

**Arkansas Communication and Theatre Arts Association
Dramatic Interpretation – Comment Ballot**

Performer _____ **School #** _____

Title of Selection _____ **Round** 1 2 S F **Section** _____

Length of Performance _____ **Rank (Circle)** 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Rules: (If a rule is broken, judge should lower the performer one ranking.)

*Selections should be drawn from published, printed: novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or other printed, published works as well as limited online works from the following approved list: <https://www.speechanddebate.org/approved-websites/>

*No props or costuming may be used during the performance.

*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.

* Monologues are acceptable in Dramatic Interpretation.

*Scene must be presented from memory.

* In Dramatic Interpretation, use of focal points and/or direct contact with the audience should be determined by the requirements of the literature being interpreted.

*An introduction should be presented containing information necessary to understand character(s) and scene. Title and author should be presented in introduction.

*Time limit, inclusive of introduction, is 10 minutes with a 30 second grace period. (If the performer goes beyond the 30 second grace period, the performer may not be ranked first.) There is no time minimum.

* Note: It is the expectation that performances are the artistic creation of the performer(s). It is plagiarism to copy a performance in detail from a video online. If there is suspicion of plagiarism, please be prepared to cite the source that was copied and consult with the tournament director. The tournament director will then consult with the coach of the performer(s) concerning consequences, which may result in their disqualification from the tournament.

Criteria For Evaluation:

Selection: Has literary merit and universal appeal.
Appropriate for performer and audience.

Introduction: Title and author are presented in introduction. The mood is set. The information is relevant to and sufficient for the scene.

Insight and Understanding: Displays an understanding of the author's theme, point of view and intent.

Characterizations: Creates mood, reinforces the emotional and intellectual complexities of the piece.
Portrays distinct, well-defined character(s) with consistency, as motivated by the literature.

Voice and Diction: Uses vocal accents and tone which define the age and status of the character(s). If more than one character, different voices are used to enliven the presentation. Character voices are distinct and consistent.
Uses proper vocal techniques including: projection, articulation, rate/fluency and inflection.

Bodily Action: Uses appropriate gestures and facial expressions. Avoids distracting and unmotivated movement.
Portrays movement and posture of character(s) appropriate to age, health, purpose and state of mind. If more than one character, focal points are used to aid audience in differentiating between characters during interpretation.
Focal points are clear and consistent.

General Effectiveness: Presentation is fresh, thoughtful or entertaining. Performer exhibits good energy level, passion and movement. Performer holds audience's attention, establishing emotional and mental rapport.

Judge's Remarks:

Judge's Signature _____ **School #** _____