they regarded as one of the fifteen students?
A. Yes.
2. Q. May any medium be used in Choral Reading?
A. Yes, but one should keep in mind the facilities and limitations imposed.
3. Q. If support personnel are used, are they regarded as part of the fifteen students?
A. Yes.
4. Q. Does an accompanist have to carry a script or have speaking lines in the performance?
A. No. An accompanist may contribute to the performance by playing or by singing without being required to hold a script. The accompanist will, however, be regarded as one of the fifteen students.
5. Q. Does the Choral Reading have to include singing, dancing, musical instruments, sound effects and appropriate blocking if the main purpose of the Choral Reading is emphasized through oral interpretation?
A. No.
6. Q. May a device that creates smoke or fog effects be used during the presentation?
A. No. These devices may cause health concerns (i.e. asthma, allergies) and/or delay set-up time for the next performer.
7. Q. Is there a suggestion as to what proportion of solo to ensemble should be used in the choice of a script?
A. The primary emphasis in Choral Reading is on a blend of voices conveying the message of the selection.
8. Q. Must students read from script for the entire presentation?
A. No. Students may refer to the script and scripts must remain within the performance area if they are temporarily set down.
9. Q. May blocking and movement be used?
A. Yes, movement is allowed but not necessary. Style of performance is at the discretion of the director.
10. Q. What defines "script"?
A. A script may take the form of text on a prop, costume piece, binder or electronic device.
11. Q. May performers leave the room?
A. No.
12. Q. Does the script need to be identifiable?
A. Yes. If there is a question about the script's identity, a judge may request to see one.