

2021 Poetry Recitation Contest Rubric

Student					
Poem					
Author					
Judges: Please mark students from 5 (Outstanding) to 1 (Developing)	5 Outstanding	4 Very Good	3 Average	2 Needs Improvement	1 Developing
Memorization: 10 points					
Accurate: No errors or glaring pauses. Does the student avoid errors and long pauses? (not to be confused with internet freezing or dropping of connection)	No errors	Only one small error	Few, for example one or two small errors	Several, for example three or four errors	Five or more errors= omit words, reverse order of words or phrases
Preparation: Displays rehearsal and preparation. Specifically, followed directions and guidelines provided by ESU.	Followed all directions and guidelines provided by ESU	One small issue	Two small issues	Three or four issues	General overall issues
Diction: 15 points					
Projection and Clarity: Poem is easily heard with clear words (not mumbled). Does the student enunciate or speak loudly enough for you to hear?	No errors with enunciation or overall volume of voice	Only one small enunciation issue	Two small enunciation issues	Three or four enunciation issues	General overall enunciation or projection issues
Correct Pronunciation: Are the words pronounced properly? Note, regional accents are not an issue.	No errors	Only one pronunciation issue	Two pronunciation issues	Three or four pronunciation issues	Five or more pronunciation issues
Rhythm/Stress/Meter: Are these elements observed in the recitation? Emphasis put on specific words or phrases within the pattern of the poem.	No errors	Only one issue with rhythm or meter	Two issues with rhythm or meter	Three or four issues with rhythm or meter	Five or more issues with rhythm or meter
Interpretation & Body Language: 20 points					
Understanding of text/ Tonality: Shows understanding through phrasing, intonation, and appropriate expressions of emotion. Does the student's use of emotion and expression with their voice enhance the recitation of the poem?	No errors, spoke with appropriate expressions, emotion given to key words and phrases	Spoke with a wide variety of intonation	Spoke with some variety of intonation in three or four different parts of the poem	Spoke with very little emotion in their voice inflections	Spoke monotone or robotic
Communication: Gestures should reflect the tone/emotions. Does the student express the emotion described in the poem with appropriate use of body gestures? Facial and hand gestures should compliment the text and should not overpower the words or distract. Student should not act out the poem.	No errors gestures appropriately complimented the text throughout the recitation	Gestures expressed a wide variety of emotions throughout the recitation	Gestures displayed some emotion throughout the recitation	Only one or two examples of gestures to compliment the emotion of the text	Use of gestures was missing throughout the recitation
Including the audience: Proper use of eye contact can keep the audience engaged. Regardless if presentation is live or on video, student should move eye focus from center stage (camera) , to the right, to the left, back to center, etc.	Strong, strategic eye contact showing confidence throughout the recitation	Some eye contact with audience, at least five times changed their eye contact focus	Several, three or four times changed their eye contact focus	Few, two or one times changed their eye contact focus	Use of eye contact focus was missing throughout the recitation
Confidence: How at ease is the student? The student is confident, relaxed, body is not rigid or showing nervous swaying.	At ease throughout the recitation	Comfortable stage presence with only one or two small issues	Overall relaxed body with three or four small issues	Some stiffness or body swaying	Stiff or body swaying throughout the recitation
Total Score (45 possible points)					
Additional comments:					

