



International Education Initiative Reading Contest Rules and Procedures

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PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY, INC.



Purpose

This guide will serve to establish a reading contest initiative established under Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. International Education Program.

The reading contest will consist of contestants who will compete using dramatic/humorous interpretation of literature to act out a reading of a piece from a publication to an audience/panel of judges.

Developers:

Bro. Jean Lamonthe, International Director of Education

Bro. Carlos Williams II, Southern Region Director of Education



Interpretation

- This includes categories of individual (solo) performance of dramatic (serious) and humorous literature, as well as duo performance of either emotive appeal, with selections drawn from published, printed: novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or other printed, published works as well as limited on line works as provided for in the following rules:



Divisions

- Divisions. Contests are conducted in Dramatic, Humorous, and Duo Interpretation.



Length

- The time limit in Interpretation Main Events (Humorous, Dramatic and Duo Interpretation) is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period”. If the judges in the round agree that the student has gone beyond the “grace period”, the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. The ranking is up to each individual judge’s discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stop watch function) timing devices. No minimum time is mandated.



Material

Selections used in these contests must be cuttings (pieces) from a single work of literature— from one short story or one play, or one novel, or one or more poems— as described in the following subsections:

- a. Print Publications: includes novels, short stories, plays or poetry, published in print
- b. Digital (Online) Publications: [New in 2012---13] material is only allowed from pre---approved on line publishing sources listed for the current school year (subsection ii), which meet webpage standards enumerated in subsection i:
 - i. The website offers on line material published directly on its webpage(s). Even if the site has multiple formats, such as PDFs, only material that can be printed directly from the webpage is allowed. Downloaded files will NOT be accepted. The League defines a webpage as a document coded with hypertext mark up language (HTML), displayed in a web browser. The League defines a down loaded file as a specific non---hypertext format, such as PDF or word processing document



Material (cont.)

ii. Sources approved for the 2012---2013 school year are:

- 1) <http://www.theadironackreview.com>
- 2) <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/xconnect/>
- 3) <http://www.contemporaryworldliterature.com>
- 4) <http://www.freedrama.net> - *Disclaimer: The "Mad-Scripts!" material under the Free Drama Education section of the site is not acceptable; however, all other material on the site is acceptable for use.*
- 5) <http://frontporchjournal.com/index.asp>
- 6) <http://www.inversetheater.org/bromleyplays.html>
- 7) <http://www.memorious.org>
- 8) <http://mushroom-cloud-press.myshopify.com/pages/nfl-compliance>
- 9) <http://www.oscarwildecollection.com> ---*Disclaimer: The PDF documents on this site are not acceptable; however, all other material is acceptable for use.*
- 10) <http://www.poetryfoundation.org>
- 11) <http://speechgeek.com>
- 12) <http://www.storysouth.com>
- 13) <http://tclj.toasted--cheese.com> ---*Disclaimer: Only material listed under the links "literary magazine" and "articles" contain material on the site acceptable for use.*



Material (cont.)

iii. These guidelines determined digital (online) publication sources selected:

1) The literary material is from a website with strict editorial submission standards that include editorial review and acceptance.

Unacceptable sites include:

- a) Personal sites (social network profiles, blogs)
- b) Personal professional sites (those where a writer who has his / her own site and can place his / her works for sale or view)
- c) Publish it sites (those with one click upload or that accept submissions without a selection process)

2) Texts must come from a verifiable website that can be accessed universally by any user. The site and literary text needs to be verifiable on the web if challenged.

- a) Unmarked or casual sites where individuals can easily post work either for performance or criticism will not be accepted.
- b) The website has been in existence for a minimum of two years prior to submission for consideration by the National Forensic League for the upcoming school year (several online tools allow for verification of the existence of a website).

• For more information, please see:

<http://www.nationalforensicleague.org/asp/content.aspx?id=243>



Prohibited Material

c. Prohibited material: not published in print or allowable online material as per above, including:

- i. Recorded material (videotape, DVDs, audiotape, CDs, MP3s, or phonograph recordings).
- ii. Original material published in a high school publication such as a newspaper, literary magazine, or yearbook.



Source Verification

It is the affirmative duty of each advisor/coach and each student entered in Interpretation contests to determine absolutely that the cutting being performed meets all rules for material.

a. Print Publications: The original published source of any selection used must be immediately available at the tournament as well as a complete script of the cutting used. A complete script of the cutting includes:

- i. A photo copy of every page from which any line of the cutting is taken; pages are to be in the order in which they are performed.
- ii. All words used from the script should be highlighted (any words / lines not used should be left unmarked).
- iii. Any word changes (to eliminate profane language) and / or additions (for transition) must be indicated clearly in ink.



Source Verification (cont.)

b. Digital (Online) Publications: The material the competitor performs must presently appear on the website if questions arise in competition, additionally, a printed manuscript must be available:

i. Manuscript items to be printed directly from the screen:

1) The first page in the website (the home page)

2) All other linked pages needed to navigate to the literary text selected for competition shall be printed out and the link must be highlighted in the manuscript

3) All webpages upon which the cutting appears

ii. Each page must have printed in the header and / or footer:

1) Date the page was printed

2) Web address

iii. Only the printed manuscript shall be considered adequate proof of authenticity. In other words, the student or coach must provide printed pages or an identical copy for examination.

iv. The highlighted manuscript submitted for material verification will follow the same rules designated for printed publications (see section “a” immediately above).

v. The website and online version of the digital publication need to be available for comparison if challenged. Online access is the fundamental responsibility of tournament officials and / or individual filing the protest.

NOTE: If tournament officials cannot gain online access and the above requirements have been met, the piece is considered legal for use.

c. All quarter finalists are required to turn in the original source OR printed web manuscript (as outlined above under Source Verification) to the judges . Photocopies are not acceptable. Any contestant failing to produce the original source to the judges will not qualify for the semifinal rounds of competition.



Performance

5. **Performance:** The presentation may not use physical objects or costuming. During the presentation the contestant / team must name the author and the book or magazine from which the cutting was made.

Additionally:

- a. Adaptations to material may only be used for the purpose of transition. The gender stated by the author must be honored. However, a female contestant may play a male role, and a male contestant may play a female role.
 - b. Humorous, Dramatic, and Duo Interpretation selections must be presented from memory.
 - c. In Duo Interpretation each of the two performers may play one or more characters so long as performance responsibility in the cutting remains as balanced as possible.
 - d. Monologues are acceptable in Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation. If the selection is prose or poetry and contains narration, either or both of the performers may present the narration.
6. **Focus:** In Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation, use of focal points and / or direct contact with the audience should be determined by the requirements of the literature being interpreted. In Duo Interpretation, focus may be direct during the introduction [the performers may look at each other] but must be indirect [off---stage] during the performance itself.
7. **Re-Use:** A student may not use a cutting from a work of literature the student used in National Forensic League district or national competition in any previous contest year. A student entered in two events may not use the same selection of literature in both events.



Interpretation Videos

Introduction to Dramatic Interpretation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmLCoTHoxl8>

Dramatic Interpretation (solo):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDL9M-ORyPo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Evz7lhJAoN4>

Duo Interpretation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpE1Ba46YoE>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OK_XXr_Y00A

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFfjv8IUt0I>

Humorous Interpretation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sd0UYrf5jrg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KzvaekmaJME>