Oratorical
Interpretation Speech

Oratorical is an interpretation speech in which the speaker creatively explores, develops, and analyzes one or two published speeches.

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. **One or two published, nonfictional speech selections** must be presented, linked with a common theme, and analyzed.

   - **Published** indicates a speech 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.

   - **Nonfictional speech** indicates a speech spoken by a real person to a real audience.

4. **When introducing or analyzing the speech selections:**

   - **A total of up to 300 words** may be added in up to three narrative sections including an introduction, transitional analyses, and/or conclusion.

   - **Clear distinction** must be made between the narrative sections and the published speech selections.

   - **The original orator and historical date** of each speech selection must be verbally mentioned immediately before each speech selection or immediately after a teaser. The source of the speech must also be parenthetically cited in the script and listed on the Works Cited Page.

   - **Directly quoted material** (Bible verses, song lyrics, quotes, etc.) may only 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 words** must not be assigned to an orator.

5. **When cutting the speech selection(s):**

   - **Combining phrases** from several sentences is permitted.

   - **Adding single words** from nearby sentences is permitted for transition, but single words from separate sentences may not be strung together to create new sentences.

   - **Changing an author's words** is only permitted for pronoun substitution, verb tense, and subject-verb agreement.

6. **When delivering the speech:**

- **Style** is flexible. The speaker may present the speech selection(s) in the style of the author(s) or interpret the speech selection(s) in a fresh, original way.

- **Visual aids** may not be used. Visual aids are items used to enhance the speech.