

STORYTELLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CONTEST DIRECTOR

The following guidelines are to be used to expand upon, but not replace, the information in the *Constitution and Contest Rules*, Section 1474. The rules may be found in the *A+ Handbook* and on the UIL web site. Please also see **Speaking Events Contest Instructions on the UIL web site for information on securing and training judges, sectioning speakers, time keeping and determining ranks.**

BEFORE THE MEET

Check your package...you should receive:

1. Contest Roster
2. Ballots
3. Individual Evaluation Sheets
4. Judges' Ranking Sheet for a panel of judges
5. Two stories, of which the contest director will select one for preliminary rounds and one for finals, if finals are needed. Stories should be provided to the storyteller well in advance of the contest.
6. Major Elements of the Plot for each story

Rooms

1. Determine the number of rooms that will be necessary, including one room for each preliminary section. If more than eight contestants are entered, both a preliminary and final round is mandatory. Smaller sections may be established if space and personnel permit.
2. One room is needed for students to hear the story told and wait their turn to present.
3. Provide a room for tabulating results, which may also be used for other speaking events.

Materials and Equipment

1. A copy of the current *Constitution and Contest Rules* or a copy of the rules for this contest
2. The contest roster, which may be filled out with contestants' names from entry forms prior to the contest
3. Two stories and two lists of major plot elements
4. Evaluation sheets
5. Judges' ranking sheets
6. A stopwatch for each section

Personnel

1. *Contest Director*. This person may be a coach and should be responsible for securing and training all other personnel.
2. *Storyteller*. The person selected to read the stories to the contestants may not be a coach of any student in the contest.
3. *Judges*. A single judge or an odd number of judges for each preliminary section should be selected and trained by the contest director. The judges should be provided with a copy of the evaluation sheet prior to the beginning of the contest to make certain they understand what is being evaluated. They should also be provided the Major Elements of the Plot for each story. So far as possible, judges should not know which school any contestant represents. Judges are to be instructed to give positive and constructive comments. See the sectioning instructions for an estimate of how many judges will be needed.

4. *Section Chairpersons*. One adult is needed per section to see that the contest progresses without problems.
5. *Monitors*. Young contestants will need adult supervision in the story/holding room, and help getting to the correct room to perform.
6. *Timekeepers*. A timekeeper is needed for each section. The chairperson may serve as timekeeper. There is no minimum or maximum time limit.

Sectioning and Speaker Order

See **Speaking Events Contest Instructions** on the UIL web site.

DURING THE CONTEST

1. Contestants may be assigned to sections and speaker order may be established prior to the day of the meet. If the contest director prefers, the contestants in a section may draw for speaker order just before the contest begins.
2. Explain to contestants they will all hear the story, and then when it is their turn, they will be escorted to the room where they will retell it. Students should listen quietly so all can hear, and practice quietly so everyone can concentrate while waiting their turn.
3. The storyteller may read the story to all contestants at one time. If an additional room is available, the first three speakers in every section could hear the story, and then approximately 10 minutes later the next three could hear it, so all contestants have a more equal waiting time between hearing and retelling the story. If audio stations are available, the story could be recorded and duplicated, and each contestant listen to it through headphones approximately 5 minutes prior to their scheduled speaking time.
4. When it is time for the first speaker in each preliminary section to present their story, have monitors assist them with finding the correct room where they have been assigned to tell the story. This process should be repeated for all speakers. As students finish, they can be shown back to the holding room.
5. When the round is over, the chairperson gathers the ballots and evaluation sheets from the judges and delivers them to the tabulation room.
6. If a final round is necessary, announce the names or numbers of the contestants who will be advancing to the final round. Repeat the process used for preliminary rounds.

ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS

1. *Verification Period*. An optional period not to exceed 15 minutes may be arranged for coaches and contestants to review their own evaluations and ranking sheets before the official results are announced.
2. *Official Results*. Once the viewing period has elapsed and the contest director has collected all contest papers, official results shall be announced. Official results, once announced, are final.
3. *Places and Points*. Places shall be determined and recognized and points awarded through sixth place. See the *A+ Handbook* or the *Constitution and Contest Rules* (Section 1408(i)) for points to be awarded.

AFTER THE CONTEST

1. Congratulate *all* contestants for their participation and effort.
2. Provide the district director with a list of the winners and their schools and the number of contestants participating.
3. Make recommendations for the following year.