



*An Original Interpretation creatively explores and develops the intellectual, emotional, and artistic embodiment of literature written by the student for performance.*

## **ORIGINAL INTERPRETATION EVENT RULES**

- The speaker will write an original work for interpretation.
- The goal of the event is for the student to write and perform an original work or works. Multiple pieces are allowed as long as the student is the author.
- Directly quoted material (Bible verses, song lyrics, quotes, etc.) may be used and may comprise up to a maximum of 60 total words in the speech. Outside sources for directly quoted material do not necessarily need to be mentioned in the verbal delivery but must be cited within the script.
- Limited singing and dancing is permitted only when motivated by the literature.
- Speakers presenting a speech that is intense or otherwise unsuitable for all audiences should consider ways to protect sensitive audience members by announcing before the speech begins that it may not be suitable for all audiences. This will allow younger students, families, and the timekeeper, where appropriate, to leave the room before the speech begins.
- Gratuitous vulgarity is not allowed. Gratuitous vulgarity refers to vulgar, obscene, or profane language or gestures that are included for shock value.
- Props, costumes, and audiovisuals are not allowed. A prop refers to any physical item that might be used to animate or illustrate the speech. A costume refers to a part or all of the speaker's attire that is worn for the purpose of enhancing a particular speech.
- All action should generally take place center stage. Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.
- Scripts must be submitted at all sanctioned NCFCA tournaments. The submitted script must be followed during all competition rounds.
- Script use during a speech at a Qualifying Tournament, Regional Invitational, or National Open is allowed but requires a penalty of two ranks.
- Use of a script at the National Championship will result in disqualification.
- Note use or prompting is not allowed. Note use refers to written material in addition to the script, and prompting refers to assistance from audience members during the speech.
- Material must be prepared and used for the current NCFCA season only.
- Audience laughter that extends the time of a piece should not penalize the speaker.
- Time limit: 10-minute maximum; no minimum time.