

ARTICLE XXVII

Solo Mime

Section 1. Entries.

Clause 1. Each school will be entitled to enter from one to three mime contestants in the District Contest.

Clause 2. Each mime will consist of one student.

Section 2. Selections/Materials.

Clause 1. The participant will prepare their own mime, and will title it so that its title can be listed on the District Contest program.

Clause 2. The title does not have to appear on the District eligibility sheet.

Clause 3. The title must be on a placard for purposes of introducing the mime. Having the time and place on the placard is optional.

Section 3. Length. The length of the performance will be limited to five minutes. Timing will begin with the first movement or music after the performers have been announced.

Section 4. Preparation and Presentation.

Clause 1. There must be a definite beginning and end.

Clause 2. The performer may not leave the playing area during the performance.

Clause 3. The performer may accompany their performance with recorded music without words. Technology to play music may be used but must be provided by the contestant. The machine may be operated by another person, not to be part of the mime and not to be wearing identifiable school apparel. No other properties or sound effects may be used. One chair provided by the contest manager or one chair provided by the participating school may be used as the performer sees fit.

Clause 4. No mime make-up is to be worn. Apparel must not convey characterization or personal identification.

Clause 5. The mime must be of such a nature that it can be presented in any room provided by the host school. No special lighting may be required. An easel for the placement of the placard must be provided by the host school or may be provided by the contestant.

Section 5. Timing. The Local Manager will appoint a timekeeper. No signal will be given until the expiration of five minutes, at which time the timekeeper will rise and say STOP. Contestant must stop immediately, upon penalty of disqualification. (Article III, Section 6, By-Laws.)

Section 6. Judging. Judging will be based upon acting effectiveness, creativity, body control, movement and ability of the performer to convey its intended message.

Section 7. Winners.

Clause 1. The same idea or theme may be used in the State Contest.

Clause 2. A student who receives a Division I rating in Solo Mime in the State Contest may participate in mime again.

CASEBOOK **Questions - Answers**

1. Q. Do such deliberate sounds as stamping of feet, or snapping of fingers constitute sound effects?
A. Yes, and the contestant using such technique may invite a disqualification.
2. Q. Is the mouthing of words permissible?
A. With the exception of isolated single syllable words (oh, hi, yes, no, etc.). However, when more than one word is mouthed in sequence (such as "oh, no") this is not permissible. Also repeating of single syllable words creating dialogue is not permissible. It is the intention of the category to place the emphasis on bodily action while not discouraging the use of facial expressions.
3. Q. What determines if the placard is used as a prop?
A. If it is used for any purpose but to introduce the time and place, it is a prop.
4. Q. Must mime present a story?
A. No. An idea may be presented without a storyline.
5. Q. If a contestant receives a Division I rating at the State Contest, may the student compete the following year?
A. Yes. Solo Mime is considered a large group event.
6. Q. Could apparel detract from the effectiveness of the mime and thereby not enhance the mime?
A. Yes, if the apparel conceals bodily tension or movement.
7. Q. Must a large acting area be used for mime to be effective?
A. No, the illusion of movement can be created in a limited area, however, the performer should not be penalized for using the entire performance area.
8. Q. Is one style of mime automatically preferable to any other?
A. No, all styles are equally available to mime.
9. Q. May a mat be used for a floor covering?
A. Yes.
10. Q. Can the background music for mime come from more than one musical selection?
A. Yes.
11. Q. Can the music for mime stop and start again?
A. Yes. There may be lapses of silence between portions of music.
12. Q. Could a chair be used as another object (shopping cart, stroller) during the performance?
A. Yes, however, some judges may consider such uses to be unnecessary to create the illusion.
13. Q. May the chair be moved during the performance?
A. Yes.
14. Q. Must the mime music begin with the performance?
A. No, the music may start or stop at any time during the performance.
15. Q. May students adjust or use wearing apparel during the mime for characterization (i.e. put hands in pockets)?
A. No, actions portraying use of pockets, adjusting ties, etc. should be mimed.
16. Q. May the mime performance be choreographed to the music?
A. Yes
17. Q. Can music with vocalizations but without lyrics be used?
A. Yes, when the voice is used to replicate an instrument (i.e. Humming, beat boxing, whistling or other musical vocalizations that do not use actual words).
18. Q. When does timing begin for a mime performance?
A. Timing will begin with the first movement or music after the performers have been announced.
19. Q. May a mime be performed without music?
A. Yes