

BROADCAST ANNOUNCING

Senior and Junior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, students assume the role of a radio broadcast announcer.
2. During all rounds of Broadcast Announcing, the judge may turn his or her back on the contestant while the contestant is actually performing. Eye contact is NOT a part of this event, and should NEVER be part of a judge's evaluation of the performance.
3. Competitors must remain outside the room until called one at a time to perform.
4. As each competitor finishes, the judge should collect the script, and the student may leave. The judge then calls in the next contestant.
5. The structure of rounds listed here is that for the State Championship Tournament. The Regional tournaments follow Rounds I and II, and uses Semi-final/Final format for any Final Round.
6. Students are permitted to time themselves during any Broadcast Announcing round.

Round 1--Commercial

The tournament director prepares a commercial for a real or fictitious advertiser. The text of the commercial should be in all capital letters. Each contestant should receive an individual copy of the script which should not leave the room.

The judge calls one contestant into the room at a time, obtains the student's code number and name, and hands the student a script. The student has three minutes to prepare delivery. The judge times the three minutes of prep and notifies the student when he/she must begin.

Student must present all of the copy as it appears in the script.

Students are not allowed to alter the script in any way.

Round 2—Student Prepared News Script

Each student prepares, in advance, a news script using up-to-date material. The students may find material in AP script (available at local radio stations), newspapers, internet sites, etc. Each student must compose/ prepare his/her own scripts. Students may not use the same script from tournament to tournament. Each competitor must provide a copy of the script to the judge. There is no requirement for particular types of stories to be included in the news script.

An introduction, a sign-off and a brief commercial must be included in the broadcast. The suggested duration of the commercial is 15 seconds. Delivery of the script should last for three minutes, with a 15 second grace period both above and below the time limit.

The judge will invite competitors into the room one at a time, receive a copy of the script, and indicate when to begin. Students must present all of the copy as it appears in the script

Students who share scripts will be placed last in this round.

Round 3—Tournament Prepared News Script

In the Prep. Room (which may also be the Extemp Prep room), competitors receive a copy of the tournament-prepared news script at approximately five minute intervals. Each competitor has fifteen minutes to prepare the broadcast. A competitor must present all of the copy as it appears in the script. Students are not allowed to alter the script in any way, except for adding a sign-on and a sign-off, which are required, and transitions, which are optional. ~~but may use transitions in the news program. An introduction and sign-off are required.~~

The tournament host may choose a theme for this round, such as sports, fashion, or historical event, or the host may use current events.

Quarterfinals and Semifinal and Final Rounds—News Program

In the Prep. Room (which may also be the Extemp. Prep. Room), at five-minute intervals, competitors receive a packet of news-copy, prepared by the tournament director, . Competitors edit the copy and include an impromptu commercial, per the prompt included in the packet, to prepare a five- minute broadcast. An introduction, transitions, and sign-off are required. During the round, a student may use a stopwatch while performing; judges will NOT give time signals.

Each competitor has 30 minutes to prepare the broadcast. The Prep. Room monitor will send contestants to their competition rooms at five minute intervals.

There is a fifteen second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive ‘1’ in the round.

PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in every school. No Prep. Room is required for Rounds I and II. A Prep. Room as well as a monitor is needed for Round III and **Quarterfinals**/Semifinals/Finals. When the student enters the room, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number and name.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Do not permit other students to listen before they have performed. Contestants must remain outside the room until called upon to speak.
2. Remember that this is Broadcast Announcing. Students must be judged solely on the basis of what is heard. Do not judge eye contact, facial expression, or body movement (unless distracted by paper rattling, gum chewing, etc.) Judges may wish to turn their backs to the contestants during the performance.
3. Round II news scripts will be prepared prior to the tournament by students and should include up-to-date material. The arrangement and choice of material should be considered as well as the delivery. The brief commercial does not have to be timed. The 15 seconds is only suggested.
4. Do judge articulation, fluency, conviction, accuracy, clarity and variety of voice, understanding of content, appropriate tone, and pronunciation. Eye contact is NOT part of this event, and should not be regarded in any way, shape, or form.
5. In news programs, transitions should be appropriate.
6. In semi-finals and finals, editing skills should also be judged. Relevance of news selection and the arrangement of the articles should be considered.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Tape students and review tapes with students.
2. Work on various types of broadcasts to show vocal variety.
3. Practice with AP script (available from most local radio and/or TV stations).
4. Get an updated pronunciation guide (available from most local radio and/or TV stations). Have students practice "names in the news" (people, places, and things) prior to each tournament.
5. Although only semi-final and final rounds require students to edit copy, do not neglect the need to have students practice this skill. It is a difficult one to master.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Read aloud from newspapers.
2. Tape yourself and save the tape to compare with future readings as you progress.
3. Practice often with a variety of script types, including scripts which must be edited.

DECLAMATION

Junior and Senior Divisions Rules

1. In this event, each competitor delivers a speech which was written by another person, presented in a public forum by a person other than the contestant, and taken from a published source.
2. Declamation is open to all member students in the Junior Division. Only 9th and 10th graders may enter Declamation in the Senior Division.
3. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
4. The speech must be memorized and must have been written by another person, presented in a public forum by a person other than the contestant, and taken from a published source.
5. No time limit is placed on the length of the introduction. The introduction should reveal the background and the author's intent.
6. A lectern shall not be used.
7. The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.

PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and speak is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The selection must be a self-contained unit. The speech may be edited to fit the time constraints so long as the presentation accurately reflects the author's intent.
2. The introduction should provide suitable background (e.g., the circumstances under which the speech was originally presented), but should not exceed thirty seconds.
3. No particular style should be demanded of the orator; rather, the speaker should feel free to select and develop his/her own style and then be judged according to the degree of perfection he/she has attained and his/her effectiveness in influencing the audience.
4. Movement and/or gestures should be natural and dictated by the material.
5. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Speech material may be historical or contemporary. If a speech is historical in nature, the student should understand the context from which it originated.
2. Assist students when necessary in editing the speech to fit the time limits but be sure that the author's intent is preserved.
3. Added transitions are not allowed.
4. This is a speaking event rather than an acting event. Material should be delivered in a rhetorical style using eye contact, gestures, and movement appropriate to the material.
5. The emphasis in this event is on communication rather than dramatization.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Choose a speech you understand and with which you can identify.
2. Become familiar with the person who presented the speech.
3. Develop a rhetorical delivery style and practice so that you are comfortable with it.
4. Avoid unnatural and contrived body movements and gestures.

DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, each student performs a published piece of serious literature, which may be a monologue or dialogue.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The scene must come from a published play, short story, novel, TV, or movie.
4. The selection must be memorized.
5. The cutting may be a monologue or dialogue.
6. If transitions are used, no more than 10% may be narrative.
7. Offstage focus must be employed when one character speaks to another character; however, if the speaker is supposed to address the audience, he/she may make eye contact.
8. Limited movement is permissible in the introduction and during the selection. Limited movement is defined as movement within an area of ten feet in diameter. The area may be used for actions including bending, stooping, turning, and pivoting. When a "teaser" taken directly from the script is used in the introduction, this is considered part of the selection and movement is therefore restricted as above.
9. Except as noted here, the rules for this event are the same as those provided by the National Speech & Debate Association.
10. The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.

PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should include enough background information to establish the selection with the audience.
2. Character delineation should be clear. If you close your eyes, the vocal characterization should be very evident and appropriate to the character. Physical delineation (i.e., facial expression, gestures, and suggestive bodily delivery) should be evident.
3. The cutting should be a self-contained unit, including a beginning, middle, and an end.
4. The performance should emphasize interpretation skills (internalization) rather than techniques and mechanics.

5. Characters may address each other and/or the audience.
6. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Material should be suitable to the ability of the student.
2. Character delineation may be achieved by eye placement of characters during dialogue. For example, place characters on the back wall behind the audience using different focal points.
3. Body attitude and accents may also be used.
4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit.
5. The introduction should contain sufficient information to establish the selection in the mind of the audience.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Select material that interests you.
2. Read the entire play, short story, novel, or movie script.
3. Determine the author's intent of the literature. What is the author trying to say?
4. Edit the material with the author's intent in mind.
5. Write your own introduction.
6. Determine the rise and fall in the selection and, as you prepare your selection, develop a natural build. Be careful not to begin the selection at such a high emotional peak that you have nowhere to go.
7. Develop clear characterizations for all the characters in your selection. This should be done vocally, with facial expression, and/or non-verbally.

Be sure to develop the selection so that it has a definite conclusion.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, students used limited preparation time to prepare a speech which analyzes and answers a question addressing a current issue.
2. The maximum time for Extemporaneous Speaking is five minutes (Junior Division) and seven minutes (Senior Division). There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. Time signals are mandatory in this event. The count-down method must be used. See the KHSSL Time Signals page for details. The Time Signals rule is incorporated herein by reference.
4. Preparation will take place and be monitored in the prep room and outside assistance is not permitted. Laptops are allowed in the Extemp. preparation room. Students will need to supply their own power source. The internet may not be used in the preparation room.
5. In the prep room, Junior Division students will draw at five-minute intervals and Senior Division students at seven-minute intervals. Students will draw three topics and select one of the three as their topic for that round, then be given thirty minutes to prepare. The speech must not be pre-written. The prep room monitor will announce when each speaker should leave the prep room and go to speak.
6. Source materials should be used, but direct quotations should not constitute a major portion of the speech (no more than 25%). The speaker may use one 3 X 5 note card (front and back). Students using more than the front and back of one 3 X 5 note card must be ranked last in the round. Additionally, no visual aids or props may be used.
7. Topics vary from round to round. Each round will have a specific area of concentration. These areas may include domestic, international, social, political, and economic issues. Junior division topics will vary also, but emphasis will be placed on domestic and social issues.
8. For the final round of the Senior KHSSL State Championship tournament each speaker shall be assigned a position in the speaking order. Drawing shall take place at twelve-minute intervals. Thirty minutes after the first speaker has drawn, the first speaker and the last speaker shall enter the contest room. The first speaker shall give a speech and the last speaker shall listen and may take notes. At the conclusion of the first speaker's speech, the last speaker shall question the first speaker for three minutes. This is to be an open cross-examination where the questioner may ask as many questions as they like within three minutes. The last speaker shall return to the prep room and the first speaker shall stay and question the second speaker. The second speaker will question the third speaker, etc. Invitational tournaments will also have the right to utilize this form of cross-examination if they wish in their final rounds.

PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in every school. A large room with tables and chairs (library, cafeteria, etc.) to be used as a prep room and several small rooms (classrooms, library workrooms, etc.) in close proximity to the prep room, each having sufficient space in the front of the room for the student to stand and speak, are required. Before a student speaks, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number and name and present his/her topic to the judge.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Be sure to take the student's topic before he/she speaks.
2. Clarify with the student before he/she begins how time signals will be communicated and give hand signals while the student is speaking.
3. Make an outline as the student speaks. Organization is a principal part of a successful speech, along with presentation and sources.
4. The student should answer the question. The questions are purposefully broad, and the student is expected to make his/her own limitations rather than try to cover all aspects of the topic. Try to judge on the basis of how well the speaker does what he/she sets out to do.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Have students prepare an organized, indexed Extemp. file which may include magazine articles, newspaper articles, and pamphlets, along with a book of quotations, a thesaurus, and an almanac.
2. Encourage groups of students to have a discussion on the week's current events.
3. Students should prepare and give at least one speech per week. Videotaping speeches and having students critique one another is helpful.
4. Students should learn how to specifically answer the question that is posed.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Prepare and continually update your files. Watch a news program and read a newspaper every day and read magazines at least once a week.
2. Learn to follow an outline. Most judges stress organization as a principal part of a successful speech.
3. Practice often with another student giving time signals so you can become comfortable with the time limit.
4. Use a variety of sources and be sure to give credit to your sources in your speech. Falsifying evidence is grounds for disqualification. If the judge has reason to believe that evidence has been falsified, he/she may ask you to bring your source to him/her before completing his/her ballot.

HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, each student performs a published piece of humorous literature, which may be a monologue or dialogue.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The scene must come from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script.
4. The selection must be memorized.
5. The cutting may be a monologue or dialogue.
6. If transitions are used, no more than 10% may be narrative.
7. Offstage focus must be employed when one character speaks to another character; however, if the speaker is supposed to address the audience, he/she may make eye contact.
8. Limited movement is permissible in the introduction and during the selection. Limited movement is defined as movement within an area of ten feet in diameter. The area may be used for actions including bending, stooping, turning, and pivoting. When a "teaser" taken directly from the script is used in the introduction, this is considered part of the selection and movement is therefore restricted as above.
9. Except as noted here, the rules for this event are the same as those provided by the National Speech & Debate Association.
10. The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.

PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should include enough background information to establish the selection with the audience.
2. Character delineation should be clear. If you close your eyes, the vocal characterization should be very evident and appropriate to the character. Physical delineation (i.e., facial expression, gestures, and suggestive bodily delivery) should be evident.
3. The cutting should be a self-contained unit, including a beginning, middle, and an end.
4. The performance should emphasize interpretation skills (internalization) rather than techniques and mechanics.

5. Characters may address each other and/or the audience.
6. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Material should be suitable to the ability of the student.
2. Character delineation may be achieved by eye placement of characters during dialogue. For example, place characters on the back wall behind the audience using different focal points.
3. Body attitude and accents may also be used.
4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit.
5. The introduction should contain sufficient information to establish the selection in the mind of the audience.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Select material that interests you, and read the entire play, short story, novel, or movie script.
2. Determine the author's intent of the literature. What is the author trying to say?
3. Edit the material with the author's intent in mind.
4. Write your own introduction.
5. Determine the rise and fall in the selection and, as you prepare your selection, develop a natural build. Be careful not to begin the selection at such a high emotional peak that you have nowhere to go.
6. Develop clear characterizations for all the characters in your selection. This should be done vocally, with facial expression, and/or non-verbally.
7. Be sure to develop the selection so that it has a definite conclusion.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, each competitor prepares and presents a short speech with limited preparation.
2. The maximum time for Impromptu Speaking is seven minutes in the Senior division and ten minutes in the Junior Division. These times include both prep time and speaking time.
3. In the Senior Division, students may speak all seven minutes if they desire, but must be penalized if they speak for less than four minutes. In the Junior Division, students may speak for all ten minutes if they desire, but must be penalized if they speak for less than three minutes.
4. There is a fifteen-second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
5. The judge will call out prep time. Time signals are mandatory in this event. The count-down method must be used. See the KHSSL Time Signals page for details. The Time Signals rule is incorporated herein by reference.
6. Prep time begins after the speaker has received the topic(s) and has been allowed a few seconds to view it (them).
7. No electronic devices (e.g., computers or tape recorders) may be used, and source materials are not permitted.
8. The speaker may use one 3 X 5 note card (front and back) while speaking. Students using more than the front and back of one 3 X 5 note card while speaking must be ranked last in the round. Students may use multiple note cards and/or paper to plan speeches during the preparation time before speaking begins.
9. In all rounds except the final round, the contestant will be given two quotations from which to choose one.
10. Students will remain outside the room until it is their time to speak, will prepare in the room, and may leave the room once they have spoken if they have another event to attend this round.
11. Finalists at the State Tournament will respond to an object. At all other rounds of the State Tournament, and in all Rounds at the Regional Tournaments, the topics will be quotations.
12. Invitational tournaments may follow the State or Regional format.

PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in a simple classroom and the hallway outside the classroom. There must be sufficient space in the front of the room for each student to stand and speak, and sufficient space outside the room for contestants to wait until it is their turn to speak. Before a student is given the topic(s), he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number and name.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Do not permit other students to listen before they have spoken. Contestants must remain outside the room until called upon to speak.
2. Clarify with the student before he/she begins how time signals will be communicated.
3. Call out the student's prep time and give hand signals while the student is speaking.
4. Start timing after the student receives the topic(s) and has had a few seconds to view it (them).
5. Make sure the student returns the topic(s) to you after he/she has spoken.
6. Content and delivery are equally important.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Have students practice from Bartlett's Book of Familiar Quotations or similar books. One may also get quotations from websites on The Internet.
2. Stress choice of material used in the speech, organization, and delivery.
3. Have practice at least once a week, and video students' performances when possible.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Organization of the speech is important. An introduction, preview of points, development of points, and conclusion should be evident.
2. Practice often with another student giving time signals so you can become comfortable with the time limit.

IMPROVISATIONAL DUO

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event involving limited preparation, two students create and present a performance portraying two characters.
2. Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes for senior division and five minutes for junior division. Setting up the chairs, when used, is part of preparation time. Preparation time is separate from performance time.
3. Performance time must be a maximum of six minutes.
4. There is a fifteen-second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
5. Unless the tournament provides a prep room & prep room monitor, the judge will time the preparation period and call out time signals as requested. Time signals during the performance are mandatory in this event. The count-down method must be used. See the KHSSL Time Signals page for details. The Time Signals rule is incorporated herein by reference.
6. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted. but two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used.
7. Each performer may portray ONE and only ONE character during the scene; dialogue must be equally shared over the course of the scene.
8. An introduction by one or both students is required to set the scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene.
9. Profanity, sexual innuendo, and/or excessive physicality will result in the performance being marked last in the round.
10. If preparing in another room, students must remain outside the performance room until it is their time to perform.
11. The prompts at the Regional/State Championships will be constructed in the following manner:
 - a. Prompts will **not** indicate how to play the scene (either humorous or serious)
 - b. Round 1, 3, and semi-final prompts will be a statement. (Ex. Two friends disagree over a decision). Statement prompts must be gender neutral, containing a subject and verb, but no other specific details (such as location) .
 - c. Round 2, quarters and final prompts will be line (Ex. "You deserve a break today!"). Line should be worked into the scene.

A note: All improvs would solve a problem so a problem would have to be presented in a statement, but it shouldn't be overly specific. An improv performance should contain characters, relationships, objectives and location.

PROCEDURES

Several accommodations are required for this event, but most can be found in any school. Each performance room must have two standard chairs and sufficient space at the front of the room for the actors to perform. Ideally, each section will have a separate prep room near the performance room. If this is not practical, a large room in close proximity to the performance rooms and with sufficient space and resources for all pairs of contestants from each section to prepare at the same time may be used or the students will prepare in the performance room under the supervision of the judge or a monitor. Before a pair of contestants performs, it should inform the judge of its code number and names.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The scene must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself.
2. Students must resolve the conflict presented in the topic.
3. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.
4. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Pairs of students should prepare and present at least one improvisational performance per week.
2. Students must learn how to effectively pace the scene and specifically resolve the conflict presented in the topic.
3. Videotape students and allow them to critique each other.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Keep a list of possible topics. Topics may be either "real world" or ones which require a great deal of imagination.
2. Learn to quickly organize your thoughts.
3. Practice often with your partner and have another student give you time signals so that you will become comfortable with the time limit.

ORATORY

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, each student delivers an original speech which informs and/or persuades.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The speech must be the original work of the student and must be memorized.
4. Direct quotations may be used, but they must be indicated and limited to 150 words of quoted material.
5. No props or visual aids are permitted.
6. **Coaches must have Oratory and Informative speeches electronically available for retrieval (or paper copies available) at Regionals and State tournaments should questions of originality arise, but these documents no longer need be turned in at Registration.**

PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and speak is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and topic of speech.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should get the attention of the audience as well as preview the speech.
2. Good speaking skills should be evident.
3. Organization must be clear and easy to follow.
4. Eye contact is essential.
5. Audience rapport should be evident.
6. Sources should be used to support any facts or claims.
7. Fluency of language is important as well as logical development of content.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Help students select a topic that is fresh or encourage them to use a fresh approach to a dated topic.
2. Topics should be appropriate to students' ages and speaking situations.
3. Have students use an outline in preparation.
4. Consult textbooks for styles of introductions, conclusions, and methods of development.
5. Make sure that paraphrasing is not plagiarizing.
6. Videoing to show students' gestures and movements is helpful. Gestures should be natural.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Read widely about your chosen topic before formulating a thesis.
2. Use a variety of sources.
3. Make an outline.
4. Write your speech using transitional phrases so your speech will flow smoothly.
5. Rehearse movement but retain spontaneity.
6. Maintain eye contact with the audience.
7. Deliver the speech in a conventional manner. Oratory is a speaking event, not an acting event.
8. Be able to adapt to the size of the room as well as the size of the audience.

POETRY

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, each student delivers an interpretation of a published poem (or poems) that is (are) narrative, descriptive, or lyrical.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. One poem or a program of shorter poems (narrative, descriptive, or lyrical) may be used and shall be from a published poet or poets of literary merit.
4. A manuscript must be used and referred to. The manuscript may be used as a property.
5. The introduction (and transitions when used) should provide adequate background for the reading as a whole and for the individual selections as needed in order to relate them to the whole.
6. Blocking is allowed for this event. Performers are NOT required to keep their feet stationary as they perform. Blocking is movement in a performance that can be expressive in nature, symbolizing how a character is feeling emotionally, while at other times blocking denotes events that are occurring in the imagined space. The movement should always be motivated by elements in the text. Movement for the sake of movement is not necessary. Performers may, without penalty, choose to remain stationary or have limited foot movement and choose instead to emphasize vocal or nonverbal forms of communication including facial gestures, facial expressions, posture, and eye contact. All performance choices should serve to enhance the overall interpretation of the selection, not just demonstrate movement capabilities.
7. The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.

PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should prepare the listener for the selection(s).
2. In multiple selections, a relationship should be obvious between the literature chosen to develop the poetry program and the theme of the program.
3. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.
4. The contestant must use a manuscript and must refer to it.
5. Projection, diction, and flexibility of voice are important to the student's interpretation.
6. Multiple character voices may be used.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Within the Junior Division, do not ignore the wealth of material to be found in children's literature.
2. Each of the three primary types of poetry -- narrative, dramatic, and lyric -- demands slightly different techniques of delivery. This should be considered.
3. Multiple selections may reflect a single topic or theme, show contrast, create a mood, or be by a single author.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Know your introduction and deliver it in a conversational tone.
2. Do not "sing-song" your presentation.
3. Practice handling the manuscript so that it does not distract from the performance.
4. Read to express a complete thought rather than line-by-line.
5. Keep in mind that the reader should demonstrate a real, lively, and enthusiastic interest in sharing the selection with the audience

PROSE

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, each student presents an interpretation of a piece of fiction or nonfiction from narrative, descriptive, or expository prose of literary merit.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The cutting shall be from a published narrative, descriptive, or expository prose of literary merit.
4. Dialogue may comprise only a small portion of the total performance.
5. A manuscript must be used and referred to. The manuscript may be used as a property.
6. The introduction should provide adequate background for the selection.
7. Blocking is allowed for this event. Performers are NOT required to keep their feet stationary as they perform. Blocking is movement in a performance that can be expressive in nature, symbolizing how a character is feeling emotionally, while at other times blocking denotes events that are occurring in the imagined space. The movement should always be motivated by elements in the text. Movement for the sake of movement is not necessary. Performers may, without penalty, choose to remain stationary or have limited foot movement and choose instead to emphasize vocal or nonverbal forms of communication including facial gestures, facial expressions, posture, and eye contact. All performance choices should serve to enhance the overall interpretation of the selection, not just demonstrate movement capabilities.
8. The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.

PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should prepare the listener for the selection(s).
2. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.
3. The contestant must use a manuscript and must refer to it.
4. Projection, diction, and flexibility of voice are important to the student's interpretation.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Material should be suitable for the maturity level of the performer.
2. The author's purpose, motivation, and philosophy must be examined in the cutting.
3. In terms of the selection, the plot structure, conflict, mood, and characterization should be studied.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Know your introduction and deliver it in a conversational tone.
2. Practice handling the manuscript so that it does not distract from the audience.
3. The interpreter should keep in mind the author's purpose of informing, persuading, and/or entertaining.
4. Remember that the reader should demonstrate a real, lively, and enthusiastic interest in sharing the selection with the audience

STORYTELLING

Junior and Senior Divisions

Rules

1. In this event, each student recreates and retells a story for the purpose of entertaining the audience.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State **Quarterfinal**, Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The introduction should clarify all vital information needed for an understanding of the story.
4. Either a complete story or an excerpt from a longer one may be used, and the story may be either humorous or serious.
5. The story must be memorized, and the storyteller may sit on the floor (not in a chair), stand, or use a limited stage area to tell the story.
6. The use of costumes, props, or furniture or any kind is prohibited.

PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with adequate space in the front for the student to sit, stand, and/or use a limited stage area is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Students should be judged for quality of performance, entertainment, and versatility.
2. The narration should be the major portion of the story, not excessive dialogue with a bit of narration.
3. Movement should be appropriate.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Selections may come from legends, tall tales, myths, children's stories, ghost stories, or folk material.
2. Stories should have an interesting plot.
3. The introduction should include the title, author, and information necessary to set the mood and provide for understanding of the story.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Choose a story you like and one that seems to fit your style and personality.
2. Eye contact with the audience is important for the narrator.
3. Use appropriate movement.

DUO ACTING

Junior Division Only Rules

1. In this event, two students perform a scene or cutting with two characters from a published play, TV, or movie script.
2. The maximum time for Duo Acting is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. No furniture, make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used.
4. The scene or cutting may come from a published play, TV, or movie script, and must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
5. One or both students may participate in the introduction.
6. The material must be memorized.
7. Each student may portray one and only one character.
8. The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.

PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in a simple classroom. The students must have available to them two standard chairs and sufficient space in the front of the room for the actors to move about freely. Before a pair of contestants performs, they should inform the judge of their code number, names, and title of selection.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The selection must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself.
2. Dramatic and humorous selections should be given equal consideration.
3. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.
4. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

HINTS FOR COACHES

1. The selection must be an artistic, self-contained unit holding together a story itself -- capable of being appreciated without one having heard the entire play, novel, short story, or movie script.
2. Play titles and synopses can be found in publisher catalogues (e.g., Samuel French, Dramatist Play Service, Dramatic Publishing Company, Fireside Theatre, and Drama Book Shop).
3. Other selections may be obtained from novels, short stories, or movies scripts.
4. Choose material that corresponds to the ability and maturity of the performers.

HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Introductions should contain the title and author, as well as other information deemed necessary for the audience's understanding of the script.
2. Movement should encompass various parts of the performance area.
3. A performer should not look at the audience while delivering lines unless the lines are written as an aside to be spoken to the audience.
4. Read the whole play, novel, short story, or movie script from which the selection is taken.
5. Do a character study in preparation. Consider how other characters see your character (e.g., physical characteristics, mental attributes, etc.) and how other characters feel about your character.