

NEISD

Speech Rules & Guidelines

Dramatic Interpretation

The Dramatic Interpretation contest enables the student not only to develop skills common in all speech contests, but to select and condense worthy dramatic literature suitable to the contestant's personality and maturity, and to convey orally the meaning of that dramatic literature through characterization and narration. T.F.A., understanding that final judgment must remain with the individual judge concerning effect on ranking, suggests that coaches encourage their students to avoid (1) literature that is devoid of literary merit and (2) literature that is in poor taste and, therefore, may be offensive because of language or subject matter. Selections used in Dramatic shall be cuttings from published printed novels, short stories, plays, poems, or screenplays. Presentation shall be from memory and without the use of physical objects or costumes. Students should avoid movement in the presentation that would distract from the literature itself. The contestant shall name the author and the title of the selection being presented during his/her performance. Maximum time shall be ten minutes with thirty second grace period. Cuttings should maintain the author's intent, and additional words may be added for transitional purposes only.