

Pennsylvania High School Speech League Critique Sheet
Oral Interpretation of Poetry

Code _____ Name _____ Round _____ Room _____ Rank _____ out of _____

Title _____ Author _____ Date _____

Judge's Code _____ Judge's Name _____ Judge's School _____

Selection: Does the selection provoke thought, a theme, or sufficiently entertain? Is the selection suitable to the interpreter including challenging to the person's abilities; vocal range, physical presence, maturity? If multiple selections are used, are they somehow linked?

Understanding of the Selection: Does the interpreter demonstrate an understanding of the selection's tone and purpose, the characters' depth and development, and the poem's elements and progression? Does the introduction sufficiently prepare the audience for the selection?

Voice: Has the interpreter employed appropriate vocal variety (pitch, rate, volume, phrasing, pausing and stress)? Do these components reflect the shifts in the selection on an intellectual and emotional level? Is the interpreter articulate and understandable?

Action: Does the interpreter utilize facial expression appropriate to the narrator and/or characters being portrayed and to the emotional moments being rendered? Are focal points, if utilized, effective? Do gestures and body stance contribute to the effectiveness of the reading?

Overall Effect: Did the interpreter effectively transport you to the setting of the selection? Did the interpreter fully communicate to you the feeling and understanding of the selection?

Please continue comments on the back if needed.

Everyone is expected to be a respectful audience member. A judge's rank may reflect a contestant's disrespect to other competitors during the round.