

**KERN COUNTY ORAL LANGUAGE FESTIVAL  
SERIOUS INTERPRETATION - SOLO**

***SERIOUS INTERPRETATION - SOLO***

A solo interpretation is one student reciting a literary selection. This presentation should be an interpretation of a literary work\*, not an imitation of an actor's performance. The literature must be a published work available to all students; selections that are found only in distributions such as organizational newsletters, the Internet, and regional newspapers are not acceptable because they are not available to all grade 4-8 students. The selection must be written by a known author. "Anonymous" or "author unknown" pieces are not acceptable.

***GUIDELINES***

- The student should select literature which can be presented as an oral interpretation.
- The literature should be appropriate for age, event, and presentation to a community audience.
- Text may be deleted from the original work to meet time requirements, however, text may not be added to or altered in any other way. Sound effects are allowed as written in the text, but may not be added.
- Appropriateness of both literature and mode of delivery is the responsibility of the site principal.
- The student should be so thoroughly familiar with the literature that the audience feels the author's intentions, thoughts, and attitudes coming to them directly through the student.
- If more than one selection is used, there must be an obvious relationship and the selections must be tied carefully together. Short transitions may be added as necessary.
- The student should use voice, pauses, and rate of speaking as means of interpreting the selection. Using skill to gain and to keep audience attention, the student should be persuasive in communicating the literature.
- The student may use appropriate and natural gestures to suggest the essence of the characters as the author saw them; the student may move around.

***RULES***

MINIMUM TIME: 3 MINUTES    MAXIMUM TIME: 5 MINUTES

1. Timing of the speech begins with the student's ***first*** utterance.
2. The student must include the title and author (***not anonymous***) in the presentation.
3. The interpretation must be the student's, ***not*** an imitation of an actor's performance.
4. Student is ***not*** to announce his/her name, school, or district.
5. No props or costumes. School uniforms may be worn.
6. No prompting or directing from the audience.
7. The selection ***must*** be memorized.

*\*Literary works have one thing in common: they are read and remembered for the stories they tell, the experiences they describe, and the wisdom they contain.*

Student No. \_\_\_\_\_

4-6     7-8

OFFICE OF CHRISTINE LIZARDI FRAZIER  
KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Serious  
 Interpretation - SOLO

COMMENTS	CONTENT	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Literature effectively presented by students to interpret author's thoughts, attitudes, and intentions (not an imitation of an actor's performance) - See Rule 3	15	
<b>Total</b>		15	

COMMENTS	DELIVERY	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Speaks audibly and clearly	15	
	Speaks with expression	15	
	Looks at and speaks to audience	15	
	Uses appropriate gestures	10	
<b>Total</b>		55	

COMMENTS	TOTAL IMPRESSION	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Complete, consistent, convincing performance	20	
	Establishes rapport with audience; shows poise and confidence	10	
<b>Total</b>		30	-
<b>Total Points Earned</b>		100	

COMMENTS	ADHERENCE TO RULES (DEDUCTIONS) <small>Points in this category deducted on an all-or-nothing basis.</small>	Point Value	Points Deducted
	Time limit not met - See Rule 1	-5	
	Title and author not included in presentation - See Rule 2	-5	
	Name and school stated - See Rule 4	-5	
	Props or costumes used - See Rule 5	-5	
	Prompts or directions given from audience - See Rule 6	-5	
	Selection not memorized - See Rule 7	-5	
	Literature not appropriate for age/event	-5	
<b>Total Deductions</b>		-35	-
		<b>FINAL SCORE</b>	

Selection Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE TO JUDGE:** Ballots are to be marked independently (no discussion with another judge except in the case of a tie). Ballots are to be turned in at the **conclusion** of the contest (you may need to make changes after **all** contestants have been heard). Make comments to help you remember the speeches.

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_

**KERN COUNTY ORAL LANGUAGE FESTIVAL  
SERIOUS INTERPRETATION - DUO**

***SERIOUS INTERPRETATION - DUO***

A duo interpretation is two students reciting a literary selection in both unison and solo parts. This presentation should be an interpretation of a literary work\*, not an imitation of an actor's performance. The literature must be a published work available to all students; selections that are found only in distributions such as organizational newsletters, the Internet, and regional newspapers are not acceptable because they are not available to all grade 4-8 students. The selection must be written by a known author. "Anonymous" or "author unknown" pieces are not acceptable.

***GUIDELINES***

- The students should select literature which can be presented as an oral interpretation.
- The literature should be appropriate for age, event, and presentation to a community audience.
- Text may be deleted from the original work to meet time requirements, however, text may not be added to or altered in any other way. Sound effects are allowed as written in the text, but may not be added.
- Appropriateness of both literature and mode of delivery is the responsibility of the site principal.
- The students should be so thoroughly familiar with the literature that the audience feels the author's intentions, thoughts, and attitudes coming to them directly through the students.
- If more than one selection is used, there must be an obvious relationship and the selections must be tied carefully together. Short transitions may be added as necessary.
- The students should use voice, pauses, and rate of speaking as means of interpreting the selection. Using skill to gain and to keep audience attention, the students should be persuasive in communicating the literature.
- There should be a balance of solo and duo parts.
- This event is an oral presentation. Only appropriate gestures should be used; no moving feet.

***RULES***

MINIMUM TIME: 3 MINUTES    MAXIMUM TIME: 5 MINUTES

1. Timing of the speech begins with the student's ***first*** utterance.
2. The students must include the title and author (***not anonymous***) in the presentation.
3. The interpretation must be the students', not an imitation of an actor's performance.
4. Students are ***not*** to announce their names, school, or district.
5. No props or costumes or obvious uniformity in attire. School uniforms may be worn.
6. No prompting or directing from the audience.
7. The selection ***must*** be memorized.
8. No moving feet.

*\*Literary works have one thing in common: they are read and remembered for the stories they tell, the experiences they describe, and the wisdom they contain.*

Student No. \_\_\_\_\_

4-6     7-8

OFFICE OF CHRISTINE LIZARDI FRAZIER  
KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Serious Interpretation - DUO**

COMMENTS	CONTENT	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Literature effectively presented by students to interpret author's thoughts, attitudes, and intentions (not an imitation of an actor's performance) - See Rule 3	10	
<b>Total</b>		10	

COMMENTS	DELIVERY	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Speaks audibly and clearly	15	
	Speaks with expression	15	
	Looks at and speaks to audience	10	
	Uses appropriate gestures	10	
	Uses appropriate tempo and balance of solo and duo parts	10	
<b>Total</b>		60	

COMMENTS	TOTAL IMPRESSION	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Complete, consistent, convincing performance	20	
	Establishes rapport with audience; shows poise and confidence	10	
<b>Total</b>		30	—
<b>Total Points Earned</b>		100	

COMMENTS	ADHERENCE TO RULES (DEDUCTIONS) Points in this category deducted on an all-or-nothing basis.	Points Value	Points Deducted
	Time limit not met - See Rule 1	-5	
	Title and author not included in presentation - See Rule 2	-5	
	Name and school stated - See Rule 4	-5	
	Props or costumes used - See Rule 5	-5	
	Prompts or directions given from audience - See Rule 6	-5	
	Selection not memorized - See Rule 7	-5	
	Moving feet - See Rule 8	-5	
	Literature not appropriate for age and event	-5	
<b>Total Deductions</b>		-40	-

Selection Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Deductions**    -40    -    -

**FINAL SCORE**

**NOTE TO JUDGE:** Ballots are to be marked independently (no discussion with another judge except in the case of a tie). Ballots are to be turned in at the **conclusion** of the contest (you may need to make changes after **all** contestants have been heard). Make comments to help you remember the speeches.

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_

**KERN COUNTY ORAL LANGUAGE FESTIVAL  
HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION - SOLO**

***HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION - SOLO***

A solo interpretation is one student reciting a literary selection. This presentation should be an interpretation of a literary work\*, not an imitation of an actor's performance. The literature must be a published work available to all students; selections that are found only in distributions such as organizational newsletters, the Internet, and regional newspapers are not acceptable because they are not available to all grade 4-8 students. The selection must be written by a known author. "Anonymous" and "author unknown" pieces are not acceptable.

***GUIDELINES***

- The student should select literature which can be presented as an oral interpretation.
- The literature should be appropriate for age, event, and presentation to a community audience.
- Text may be deleted from the original work to meet time requirements, however, text may not be added to or altered in any other way. Sound effects are allowed as written in the text, but may not be added.
- Appropriateness of both literature and mode of delivery is the responsibility of the site principal.
- The student should be so thoroughly familiar with the literature that the audience feels the author's intentions, thoughts, and attitudes coming to them directly through the student.
- If more than one selection is used, there must be an obvious relationship and the selections must be tied carefully together. Short transitions may be added as necessary.
- The student should use voice, pauses, and rate of speaking as means of interpreting the selection. Using skill to gain and to keep audience attention, the student should be persuasive in communicating the literature.
- The student may use appropriate and natural gestures to suggest the essence of the characters as the author saw them; the student may move around.

***RULES***

MINIMUM TIME: 3 MINUTES    MAXIMUM TIME: 5 MINUTES

1. Timing of the speech begins with the student's ***first*** utterance.
2. The student must include the title and author (***not anonymous***) in the presentation.
3. The interpretation must be the student's, not an imitation of an actor's performance.
4. Student is ***not*** to announce his/her name, school, or district.
5. No props or costumes. School uniforms may be worn.
6. No prompting or directing from the audience.
7. The selection ***must*** be memorized.

*\*Literary works have one thing in common: they are read and remembered for the stories they tell, the experiences they describe, and the wisdom they contain.*

Student No. \_\_\_\_\_

4-6     7-8

OFFICE OF CHRISTINE LIZARDI FRAZIER  
KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Humorous  
Interpretation - SOLO**

COMMENTS	CONTENT	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Literature effectively presented by students to interpret author's thoughts, attitudes, and intentions (not an imitation of an actor's performance) - See Rule 3	15	
<b>Total</b>		15	

COMMENTS	DELIVERY	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Speaks audibly and clearly	15	
	Speaks with expression	15	
	Looks at and speaks to audience	15	
	Uses appropriate gestures	10	
<b>Total</b>		55	

COMMENTS	TOTAL IMPRESSION	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Complete, consistent, convincing performance	20	
	Establishes rapport with audience; shows poise and confidence	10	
<b>Total</b>		30	-
<b>Total Points Earned</b>		100	

COMMENTS	ADHERENCE TO RULES (DEDUCTIONS) Points in this category deducted on an all-or-nothing basis.	Point Values	Points Deducted
	Time limit not met - See Rule 1	-5	
	Title and author not included in presentation - See Rule 2	-5	
	Name and school stated - See Rule 4	-5	
	Props or costumes used - See Rule 5	-5	
	Prompts or directions given from audience - See Rule 6	-5	
	Selection not memorized - See Rule 7	-5	
	Literature not appropriate for age and event	-5	
<b>Total Deductions</b>		-35	-
		<b>FINAL SCORE</b>	

Selection Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE TO JUDGE:** Ballots are to be marked independently (no discussion with another judge except in the case of a tie). Ballots are to be turned in at the **conclusion** of the contest (you may need to make changes after **all** contestants have been heard). Make comments to help you remember the speeches.

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_

## KERN COUNTY ORAL LANGUAGE FESTIVAL HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION - DUO

### **HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION - DUO**

A duo interpretation is two students reciting a literary selection in both unison and solo parts. This presentation should be an interpretation of a literary work\*, not an imitation of an actor's performance. The literature must be a published work available to all students; selections that are found only in distributions such as organizational newsletters, the Internet, and regional newspapers are not acceptable because they are not available to all grade 4-8 students. The selection must be written by a known author. "Anonymous" and "author unknown" pieces are not acceptable.

### **GUIDELINES**

- The students should select literature which can be presented as an oral interpretation.
- The literature should be appropriate for age, event, and presentation to a community audience.
- Text may be deleted from the original work to meet time requirements, however, text may not be added to or altered in any other way. Sounds effects are allowed as written in the text, but may not be added..
- Appropriateness of both literature and mode of delivery is the responsibility of the site principal.
- The students should be so thoroughly familiar with the literature that the audience feels the author's intentions, thoughts, and attitudes coming to them directly through the students.
- If more than one selection is used, there must be an obvious relationship and the selections must be tied carefully together. Short transitions may be added as necessary.
- The students should use voice, pauses, and rate of speaking as means of interpreting the selection. Using skill to gain and to keep audience attention, the students should be persuasive in communicating the literature.
- There should be a balance of solo and duo parts.
- This event is an oral presentation. Only appropriate gestures should be used; no moving feet.
- Allow time for practice, improvement, and memorization.

### **RULES**

MINIMUM TIME: 3 MINUTES    MAXIMUM TIME: 5 MINUTES

1. Timing of the speech begins with the students' **first** utterance.
2. The students must include the title and author (**not anonymous**) in the presentation.
3. The interpretation must be the students', **not** an imitation of an actor's performance.
4. Students are **not** to announce their names, school, or district.
5. No props or costumes or obvious uniformity in attire. School uniforms may be worn.
6. No prompting or directing from the audience.
7. The selection **must** be memorized.
8. No moving feet.

*\*Literary works have one thing in common: they are read and remembered for the stories they tell, the experiences they describe, and the wisdom they contain.*

Student No. \_\_\_\_\_

4-6     7-8

OFFICE OF CHRISTINE LIZARDI FRAZIER  
KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Humorous  
Interpretation - DUO**

COMMENTS	CONTENT	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Literature effectively presented by students to interpret author's thoughts, attitudes, and intentions (not an imitation of an actor's performance) - See Rule 3	10	
<b>Total</b>		10	

COMMENTS	DELIVERY	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Speaks audibly and clearly	15	
	Speaks with expression	15	
	Looks at and speaks to audience	10	
	Uses appropriate gestures	10	
	Uses appropriate tempo and balance of solo and duo parts	10	
<b>Total</b>		60	

COMMENTS	TOTAL IMPRESSION	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Complete, consistent, convincing performance	20	
	Establishes rapport with audience; shows poise and confidence	10	
<b>Total</b>		30	-
<b>Total Points Earned</b>		100	

COMMENTS	ADHERENCE TO RULES (DEDUCTIONS)	Point Value	Points Deducted
	Points in this category deducted on an all-or-nothing basis.		
	Time limit not met - See Rule 1	-5	
	Title and author not included in presentation - See Rule 2	-5	
	Name and school stated - See Rule 4	-5	
	Props or costumes used - See Rule 5	-5	
	Prompts or directions given from audience - See Rule 6	-5	
	Selection not memorized - See Rule 7	-5	
	Moving feet - See Rule 8	-5	
	Literature not appropriate for age and event	-5	
<b>Total Deductions</b>		-40	-

Selection Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Deductions**    -40    -    -

**FINAL SCORE**

**NOTE TO JUDGE:** Ballots are to be marked independently (no discussion with another judge except in the case of a tie). Ballots are to be turned in at the **conclusion** of the contest (you may need to make changes after **all** contestants have been heard). Make comments to help you remember the speeches.

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_

**KERN COUNTY ORAL LANGUAGE FESTIVAL  
VERSE CHOIR**

**VERSE CHOIR**

A verse choir is a group of **at least three and not more than six students** reciting a literary selection in unison using whole group and small group parts. This presentation should be an interpretation of a literary work\*, not an imitation of an actor's performance. The literature must be a published work available to all students; selections that are found only in distributions such as organizational newsletters, the Internet, and regional newspapers are not acceptable because they are not available to all grade 4-8 students. The selection must be written by a known author. "Anonymous" and "author unknown" pieces are not acceptable.

**GUIDELINES**

- The students should select literature which can be presented chorally.
- The literature should be appropriate for age, event, and student presentation to a community audience.
- Text may be deleted from the original work to meet time requirements, however, text may not be added to or altered in any other way. Sound effects are allowed as written in the text but may not be added.
- Appropriateness of both literature and mode of delivery is the responsibility of the site principal.
- If more than one selection is used, there must be an obvious relationship and the parts must be tied together carefully. Short transitions may be added as necessary.
- Develop appropriate and interesting dialogues, parts, tonal qualities, and rhythmic qualities.
- Use a variety of small and large group parts.
- Blend voices, pause together, and put emphasis on the same words.
- Speak with appropriate expression, tempo, and volume; avoid "yelling" at the audience.
- There should be no solo or dominating voices.
- Reflect the author's viewpoint and mood.
- Use facial expressions and gestures that reflect the author's emotions and intentions.
- The event is an oral presentation. Only appropriate gestures should be used; no moving feet.

**RULES**

MINIMUM TIME: 3 MINUTES    MAXIMUM TIME: 5 MINUTES

1. Timing of the presentation begins with the students' **first** utterance.
2. The students must include the title and author (**not anonymous**) in the presentation.
3. The interpretation must be the students', not an imitation of an actor's performance.
4. Students are **not** to announce their names, school, or district.
5. No props, costumes, or obvious uniformity in attire. School uniforms may be worn.
6. No prompting or directing from the audience.
7. The selection must be memorized.
8. No solo voice parts.
9. No moving feet.

*\*Literary works have one thing in common: they are read and remembered for the stories they tell, the experiences they describe, and the wisdom they contain.*

Student No. \_\_\_\_\_

4-6     7-8

OFFICE OF CHRISTINE LIZARDI FRAZIER  
KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Verse Choir

COMMENTS	CONTENT	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Literature effectively presented by students to interpret author's thoughts, attitudes, and intentions (not an imitation of an actor's performance) - See Rule 3	10	
<b>Total</b>		10	

COMMENTS	DELIVERY	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Speaks audibly and clearly	10	
	Speaks with expression	15	
	Looks at and speaks to audience	10	
	Uses appropriate gestures	10	
	Uses appropriate tempo, volume, and small/large group parts	15	
<b>Total</b>		60	

COMMENTS	TOTAL IMPRESSION	Points Poss.	Points Scored
	Complete, consistent, convincing performance	20	
	Establishes rapport with audience; shows poise and confidence	10	
<b>Total</b>		30	
<b>Total Points Earned</b>		100	-

COMMENTS	ADHERENCE TO RULES (DEDUCTIONS)	Point Values	Points Deducted
	Points in this category deducted on an all-or-nothing basis.		
	Time limit not met - See Rule 1	-5	
	Title and author not included in presentation - See Rule 2	-5	
	Name and school stated - See Rule 4	-5	
	Props, costumes, or obvious uniformity in attire - See Rule 5	-5	
	Prompts or directions given from audience - See Rule 6	-5	
	Selection not memorized - See Rule 7	-5	
	Solo voice - See Rule 8	-5	
	Moving feet - See Rule 9	-5	
	Literature not appropriate for age and event	-5	
<b>Total Deductions</b>		-45	-

Selection Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL SCORE**

**NOTE TO JUDGE:** Ballots are to be marked independently (no discussion with another judge except in the case of a tie). Ballots are to be turned in at the **conclusion** of the contest (you may need to make changes after **all** contestants have been heard). Make comments to help you remember the speeches.

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
Rev. 7/06