

Creative Communications (Recitation or Dramatic Interpretation) Evaluation Guidelines
Adapted for SE District 4-H Public Presentations (revised April 2016 MF)

Delivery	Needs Improvement	Met Expectations	Above Expectations	Outstanding
Introduction	Lacking introduction. Abrupt, unclear, or insufficient introduction.	General and adequate introduction, introduces topic to audience.	Strong introduction. Opening remarks creatively stimulate interest in the piece, establishes connection to and engages audience. Personal introduction included.	Exceptional introduction. Opening remarks creatively stimulate interest in the piece, explain background or context of piece, introduce characters, setting, historical significance and source of piece. Personal introduction included.
Gestures	No use of appropriate gestures. Minimal use of appropriate gestures	Hand and body movements appropriate to content or character.	Good use of gestures normal, spontaneous, and natural	Excellent use of gestures; normal and spontaneous, enhances points and transitions.
Conveys Tone/Mood	Tone or mood of piece not conveyed Minimal conveyance of tone or mood	Facial expressions, tone of voice and inflection conveys mood of piece or personality of character.	Appropriate use of dramatic voice and tone; pulls audience.	Message vastly enhanced by tone; carries audience.
Smoothness/Flow	Halting or abrupt transitions; lengthy pauses Choppy, with some pauses	Fluid delivery; smooth transitions; appropriate pace and pauses.	Fluid and natural delivery. Good use of pauses and drama enhance overall flow; appropriate pauses at transitions between explanation, recitation, and conclusion.	Outstanding pacing enhances recitation, conveys character, excellent use of pauses as transitions between explanations, recitation, and conclusion.
Articulation	Many mispronounced words; lacks clear enunciation throughout piece Occasional mispronounced words. Some unclear words.	Words generally pronounced clearly and correctly throughout piece; inflection appropriate.	Excellent articulation - enunciates complex words clearly; conveys character.	Outstanding enunciation and pronunciation throughout piece; inflection and fluency in delivery; excellent portrayal of character.
Appropriate Length	Presenter goes under 5 minutes or over 15 minutes. (not Q&A)	Consider the Subject matter: Does the presentation adequately cover the topic in the time allotted? Could this presentation have used more time or less time? Score based proportionately on effective use of time		Presenter uses time masterfully in proportion to subject matter.
Proper use of Presentation Materials	Reads from notes. Too heavy reliance on notes; long pauses not related to recitation	Notes or book used for quick reference only. Use of aids does not interfere with flow.	Minimal use of cards as cues.	Outstanding memorization with natural delivery
Conclusion	No concluding verbal statement; or dramatic closure. Closing verbal or dramatic insufficient	Clearly defined conclusion or closure	Creative verbal or dramatic conclusion/closure. Clear impact.	Excellent, well-orchestrated with powerful impact

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Presenter	Needs Improvement	Met Expectations	Above Expectations	Outstanding
Appearance	Inappropriate dress for public presentation; some aspects of presentation appearance, <i>within the personal control of the presenter</i> , could be improved upon (i.e., dirty hands, unkempt hair, shoes untied etc)	Neat and clean, appropriate attire for public speaking.	Neat, clean, appropriate attire for public speaking. In Dramatic Interp: Theme related costume required. Costume effectively represents character and enhances presentation	For recitation: extra thought and effort given to appearance or dress may subtly reflect mood of recitation. For dramatic interp: Costuming strongly represents character and theme.
Voice Volume & Rate	Voice too soft, barely audible. Rate too fast or too slow. Voice not clear; inconsistent rate, voice drops off.	Voice clear, generally consistent rate projects well, does not drop off.	Assured and confident. Appropriate posture throughout piece.	Confident natural body language enhances character and/or piece.
Posture/Poise	Leans or slouches inappropriately to selected piece. Occasional slouching or leaning; rigidity or stiffness in posture Appears somewhat uneasy or nervous	Generally stands erect, moves confidently, posture changes to reflect character or context of presentation Appears generally calm and relaxed in front of an audience.	Assured and confident. Appropriate posture throughout piece. Appears calm, relaxed; conveys confidence and seems comfortable in front of audience.	Confident natural body language enhances character and/or piece. Shows extreme calm, is relaxed and personable, engages audience with confident demeanor and comfort.
Eye Contact	Does not establish eye contact or only occasional eye contact	Established eye contact with one or two persons in audience; appropriate as determined by selected piece.	Established eye contact with entire audience appropriately as determined by selected piece	Excellent use of eye contact; established and maintained eye contact with entire audience throughout presentation as determined by selected piece.
Enthusiasm	Presenter lacks enthusiasm or some enthusiasm shown; needs more	Presenter conveys personal interest and enthusiasm for piece	Clear enthusiasm shown throughout piece	Infectious enthusiasm that embraces audience
Fielded Questions Adequately (does not count against presentation time)	Unable to respond in any way to questions. Hesitant, unsure of Answer; lacks confidence in knowledge.	Responds accordingly to question & could include "I do not know."	Repeats the question & answers correctly. A response of "I don't know but will attempt to find this out" is preferable.	Repeats question, gives clear, accurate response, may use many responses if more than one question asked. May show desire to seek out unknown answers or give possible sources.
Literary Selection	Needs Improvement	Met Expectations	Above Expectations	Outstanding
Appropriate for Presentation Level	Overly simple or too complex for age and experience	Well suited to age and experience of speaker	Challenges presenter, well executed	Challenges presenter; superior execution
Stimulates Audience Interest	Lacks audience appeal; only some interest generated	Selected work engages audience and generates interest	Selection engages audience and maintains interest throughout	Selection has broad appeal and stimulates interest throughout
Appropriate Understanding of Subject	Does not convey or only conveys partial understanding of selected work	Conveys adequate understanding of selected work	Conveys through understanding of work	Outstanding, conveys extensive knowledge of work
Content: Documented & Researched	No reference to content/documentation or not clearly communicated	Basic references verbally cited (title and author)	Enhanced references verbally and visually cited (internet references cited with web site address)	Enhanced extended references (historical context) (internet references cited with web site address)