

T-3 EVENTS, Judges' Guide (Emerson 2017)

1. Dramatic Interpretation (DI – 10 minutes max, 30-sec grace period)

A student performs a memorized cutting of a dramatic nature from a published play, novel, or short story.

Characterization

- *Is each character well developed?*
- *Is each character relatable?*
- *Does a character's response seem believable given the situation being portrayed?*

Blocking

- *Can you tell what the performer is doing in the scene?*
- *Is it clear what character s/he is playing?*
- *Is the movement motivated?*

Cutting

- *Do you understand what is happening?*
- *Is the story line easy to follow?*
- *Do the sequence of events make sense?*

2. Program Oral Interpretation (POI – 10 minutes max, 30-sec grace period)

A student performs a program of cuttings from multiple published sources (novels, short stories, essays, poems) arranged around one common theme. A manuscript or binder must be in hand.

Programming

- *Were at least two of the three genres of literature (Poetry/Prose/Drama) used in the program?*
- *Did all of the literature contribute to the theme or argument?*
- *Did the flow of the performance make sense?*
- *Was there a balance among genres in the performance?*

Blocking

- *Can you tell what the performer was doing in each scene?*
- *Was it clear what selection the performer was using in each section?*
- *Did the performer maintain control of the manuscript at all times?*
- *Was the movement motivated in the performance?*

Characterization

- *Did each selection have distinct and engaging characters?*
- *Did the performance match the genre (e.g., did the performer emphasize poetic elements when performing a Poetry selection)?*
- *Was the performance dynamic?*

3. Original Oratory (OO – 10 minutes max, 30-sec grace period)

A student performs a memorized original speech of a persuasive nature. Not more than 150 words of the oration may be directly quoted from any other speech or writing by another.

Importance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is the topic significant?</i> • <i>Is the thesis clearly established?</i> • <i>Does the delivery assist in establishing the importance of the topic?</i>
Relatability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Can the audience relate to the topic?</i> • <i>Is the delivery personable?</i> • <i>Does the speaker establish how others are impacted by the topic?</i> • <i>Is the rhetoric of the speech inclusive?</i>
Originality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Does the speaker address the topic in a unique, inventive way?</i> • <i>Are the supporting examples new and interesting?</i>

4. Creative Duo (CD - 8 min)

A pair of students memorizes and performs an originally written piece. Students may have direct contact during the introduction but must have indirect contact. That is to say, they cannot touch or look at each other during the performance (8 min).

Within these rules, students may create scripts that vary widely in tone and mood, making this event quite challenging to judge! In past competitions, some duo competitors have...

- *retold a Greek myth, tongue-in-cheek, with colloquial dialogue.*
- *invented a "fractured" fairy tale, derivative of a classic fairy tale.*
- *structured a narrative from "What is the scariest thing that has ever happened to you?"*
- *created a mock TV news show. For those who have seen or coached "TV Duo" in the past, Creative Duo rules apply: no props, no costumes, no direct focus after the introduction. No table, no chairs!*

AND, these are only the "light-hearted" examples! Keep in mind, students may also choose to write a script with a serious tone and theme.

Blocking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Does the movement in the scene stay within the constraints of "indirect contact" (the actors cannot touch or look at each other)?</i> • <i>Have the actors found inventive ways to suggest challenging actions (fighting, intimacy, etc.)?</i>
Text/dialogue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is the performance responsibility balanced - as close to 50/50 as possible?</i>
Narrative Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Does the script follow narrative structure (setting is established; the main characters are introduced and the conflict is defined. Rising action follows, leading to climax and resolution)?</i> • <i>In the case of TV Duo, does the script's structure replicate a television news show or another recognizable television format?</i>
Characterization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Are there a number of interesting and varied characters developed both vocally and physically?</i>

5. ***Extemporaneous Speaking (EXT – 7 minutes maximum, 30 second grace period)**

The student selects a question based on a current topic - an issue of foreign or domestic policy and has thirty minutes to prepare a speech.

Hand signals must be given at 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, and ½ minutes. At Emerson, student timers will be assigned to each room to assist the judge.

The library (second floor Administration Building) will be used for the prep room, monitored by the Extemp Proctor. The judges'/competitors' rooms will be near the library. Judges, go straight to your assigned room. The proctor will send the competitors one-by-one, about every 7 minutes. Each competitor will wait outside your door until the prior competitor has finished.

Argumentation and Analysis

- *Is the student directly answering the question?*
- *Does the student develop justifications for his/her ideas and establish the significance of the points?*
- *Has s/he established a clear understanding of the topic area?*

Source Consideration

- *Does the speaker offer a variety of sources?*
- *Are the sources provided credible?*
- *Are appropriate citations used when citing a source?*

Delivery

- *Is the student using voice, movement, and expression effectively?*
- *Is the speaker confident? Is there consistent eye contact?*
- *Is the volume appropriate?*