



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSICS ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

### Rules for Demonstration Speech

10/08

**Time Limit: 5 - 10 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

**(Start and stop timing as speakers enter and leave staging area.)**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills of explaining and demonstrating a process using props and visual aids.

#### Description of Category:

A demonstration speech explains how to do something while demonstrating the process at the same time. The student should choose a topic that is practical or artistic. The speech may teach a specialized skill, show the construction of an item, or demonstrate how an object operates. An individual speaker or a team of two may deliver a presentation in this category. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style.

#### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category requires the participant(s) to demonstrate a practical or artistic skill or process and use an object of demonstration or aid in the speech. Material(s) outside the speaker's body must be used to enhance the demonstration.
2. Attire appropriate to the presentation is allowed but will not be considered the object of the demonstration or aid as required above.
3. The participant should expect a normal-sized classroom with a normal-sized door. The host school will provide a table. The participant must provide any other materials.
4. No materials dangerous to the health or safety of the participant or the audience may be used. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, firearms, dangerous chemicals, live animals, and laser pointers.
5. Audio devices are permitted to enhance, but not replace the presentation.
6. Materials are not to be passed around the room to audience members or to the judge before, during, or after the speech. Attention should always be directed to the speaker's involvement with the materials being used as objects of demonstration.
7. A presentation in this category may include an individual or a team of two.
  - a. In an individual demonstration one other person may be used as the object of demonstration or as an assistant in setting up or striking down the equipment used in the presentation. When interpreting this rule, consider whether the second person is assisting in the process or is actually carrying out the process. Only one other person may serve as both an object of demonstration and as an assistant. This person must also meet eligibility requirements but will not be considered as a participant. Therefore, this person may participate in another category. Any resulting scheduling problems, however, will not be the responsibility of the host school.
  - b. A team demonstration provides the opportunity for two people to share the responsibility of explaining and demonstrating a process. This option requires both participants to share in the speaking, as well as in the demonstrating of the process. Such a presentation shall be judged as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
8. Each contestant may use of one 4x6 card (or smaller), but note cards are not required.
9. The participant may use a presentation in this category for one season only.
10. A speech in this category shall be from 5 to 10 minutes in length, including set-up and strike-down time. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
11. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the Power Round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## Rules for Group Acting

Time Limit: 6 - 12 minutes

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

### **Purpose of the Category:**

To provide a group of students the opportunity to learn and practice basic acting skills by working together to dramatize a literary script.

### **Description of Category:**

The emphasis of this category is on basic acting skills, **especially character interaction**. Other skills include: individual character development, dialogue, movement, and emotional expression as characters respond and react to each other and the situations confronting them. Primary focus of the performers should be on each other, although narrators and asides to the audience are permitted.

The preferred source material should be prose, poetry, essays, song lyrics, speeches, declamations, radio drama, or creative dramatics. Students may also develop their own material to be used for the presentation.

### **Rules:**

1. An entry in this category is a presentation by a group of students from two to seven in number.
2. The presentation must be performed memorized by all participants. No scripts or prompting will be allowed.
3. The presentation is to be given without costumes, make-up, or properties. A table, desk, chairs, or stools may be used if available or if provided by the participants . **No prerecorded sound may be used.**
4. An introduction that includes the title and author is required and should be given from memory by one or more members of the group. Transitions, if needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation, should also be delivered from memory
5. Movement appropriate to the character and situation is expected and necessary. Primary focus of performers should be on themselves, or each other. Asides to the audience are permitted.
6. A presentation in this category shall be judged as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
7. In the event one member of the group is unable to appear at a tournament or festival, any other eligible student may be substituted. No special allowance will be made for the substitute.
8. A presentation in this category shall be from six to twelve minutes in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
9. A presentation in this category may not be used by any of the performers for more than one season.
10. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one.    Yes            No            If no, please explain.



## Rules for Group Interpretation

Time Limit: 6 - 12 minutes

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

### **Purpose of the Category:**

To provide a group of students the opportunity of working together to present a literary script.

### **Description of Category:**

The goal of this category is to provide a group of students the opportunity of working together to present a literary script by using their voices and/or bodies **to suggest** the intellectual, emotional or sensory experiences inherent in the material they have chosen. The readers should strive to have the audience lose themselves in the ideas that are being presented and make the printed page come alive for the listeners. The preferred source material should be prose, poetry, essays, song lyrics, speeches, declamations, radio drama, or creative dramatics. Students may also develop their own material to be used for the presentation.

Emphasis in this category is on vocal and verbal excellence and group dynamics. **Primary focus of the performers is on the audience, not each other.**

### **Rules:**

1. An entry in this category is a presentation by a group of students from two to seven in number.
2. All participants must read from a script. All participants must hold the script in their hand or hands at all times during the presentation. The material is not to be presented as a memorized selection.
3. The group presentation is to be given without costumes, make-up, or properties. No tables, desks, chairs, or stools may be used. No prerecorded sound may be used. Scripts cannot be used as a prop. **Scripts must be uniform. They should be mounted on solid-color stock or in plain binders that will be the same color for all participants.**
4. **No Body or eye contact with other members of the group is allowed.** This does not prohibit the incidental contact of people standing next to each other
5. An introduction that includes the title and author is required and should be given from memory by one or more members of the group. Transitions, if needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation, should also be delivered from memory.
6. A presentation in this category shall be judged as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
7. In the event one member of the group is unable to appear at a tournament or festival, any other eligible student may be substituted. No special allowance will be made for the substitute.
8. A presentation in this category shall be from six to twelve minutes in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
9. A presentation in this category may not be used by any of the performers for more than one season.
10. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one.    Yes            No            If no, please explain.



## **MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN**

10/08

### Rules for Humorous Solo Acting

Time Limit: 4 - 8 minutes

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

#### **Purpose of the Category:**

To develop skills in the presentation of comedy, using voice, movement, body, hands, and facial expression.

#### **Description of Category:**

The material for Humorous Solo Acting shall be a cutting taken from drama, or other literature adapted to the dramatic format with brief narrative transitions allowed. The material may be either original or non-original in content, and may include impersonations. The material may be in the form of a monologue or a selection which includes any number of characters. This is an individual category.

#### **Rules:**

1. An entry in this category is to be memorized. The source material may be prose, poetry, drama, or essay and may be either original or non-original. Impersonations are allowed.
2. The participant must prepare and present an introduction, including author and title, and any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation. The introduction and transitions must be given from memory.
3. Movement is limited only by what is appropriate to the material and the style of the presentation.
4. The presentation shall be performed without use of costume, make-up, special lighting or properties. A chair or stool and table may be used if available or are provided by the student.
5. A presentation in this category shall be from four to eight minutes in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
6. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
7. A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one.    Yes            No            If no, please explain.



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for INFOMERCIAL

**Time Limit: 2½ - 5 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

**(Start and stop timing as speakers enter and leave staging area.)**

Purpose of the Category:

To give the students the opportunity to use creativity, humor, and imagination in preparing and delivering a brief speech.

Description of Category:

The challenge in this category is to create and present a speech that emulates a television infomercial selling a real or imagined product or service. The tone of the speech should be creative, entertaining, and imaginative. A presentation in this category may include an individual speaker or a team of two. In judging this category equal emphasis should be given to content and style.

Rules:

1. A speech in this category may be given by an individual or a team of two. It must be written by the participants who present it.
2. The speech must be presented from memory, using notes, or extemporaneously. Each contestant may use of one 4x6 card (or smaller), but note cards are not required.
3. Properties or visual materials may be used in this category. Attire appropriate to the presentation may be worn.
4. **This is a simulation of a TV infomercial, therefore there can be no interaction between presenter(s) and audience. Rhetorical questions, however, are allowed.**
5. A team presentation provides the opportunity for two people to share the responsibility of giving a speech. The presentation shall be judged as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual reward.
6. Movement is limited only by what is appropriate to the material and the style of the presentation.
7. A presentation in this category shall be from two and one-half to five minutes in length including set-up, the opening remarks, and strike-down. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
8. The participant(s) may not use the same product or service as a topic for presentation in this category for more than one season.
9. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## **MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN**

10/08

### Rules for Informative Speech

**Time Limit: 2 - 4 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

#### **Purpose of the Category:**

To give the students the opportunity to prepare and present a brief informative speech without the use of visual aids.

#### **Description of Category:**

In the Informative Speech category, the speaker will present a brief, well-organized speech that has the primary purpose of informing. This category also allows the student to give an informative biographical speech about a person, living or dead, or a speech that informatively reviews a book, a movie, computer software, video or computer game, or a TV program. The participant should provide facts and ideas in an interesting and understandable fashion. Direct quotes, statistics, comparisons, analogies, and examples may be used to develop the speech. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style. This is an individual category.

#### **Rules:**

1. A speech in this category must be written by the person who presents it.
2. A speech in this category must be either informative in purpose or a review.
  - a. When deciding if a speech is informative in purpose, consider whether the speech deals with a solution to the topic. If so, the speech should probably be in the Persuasive category.
  - b. A review should be about an item that is appropriate to people the speaker's age. The review should be factual and informative. It may address the positive and negative qualities of the item and may include recommendations, but should not be a sales pitch or commercial.
3. Specific information that is not general knowledge should be cited.
4. The speech may be presented from memory, using notes, or extemporaneously. Notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card (or smaller) may be used but are not required. A student should not be marked lower for using a note card. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech that are adversely affected by using a note card, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
5. Costumes, properties or visual materials may not be used in this category.
6. A presentation in this category shall be from two to four minutes in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
7. The participant may use a speech or topic in this category for only one season.
8. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for Impromptu Speaking

Time Limit: 2 - 4 minutes

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skill of speaking extemporaneously on a topic of general knowledge.

#### Description of Category:

In the Impromptu Speaking category, the speaker will present an “off the cuff” speech about a common knowledge topic to be drawn immediately before speaking. Topics may be a word, phrase, statement, or non-specific question. The focus will be on the speaker’s ability to think on his/her feet. Sources need not be cited, as topics are within the experience or knowledge of the speaker.

A speech in this category may be informative, persuasive, or entertaining. (e.g. If the topic is puppies, a student might give an informative speech about the care of puppies, a persuasive speech about the need for neutering, or an entertaining speech about his own experiences with puppies.) **The speech should include an introduction, body and conclusion.** In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style. This is an individual category.

#### Rules:

1. **The speech is to be presented extemporaneously.** Notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card (or smaller) may, but need not, be used. The notes, if used, must be written during the two-minute preparation time. A student should not be marked lower for using a note card. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech which are adversely affected by using a note card, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
2. Costumes, properties and visual aids may not be used.
3. A presentation in this category shall be from two to four minutes in length. **The student must speak for at least two minutes with no grace period. A ten-second grace period is allowed over the maximum time limit.**
4. **A clear rule violation, including exceeding the time limit plus grace period, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one.    Yes            No            If no, please explain.



## **MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN**

10/08

### Rules for Moments in History

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

**(Start and stop timing as speakers enter and leave staging area.)**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To give the students the opportunity to prepare a brief informative speech based on a historical topic and to use a single visual aid while presenting the speech.

#### Description of Category:

In the Moments in History category, the speaker will prepare and present a well-organized, informative speech on a topic drawn from the designated decade or era. The decade or era shall be determined each year by the MLFA of Wisconsin Category Committee and presented at the Fall Meeting. Sources other than personal opinion, personal experience and general knowledge such as books, magazines, experts, etc should support the ideas presented and must be cited. In presenting the speech the participant must use one and only one visual aid. The visual aid should support the speech but not dominate it. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style. This is an individual category.

#### Rules:

1. A speech in this category must be about a topic pertaining to the chosen time period and should be informative in nature.
2. A speech in this category must be written by the student who presents it.
3. The speech may be presented from memory, using notes, or extemporaneously. Notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 (or smaller) card may be used but are not required. A student should not be marked lower for using a note card. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech that are adversely affected by using a note card, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
4. Sources other than personal knowledge must be used to support the ideas presented. Sources must be cited.
5. One visual supporting material must be used, but the participant may not wear it. The visual material must support, but not dominate, the presentation. No sound equipment, laser pointers, or electronic devices may be used. No costumes, or additional visual aids, or props may be used.
6. A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length including set-up and strike-down. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
7. The participant may use a speech or topic in this category for only one season.
8. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for News Reporting

**Time Limit: 5 - 10 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

**(Start and stop timing as speakers enter and leave staging area.)**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills of selecting, editing, organizing, and presenting news for television.

#### Description of Category:

The category of News Reporting gives one to three students the opportunity to practice the skills of research, organization, analysis and presentation of information based on current events. The student(s) will prepare and present a news program including news, weather, sports and an editorial. Material may be edited or rewritten by the student(s). Sources of information for this category may include newspapers, magazines, radio, television and the internet. The primary focus of this category should be hard news. This should look more like the 6:00 news than *Saturday Night Live*. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style.

#### Rules:

1. An entry in this category is a presentation by one to three students. The presentation shall be evaluated as a whole, but each participant shall receive an individual award.
2. The presentation must include news, weather, sports, and an editorial. News is defined as hard and/or featured. News may include area, state, national, or international. The student(s) must report events that have occurred within two weeks prior to the festival or tournament. Material must be updated throughout the season to ensure the timeliness. No commercial advertisements or public service announcements are to be part of the presentation.
3. A separate introduction is not permitted; it should be an integral part of the presentation. The participant(s) must prepare any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation.
4. The news portion of the presentation requires the use of a manuscript.
5. Properties or visual materials may be used in this category, but the participants must provide all equipment. A table or desk and chairs or stools may be used if available or provided by the participants. Attire appropriate to the presentation is allowed. The presentation is to be done without make-up. No laser pointers or electronic equipment may be used.
6. Movement is limited only by what is appropriate to the material and the style of presentation.
7. In the event one member of the group is unable to appear at a festival or tournament, any other eligible student may be substituted. No special allowance will be made for the substitute.
8. A speech in this category shall be from 5 to 10 minutes in length, including set-up and strike-down time. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
9. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for Non-Original Oratory

**Time Limit: 4 - 8 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills used in presenting a persuasive or inspirational speech.

#### Description of Category:

A presentation in this category will consist of one or more persuasive or inspirational speech(es) that have been written and delivered by someone other than the participant. The speech may be presented from memory, or read from a manuscript. Whichever method is chosen, the student should be cautioned to NOT attempt to mimic the original speaker. No literary re-interpretations or creations are permitted, e.g., speeches written as part of a play or novel.

#### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category is to be a persuasive or inspirational speech written by some person other than the participant and is to be given either from memory or read from a manuscript. **Note cards are not allowed.**
2. Literary re-interpretations or creations are not permitted, e.g., speeches written as part of a play, novel, movie or television program.
3. A brief **memorized** introduction which identifies the original speaker(s), time(s), place(s), occasion(s) of the original speech(es), the author(s) of the original speech(es) (if available), and any other relevant information helpful to the audience's understanding of the speech must be prepared and presented by the participant. If there are multiple speeches, an introduction should be given for each selection, and the participant should identify the relationship between the speeches (e.g., author, event, original presenter, etc.)
4. Costumes, properties or visual materials may not be used in this category.
5. A presentation in this category shall be from four to eight minutes in length including the introduction. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
6. The participant may use a speech in this category for only one season.
7. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for Persuasive Speaking

**Time Limit: 3½ - 7 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop the skills of researching an issue, understanding this issue, and composing and presenting a speech which is persuasive in nature.

#### Description of Category:

Life situations often result in the need to convince other people - perhaps to believe differently than they do at present, to offer a solution to a problem common to the group, to take a particular action in response to a current situation, or perhaps to reinforce and strengthen current attitudes. The Persuasive Speech category allows participants to practice skills involved in these everyday acts. A good persuasive speech will contain evidence and reasoning, as well as sound emotional appeals. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style. This is an individual category.

#### Rules:

1. A speech in this category must be persuasive in purpose. The speech may (a) alert the audience to the existence of a problem, (b) strengthen devotion to an accepted cause and call the audience to action, (c) affirm the existence of a problem and propose a solution, or (d) present a proposal or idea to better enhance a community. Examples: 1) You are a skateboarder asking the city council to finance a skate park. 2) You are a concerned student requesting the faculty look into improving the school climate. 3) You are a concerned young person urging adults in your neighborhood to form a Neighborhood Watch committee.
2. The speech is to be written by the student who presents it.
3. Ideas and reasoning need to be supported by more than emotions and opinions. Evidence and facts need to be presented with sources cited.
4. The speech may be presented from memory or extemporaneously. 4x6 note cards (or smaller) may be used, but are not required. A student should not be marked lower for using notes. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech, which are adversely affected by using notes, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which the notes are a distraction to the audience.
5. Costumes, properties or visual materials may not be used in this category.
6. A presentation in this category shall be from three and one-half to seven minutes in length including the introduction. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
7. The participant may use a speech in this category for only one season.
8. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for Poetry

**Time Limit: 4 - 8 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop skill in understanding and conveying the meaning and emotions of poetry.

#### Description of Category:

All the skills of reading aloud, including vocal flexibility, inflectional variety, clear articulation, and correct pronunciation, as well as the use of pause and rate variation, can be used to interpret poetry. In addition, the student should remember that in poetry, more than in any other kind of literature, the emotional weight of the content and the importance of image, rhythm, and sound are directly related. Special attention should be paid to how the emotional and intellectual forms are dependent upon one another. This is an individual category.

#### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category may be a single poem, a cutting from a single poem, or several related poems or cuttings. The material may be original.
2. Whether the selection is original or not, the participant must prepare and present an introduction(s), including author(s) and title(s), and any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation. The introduction(s) and transition(s) must be given from memory.
3. The poetry is to be read from the printed page by using either the original source or a typed manuscript. A reading stand, if available or provided by the participant, may be used. **The material is not to be presented as a memorized selection.** The participant may not walk except during transitions. (**Walking is defined as more than one consecutive step.**)
4. Costumes, properties, or visual materials may not be used in this category.
5. A presentation in this category shall be from four to eight minutes in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
6. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
7. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for Prose

**Time Limit: 4 - 8 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop skill in understanding and conveying the meaning and emotions of prose.

#### Description of Category:

**Prose is defined as ordinary speech or writing without metrical structure. (Poetry is not prose.)** Oral interpretation is defined as the “effective communication of thoughts and feelings to the listener.” Careful study of the written word is necessary for the interpreter to give special attention to the meanings and emotions of the piece. The printed word is the source from which the reader should draw meaning to share with the audience. The reader should not try to “be” anyone else, nor act out the piece, but should strive to have the audience lose themselves into ideas that are being presented; that is, the reader’s purpose is to make the printed page come alive for the listeners. All the skills of reading aloud, including vocal flexibility, inflectional variety, clear articulation, and correct pronunciation, as well as the use of pause and rate variation, can be practiced through participation in this category. This is an individual category.

#### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category is to be a selection or cutting from prose literature. In interpreting this rule, remember that if a dramatic production has evolved from the material chosen, the student is to use the original prose version for the reading. For example, a student may read from *Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes, but not from the movie script adapted from that novel entitled, “Charley.” The material may also be original. Material with rhyming or a metrical structure is not considered prose.
2. Whether the selection is original or not, the participant must prepare and present an introduction which states the title(s) and the author(s) and any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation. The introduction(s) and transition(s) must be given from memory.
3. The selection is to be read from the printed page by using either the original source or a typed manuscript. A reading stand, if available or provided by the participant, may be used. **The material is not to be presented as a memorized selection.** The participant may not walk except during transitions. **(Walking is defined as more than one consecutive step.)**
4. Costumes, properties, or visual materials may not be used in this category.
5. A presentation in this category shall be from four to eight minutes in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
6. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
7. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## **MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN**

10/08

### Rules for Serious Solo Acting

Time Limit: 4 - 8 minutes

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

#### **Purpose of the Category:**

To develop skills in the presentation of serious drama, using voice, movement, body, hands, and facial expression.

#### **Description of Category:**

The material for Humorous Solo Acting shall be a cutting taken from drama, or other literature adapted to the dramatic format with brief narrative transitions allowed. The material may be either original or non-original in content, and may include impersonations. The material may be in the form of a monologue or a selection which includes any number of characters. This is an individual category.

#### **Rules:**

1. An entry in this category is to be memorized. The source material may be prose, poetry, drama, or essay and may be either original or non-original. Impersonations are allowed.
2. The participant must prepare and present an introduction, including author and title, and any transitions needed to establish a relationship between parts of the presentation. The introduction and transitions must be given from memory.
3. Movement is limited only by what is appropriate to the material and the style of the presentation.
4. The presentation shall be performed without use of costume, make-up, special lighting or properties. A chair or stool and table may be used if available or are provided by the student.
5. A presentation in this category shall be from four to eight minutes in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
6. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
7. A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one.    Yes            No            If no, please explain.



## **MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN**

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10/08

### Rules for SPECIAL EVENTS PRESENTATION (formerly Special Occasion)

**Time Limit: 3 - 6 minutes**

**Judges are required to use a stopwatch**

**(Start and stop timing as speakers enter and leave staging area.)**

#### Purpose of the Category:

To give students the opportunity to use creativity and imagination in preparing and delivering a brief, speech.

#### Description of Category:

The challenge in this category is to give a speech that is brief and fits a defined occasion and audience. The tone of the speech should be creative, entertaining, and imaginative. A presentation in this category may include an individual speaker or a team of two. In judging this category, equal emphasis should be given to content and style.

#### Rules:

1. A speech in this category may be given by 1 to 3 individuals. It must be written by the participants who present it. The specific situations may be changed from year to year. The choices will be decided upon by the MLFA of Wisconsin Category Committee and presented at the Fall Business Meeting.
2. Prior to the presentation, the participant/s announce which of the situations has been chosen. (E.G. "I have chosen to speak on Situation A; (I will be presenting a travel blog to Remulak.) This announcement must be brief and is not considered part of the presentation and should only be judged for content.
3. The speech may be presented from memory, using notes, or extemporaneously. **Notes limited to both sides of one 4x6 card (or smaller) may be used by each speaker, but are not required.** Student(s) should not be marked lower for using a note card. It is appropriate, however, to criticize the other aspects of the speech that are adversely affected by using a note card, such as eye contact, use of gestures, and the extent to which it is a distraction to the audience.
4. Properties or visual materials may be used in this category. Attire appropriate to the presentation may be worn. No electronic devices or laser pointers are permitted.
5. A team presentation provides the opportunity for each person in the group to share the responsibility of giving a speech. This option requires each participant to share in the speaking. Such a presentation shall be judged as a whole, but each participant will get an individual award.
6. A presentation in this category shall be from three to six minutes in length including set-up, the opening remarks, and strike-down. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
7. The participant may not use a presentation in this category for more than one season.
8. **A clear rule violation, including a time violation, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

**Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one. Yes No If no, please explain.**



## MIDDLE LEVEL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

10/08

### Rules for Storytelling

Time Limit: 4 - 8 minutes

Judges are required to use a stopwatch

#### Purpose of the Category:

To develop skills in presenting imaginative material of the narrative form.

#### Description of Category:

The art of storytelling is older than reading, dating back to long before printing was invented, but it is modern too. The storyteller uses vocal variation and physical movement to suggest different characters and character relationships in order to make the story come alive in the mind of the listener. This is an individual category.

#### Rules:

1. A presentation in this category is to be a narrative given in the participant's own words. Emphasis should be placed on a natural, spontaneous delivery. If the story does not lend itself to retelling in the student's own words, it is not an appropriate selection. The student shall choose one of the following sub-categories as a format for the presentation:
  - a. **A narrative that is suitable for children.** Examples of suitable material are: traditional or contemporary children's stories, folk tales, tall tales, myths, and fables. The material may be from a published source or it may be original. If this sub-category is chosen, the storyteller should tell the story in an animated, dynamic and spontaneous manner that will capture and hold the interest of the chosen audience. **Stories in this category must be told in the third person.**
  - b. **A narrative that relates an interesting personal experience.** If this sub-category is chosen, the story should be about something that the storyteller was actively involved in and **must be told in the first person.** The storyteller should deliver the presentation in a manner that demonstrates the techniques needed to involve the listener in the experience. The speaker should comment on the worth or value of the experience, as well as involve the audience in the personal enthusiasm for this particular experience.
2. The participant is to prepare an introduction that creates an atmosphere, sets the mood and grasps the attention of the audience. Within the introduction, the speaker must give the title of the story and either the author or culture from which the story comes. (e.g. "...The lovely woman who wept pearls, based on a traditional Islamic folktale from Turkey.") **The introduction must be given from memory.**
3. Notes, costumes, properties and visual aids may not be used. After the introduction, the participant may choose to sit on a chair or stand. **The storyteller may not switch between sitting and standing during the story.**
4. A presentation in this category shall be from **four to eight minutes** in length. A ten-second grace period is allowed.
5. A presentation in this category may not be used by the participant for more than one season.
6. **A clear rule violation, including exceeding the time limit plus grace period, means that the performance will receive a penalty of 7 points, cannot be ranked, and cannot go to the power round.**

Were all the rules of the category followed? Circle one.    Yes            No            If no, please explain.