



Biblical Thematic is an interpretation speech in which the speaker analyzes three or more literature selections, including at least one Scripture selection, and develops a unique, original performance using a visual aid.

Biblical Thematic

Interpretation Speech

1. **General Speech Rules** and **Script Rules** must be followed in addition to these Event Rules.
2. **Speech time** is limited to a 10-minute maximum.
3. **Three or more literature selections** including plays, prose, songs, or poetry must be analyzed and developed.
 - Each selection must be separate, not woven together.
 - Each selection may be used up to two times.
4. **When choosing selections:**
 - a. **At least one Scripture selection must be presented.**
 - **Scripture selections must remain unaltered.** Omitting words, phrases, or verses from the selection or changing the words for any reason is not permitted.
 - **Only traditional Bibles** may be used. Chronological or topical Bibles may not be used.
 - **Only KJV, NKJV, ESV, NIV, or NASB** translations may be used.
 - **Chapter headings, commentary, etc.** added by the publisher are not considered to be Scripture and must not be included in the selection(s) of Scripture.
 - b. **One or more non-original, published selection(s) may be presented.**
 - **Non-original** indicates that the literature selection is not written by the speaker.
 - **Published** indicates a work of an author which is available to the public. Published does not include material from blogs or social media, or works which are solely audio or video recordings, movies, TV, or radio.
 - c. **One self-authored selection may be presented.**
 - **Self-authored** indicates the work of the speaker.

5. **When introducing or analyzing the selection(s) in the narrative sections:**

- **Up to 300 total words** may be added as introduction, transitional analyses, and/or conclusion.
- **Clear distinction** must be made between the narrative sections and the literature selections.
- **The title, author, and/or biblical reference(s)** of each selection must be verbally mentioned immediately before the selection; however, the title, author, and/or biblical reference of the first literature selection may follow a teaser.
- **Directly quoted material** (Bible verses, song lyrics, quotes, etc.) may be used in the narrative sections and must be included in the 300-word count. Sources for directly quoted material must be verbally mentioned in the speech, parenthetically cited within the script, and listed on the Works Cited page.
- **Original dialogue** must not be assigned to an author's character in a non-original selection.

6. **When cutting a published literature selection other than Scripture:**

- **Combining phrases** from several sentences is permitted.
- **Adding single words** from nearby sentences is permitted for transition or character identification, but single words from separate sentences may not be strung together to create new sentences.
- **Repeating an author's words** is permitted even when an author does not do so.
- **Changing an author's words** is permitted only for pronoun substitution, verb tense, and subject-verb agreement.
- **Giving one character's lines** to another existing character is permitted, but new characters may not be created.

7. **When delivering the speech:**

- **A small binder** must be used. This binder (approximately 6" x 9" x 1") may contain paper and page protectors. Speakers may appear to read from the binder or may creatively use it as a prop.
- **Visual aids**, other than the binder and its contents, are not permitted. Visual aids are items used to enhance the speech.