

HOUSTONFEST

Sight Reading Critique Sheet

Contestant: _____ Circle level: 1 2 3 4

School: _____

Judge's initials: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

Please read the "Instructions to Judges" sheet in your packet.

A timer will be provided. Set it for 3 minutes. Hand the contestant the reading appropriate for their level and start the timer counting down. When it reads 2:00, say "Begin reading." The contestant will then read aloud for the remaining 2 minutes or until reaching the end of the selection, whichever comes first. You may mark on a copy of the selection as the contestant reads, if you wish.

RULES

Entry Limit: 2 contestants per level, per school (Levels 1, 2, 3, & 4)

Time Limits: up to 1 minute preparation time plus 2 minutes to read the piece to judges

The contestant will receive a copy of a prose piece that they have never seen before. The contestant may look at the prose for up to 1 minute before reading it for the judges. Contestants then have 2 minutes to read aloud the prose selection. The judges will stop the contestant after 2 minutes, regardless of how far they have read into the selection.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING (Not all criteria have the same point values.)

1. **Pronunciation:** The contestant reads with correct German pronunciation, intonation, and stress. (0-30 points)
2. **Insight and understanding:** The contestant reflects the mood and the meaning of the selection. (0-30 points)
3. **Control of form, voice, and diction:** Enunciation is distinct without being pedantic; the voice is clear and the contestant avoids monotone; the contestant maintains a balance between thought and rhythm, i.e., word groupings and pauses are handled meaningfully. (0-20 points)
4. **General impression:** The contestant is poised and avoids distracting and unmotivated movements while making at least occasional eye contact with the audience and perhaps using appropriate facial expressions and hand movements. Contestant reads title and author as part of presentation. (0-20 points)

TOTAL POINTS: (100 possible) _____

MORE COMMENTS TO HELP THE CONTESTANT (Write on the back if necessary.)