

Proposed Recommendation by
UIL Review Advisory Committee
to
Standing Committee on Academics

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This recommendation amends the language of A+ Sections 1400-1478 of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules* to include only the structure of the contest and removes specific contest procedures and operations that will be placed into a handbook for each event.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

The academics portion of the C&CR contains contest structure, rules, contest procedures and operational details. This amendment would more closely align academics with the structure of athletics and music and clarify the language in the C&CR so that it truly becomes a book about the structures and rules of the competition. Handbooks for each event would become the interpretation of the rules in the C&CR.

C. Proposed Recommendation

Section 1410: ART

(bA) ~~NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* This contest involves the study of paintings from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. and paintings from selected Texas museums. The *Art Smart Bulletin*, ~~published every other year~~, is the source for test material of history and art elements relative to the 40 art selections ~~and is the final authority in the spelling of artists' names and titles of art works~~. As part of their study, students will demonstrate an understanding of art history and interpret ideas and moods in original artworks while making informed judgments about the artwork.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Part A requires contestants to identify the artist's name, as it appears on the official list, and the title of 15 paintings selected randomly from the official list of 40 paintings as published in the *Art Smart Bulletin* and on the UIL website. Part B consists of 30 questions about art elements and art history characteristic of the 40 art selections. Both Parts A and B of the contest shall be conducted. APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR PART A AND 30 MINUTES FOR PART B OF THE CONTEST EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Purchase Options.* The UIL does not provide prints for study. Schools may purchase the *Art Smart Bulletin* from the UIL and prints from outside vendors.~~
- ~~(4) *Tests.* One Part B test will be provided for grades 4-6 and one for grades 7-8. The League will make available one set of tests for invitational meets, one for fall/winter district meets and one for spring district meets.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the fourth, fifth and sixth grades~~ who are eligible under Section 1400 OR 1405 ~~and students in the seventh and eighth grades who are eligible under Section 1400~~ may enter this contest.

- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions (fourth through sixth; seventh and eighth) unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each school may enter as many as five contestants in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of all contestants in each division from a school, divided by the number of contestants from that school, shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have at least three contestants compete to participate in team competition.
- (c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.
- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students, with the exception of the person choosing the ~~large prints~~ SELECTIONS to be used in Part A of the contest. This person shall not be the coach of any student in the competition.
- ~~(A) Contest Director. The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise.~~
- ~~(B) Monitor. Two monitors make certain that contestants work quietly and independently.~~
- ~~(C) Graders. At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) Time Allotted for Test. Allow approximately 30 minutes for Part A and 30 minutes for Part B of the contest.~~
- ~~(3) Materials.~~
- ~~(A) Provided by UIL. The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~
- ~~(i) Part B tests.~~
- ~~(ii) Answer sheets.~~
- ~~(iii) Answer key.~~
- ~~(iv) Contest rosters.~~
- ~~(v) Scoring worksheet.~~
- ~~(B) Provided by Host School. Fifteen prints selected randomly by the director from the official list. A coach with students involved in the contest shall not choose the contest prints.~~
- ~~(C) Provided by the School or Student. Pens, pencils and/or erasers.~~
- ~~(D) Other. No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~
- (d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.
- (1) *Clear Room.* ~~Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Spectators and coaches not assigned specific duties in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest starts.~~
- (2) *Number Contestants.* ~~Distribute answer sheets for Part A. As roll is called, instruct students to write the assigned number in the space provided on the answer sheets.~~
- (3) *Part A.* ~~Instruct contestants to write or print, in pen or pencil, the name of the artist, as it appears on the official list, in the first column and the title of the painting in the second column of the answer sheet provided as the selected 15 prints are displayed. Prints should be~~

~~displayed one at a time, each print for approximately one minute to one and one half minutes. Collect all Part A answer sheets and put away all prints before continuing with Part B.~~

- ~~(4) Part B. No prints should be visible to contestants during Part B. Place a copy of the Part B test questions in front of contestants, and direct them not to open the tests until instructed to do so. Inform the contestants that all answers should be recorded on the answer sheet, not on the copy of the test. Give the start signal. At the end of 30 minutes, give the stop signal. Collect all Part B tests and answer sheets.~~
- ~~(e) JUDGING.~~
- ~~(1) Criteria. The test is graded objectively. A perfect score is 120. From that perfect score, in Part A, deduct two points if the artist's name is incorrect; deduct one point if the artist's name is correct but misspelled. Deduct two points if the title of the art is incorrect; deduct one point if the title of the art is correct but misspelled. In Part B, deduct two points for each incorrect or omitted answer.~~
- ~~(2) Scoring. Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. To compute the team score, the total scores of all members who participated on the team shall be added and then divided by the number who participated on the team. A team shall have at least three contestants to participate in the team competition. See the *A+ Handbook* for team scoring sheet sample.~~
- ~~(3) Determining Legibility. Contestants may print or write words. If there is a question about legibility of a letter, place a blank piece of paper on either side of the letter, separating it from its context and then determine whether the letter can be identified. If two of three graders rule that a letter is legible, it should be considered correct.~~
- ~~(#2) VERIFICATION PERIOD. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will SHALL be final.~~
- ~~(#3) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.~~
- ~~(4) Points AND TIES. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). (5) Ties. Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists. If available, each team should be given an award for the appropriate place. SHOULD THERE BE A TIE FOR FIRST PLACE, THERE WILL BE NO SECOND PLACE. SHOULD THERE BE A TIE FOR SECOND PLACE, THERE WILL BE NO THIRD PLACE, ETC.~~
- ~~(65) Certificates. Students who score 100% in both sections of the contest at the district competition are eligible to receive a Certificate of Achievement.~~
- ~~(h) STUDY MATERIALS. Selections for the contest in the current year are listed in the Art Smart Bulletin, which is also the source for questions in Part B. The Art Smart Bulletin does not contain color images.~~
- ~~(#6) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from the fall/winter district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

(bA) ~~NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to stimulate the development of mathematical and calculator skills. Goals are both intellectual and practical: developing mathematical reasoning and knowledge and requiring the application of problem-solving skills toward realistic problems.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Students will take a test containing 80 problems ~~in 30 minutes.~~ The contest consists of problems ~~which~~ THAT may include calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, roots and powers. It also includes straightforward calculation problems and simple geometric and stated problems similar to those found in recently adopted textbooks. THIRTY MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Tests.* One test will be provided for all three grades. The League will make available one test for invitational meets, one test for fall/winter district meets and one test for spring district meets.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest. ~~Only one test will be provided for all three grades.~~
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of one division unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
 - ~~(B) *Monitor.* Two monitors make certain that contestants work quietly and independently.~~
 - ~~(C) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time Allotted for the Contest.* Thirty minutes will be allowed for the contest. A clock should be visible to all contestants.~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*
 - ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~
 - ~~(i) Tests.~~
 - ~~(ii) Answer key.~~
 - ~~(iii) Contest rosters.~~
 - ~~(B) *Provided by the Student or School.*
 - ~~(i) Only silent, commercially available calculators that do not require auxiliary~~~~~~

power are permitted. Spare calculators or battery packs are also permitted.

(ii) ~~Pens, pencils and/or erasers.~~

(C) ~~Other.~~ No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.

(d) ~~CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

(1) ~~Check Tests.~~ Check tests for defects and omissions.

(2) ~~Clear Calculators.~~ No pre-recorded programs may be used in the contest. Coaches may assist in clearing calculators of all data and program memory that can be cleared prior to the contest.

(3) ~~Clear Room.~~ Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Everyone other than the contest officials and contestants should leave the room. After tests have been distributed, no other contestants will be admitted into the contest room.

(4) ~~Number Contestants.~~ Instruct contestants to place their assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of the test.

(5) ~~Read Rules.~~ Read the following rules aloud:

(A) ~~You may use any silent, hand held calculator that does not require auxiliary electric power. Your calculator data and program memory should now be cleared. You may not use pre-recorded programs during the contest.~~

(B) ~~You may write on the test paper, but only the answer should be written in the answer space. You may erase or mark out an answer previously written, provided you write the revised answer within the answer space and clearly indicate the answer you wish to be graded.~~

(C) ~~Alarm watches that emit an audible signal are not allowed in the contest room.~~

(D) ~~This is a 30-minute contest. No time warnings will be given. Remain in your seat throughout the contest period. No talking or distracting noises will be permitted.~~

(E) ~~When the end of the contest period is indicated, you shall cease calculator operations. After the stop signal is given you may, however, write down the number displayed on your calculator.~~

(F) ~~Any answer may be written in decimal or in powers of 10 notation of the form, 1.23×10^{-6} but not in both. Except in the integer and dollar sign problems, answers should be written with three significant digits only, with plus or minus one unit error in the third significant digit permitted. Integer problems require answers written as an integer and no error is permitted. Dollar sign problems should be answered to the exact cent, but plus or minus one cent error is permitted. Answers should be given in the units specified on the answer blank, if a unit is required, and with the correct sign.~~

(G) ~~All problems through the last problem completed or attempted will be graded. A problem is considered to have been attempted if any mark or erasure appears in the answer space for that problem. Scoring is plus five points for correct answers and minus four points for incorrect, skipped or illegible answers.~~

(6) ~~Stop Signal.~~ After the stop signal has been given, contestants may write one more answer on the answer sheet before they put their pencils down.

(e) ~~JUDGING.~~

(1) ~~Criteria.~~ The 80 question test is graded objectively. Only problems through the last completed or attempted problem will be graded. Add five points for each correct answer. Deduct four points for each incorrect, skipped or illegible answer.

(2) ~~Briefing Graders.~~ Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading, and go over the

~~information about how answers are to be written.~~

- ~~(3) *Scoring.* Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. Draw a line after the last problem attempted. Any mark in the answer blank, including erased marks, constitutes an attempt. Erasing or marking through an answer is allowed as long as the correct answer is clearly placed in the answer blank.~~
- ~~(4) *Ranking.* Rank tests from highest to lowest scores. Individual places shall be determined and recognized through sixth place in each division. Team places may be determined and recognized through third place in each division.~~
- (#2) VERIFICATION PERIOD. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision ~~will~~ SHALL be final.
- (#3) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (4) *Points AND TIES.* Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). ~~(5) *Ties.*~~ Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists. ~~If available, each team should be given an award for the appropriate place.~~ Should there be a tie for first place, there will be no second place. Should there be a tie for second place, there will be no third place, etc.
- (i5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contests may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1416: CHESS PUZZLE

(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.

- (1) *Summary.* The study of chess teaches analytical thinking, pattern recognition and creativity, which in turn improve student performance in reading, writing, history, geography, and math.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Students will take aN ~~30-minute~~ objective test containing approximately 20 chess puzzles, plus a separate tiebreaker section. Answer formats may include fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice and/or true/false. THIRTY MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD AND AN ADDITIONAL FIVE MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TIEBREAKER, EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Test.* The league will make available sets of test questions, one test for each division for invitational meets, one test for each division for fall/winter district meets, and one test for each division for spring district meets.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE who are eligible under sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of three divisions: (2nd and 3rd), (4th and 5th), (6th, 7th and 8th).~~ With the approval of the district executive committee, a district may have separate divisions for each grade. DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.

- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in team competition.
- (c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.
- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in the contest may be coaches of participating students.
- ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
- ~~(B) *Timekeeper.* The contest director will serve as official timekeeper and will give only a start and stop signal. A clock should be visible to all contestants.~~
- ~~(C) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time.* For all divisions, contestants will be given 30 minutes to answer all test questions and an additional five minutes for the tiebreaker section.~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*~~
- ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* Copies of test, answer key and answer sheet.~~
- ~~(B) *Provided by the School or Student.* Pens or pencils.~~
- ~~(C) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~
- (d) ~~CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~
- ~~(1) *Numbering of Contestants.* Distribute a copy of the test and answer sheet to each contestant. Instructing them not to open test until the start signal is given. As roll is called, instruct students to write their assigned number in the space provided on their answer sheets.~~
- ~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Coaches who are not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~
- ~~(3) *Testing.* Inform contestants that answers must be recorded on the answer sheets according to the instructions given. Contestants may write or mark on the puzzle sheet. Contestants should remain in their seats throughout the testing period. When the 30 minute contest period has ended, give the stop signal and ask all contestants to put their pens/pencils down. Collect all test and answer sheets, and distribute a tiebreaker section and answer sheet to each contestant.~~
- ~~(4) *Tiebreaker.* When tiebreaker test papers and answer sheets have been distributed, instruct contestants to record all answers on the answer sheet. Give the signal to start. When the five-minute tiebreaker period has ended, give the stop signal and ask all contestants to put their pens/pencils down. Collect all tiebreaker test papers and answer sheets.~~
- (e) ~~GRADING.~~
- ~~(1) *Briefing Graders.* Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading and explain scoring process.~~
- ~~(2) *Criteria.* The test is graded objectively.~~
- ~~(3) *Scoring.* Each test shall be scored according to the grading instructions provided. Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time.~~
- ~~(4) *Verification Period.* The contest director should designate a time and place for a 15 minute verification period at which time contestants and/or coaches are given the opportunity to view~~ CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHALL BE GIVEN A PERIOD NOT TO

EXCEED 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE their test papers with official answer keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision ~~will~~ SHALL be final.

- (g3) Official Results. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- ~~(4) Ties. For all contestants involved in a tie, grade the five minute tiebreaker section according to the grading instructions provided. In individual competition, if two or more contestants tie, the contestant with the best tiebreaker score receives the higher place. In team competition, if two or more teams tie, the team with the best combined tiebreaker score for all team members wins the tiebreaker and receives the higher place. If two or more individuals or teams have both the same objective score and the same tiebreaker score, the tie stands and will not be broken. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc.~~
- ~~(54) Points and ties. Points are awarded through sixth place. Team points are awarded through third place. See AS SPECIFIED IN Section 1408 (i). Tied contestants INDIVIDUALS or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which the tie exists. SHOULD THERE BE A TIE FOR FIRST PLACE, THERE WILL BE NO SECOND PLACE. SHOULD THERE BE A TIE FOR SECOND PLACE, THERE WILL BE NO THIRD PLACE, ETC.~~
- (i5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contests may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1418: CREATIVE WRITING

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to promote creativity in an academic format and to encourage writing skills at an early grade level. Through preparation for the contest, students will be able to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Contestants will be given a prompt with several captioned pictures. From these pictures, the students will create an original story based on their selections ~~in 30 minutes~~. The stories shall contain at least one of the pictured items, but it is not required that all items on the page be included. THIRTY MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR WRITING EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) Tests. The League will make available one test for invitational meets, one test for fall/winter districts meets and one test for spring district meets. The contest has no minimum word length.~~

~~(aB) REPRESENTATION.~~

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in the second grade who are eligible under Section 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* This contest will consist of only one division.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in creative writing.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.*

- ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director. The contest director may be the coach of a participating student.~~
- ~~(B) *Judges (Graders).* A single or an odd number of judges should be SELECTED, familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. They should be qualified and impartial. Judge(s) may not be coaches of participating students. The contest director may recruit as many judges as necessary.~~
- ~~(2) *Time Allotted For Contest.* Allow 30 minutes for students to create and write stories.~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*~~
- ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~
- ~~(i) Prompts and evaluation sheets.~~
- ~~(ii) Contest rosters.~~
- ~~(iii) Judges' ballots.~~
- ~~(iv) Instruction sheet for judges.~~
- ~~(B) *Provided by the Host School.* Blank paper.~~
- ~~(C) *Provided by the School or Student.* Pens, pencils and/or erasers.~~
- ~~(D) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~
- ~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~
- ~~(1) *Number Contestants.* As roll is called, instruct contestants to place their assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of each blank page. Coaches may assist contestants in this process prior to the contest.~~
- ~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of a viewing period, if one is scheduled. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~
- ~~(3) *Distribute Prompts.* Place prompt sheets on the desk in front of each contestant. Read aloud the captions under each picture and the instructions for writing a story. Contestants may use the instruction and prompt pages for notes or ideas. Give students the signal to begin.~~
- ~~(4) *Signal to Stop.* At the end of 25 minutes, give a 5 minute warning. At the end of 30 minutes, give a stop signal and ask contestants to put their pencils down. Collect all prompts and contestant papers.~~
- ~~(e) JUDGING.~~
- ~~(1) *Briefing Judges.* Prior to the contest the director should discuss thoroughly with judges the criteria for evaluating the stories.~~
- ~~(2) *Criteria for Judging.*~~
- ~~(A) The stories are evaluated as to relative excellence in creativity (60%), organization (30%) and grammatical correctness of style (10%).~~
- ~~(B) Interest depends primarily upon substance. It depends next upon clarity and upon including specific details and examples which individualize the story as an outgrowth of the writer's character and experience.~~
- ~~(C) A well organized story will present ideas in a logical and coherent manner.~~
- ~~(D) Grammatical correctness of style includes avoiding errors in sentence structure, punctuation, grammar, spelling and word usage.~~

- ~~(3) *Ranking Stories.* Judges shall read the stories and, without marking on the papers, shall rank them in the order of their excellence: 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. The judges should discuss the stories contending for a rank and may alter their decisions as a result of the discussion. Judges are to reach a consensus on the rankings.~~
- ~~(4) *Ties.* There can be no ties in this contest.~~
- ~~(5) *Preparing Evaluation Sheets.* Judges shall prepare comments on the Creative Writing Evaluation Sheets for each entry. Comments should reflect the UIL philosophy of judging. Identify and comment first on the positive aspects of the story, then offer constructive criticism. Comments need not be long, but they should be specific rather than general.~~
- ~~(6) *Points.* Points are awarded through sixth place. See Section 1408 (i).~~
- (f2) VIEWING PERIOD. An optional period not to exceed 15 minutes may be arranged for coaches and contestants to review their own evaluations and stories AND VERIFY IDENTIFICATION.
- (g3) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the viewing period has ended and all contest papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (4) *POINTS AND TIES.* POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i). THERE CAN BE NO TIES IN THIS CONTEST.
- (h5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1422: DICTIONARY SKILLS

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* Thorough knowledge of the dictionary is a way to increase a student's ability to find ~~the~~ information that is needed for class work as well as everyday living. The subject matter of all tests is taken from *Merriam Webster's Intermediate Dictionary*. Contestants may use other dictionaries in the contest. In preparation for this contest, students will develop skills to communicate effectively.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Each test consists of 40 objective questions. Contestants use dictionaries in the competition. TWENTY MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Tests.* One test will be provided for grades 5 and 6; another test will be provided for grades 7 and 8. The League will make available one set of tests for invitational meets, one for fall/winter district meets and one for spring district meets.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions (fifth and sixth; seventh and eighth) unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as

three contestants in the district meet.

- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants competing to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~

~~(B) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~

- ~~(2) *Time Allotted For Contest.* Twenty minutes is allowed for the contest.~~

- ~~(3) *Materials.*~~

~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~

~~(i) — Tests and answer sheets.~~

~~(ii) — Answer key.~~

~~(iii) — Contest rosters.~~

~~(B) *Provided by the Host School.* Blank paper~~

~~(C) *Provided by the Student or School.*~~

~~(i) — Dictionary (which may be tabbed.)~~

~~(ii) — Pens, pencils and/or erasers.~~

~~(D) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) *Number Contestants.* Distribute answer sheets. As roll is called, instruct the contestants to write their assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of the answer sheet.~~

- ~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~

- ~~(3) *Distribute Tests.* Place tests on the desk in front of each contestant, and direct them not to open the test until instructed to do so. Inform contestants that answers should be recorded on the answer sheet, not on the copy of the test. Give contestants a signal to begin.~~

- ~~(4) *Signal to Stop.* At the end of 20 minutes give a stop signal and ask contestants to put their pencils/pens down.~~

- ~~(5) *Test Collection.* Collect all tests, answer sheets and note sheets.~~

~~(e) JUDGING.~~

- ~~(1) *Briefing Graders.* Brief graders on procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.~~

- ~~(2) *Criteria.* The 40 question test is graded objectively. A perfect score is 120.~~

- ~~(3) *Scoring.* Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. For each correct answer, add three points. For each incorrect answer, subtract two points. No deduction is taken for skipped or unanswered items.~~

- ~~(#2) VERIFICATION PERIOD.~~ Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted.

QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.

- (3) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- ~~(4) Ties. No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc.~~
- (54) ~~Points AND TIES. Individual points shall be awarded through sixth place. Team points shall be awarded through third place. See POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN Section 1408 (i). NO TIES ARE TO BE BROKEN IN EITHER THE INDIVIDUAL OR THE TEAM COMPONENT OF THIS CONTEST. Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists. SHOULD THERE BE A TIE FOR FIRST PLACE, THERE WILL BE NO SECOND PLACE. SHOULD THERE BE A TIE FOR SECOND PLACE, THERE WILL BE NO THIRD PLACE, ETC.~~
- (g) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1424: EDITORIAL WRITING CONTEST

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) ~~Summary. The purpose of the contest is to stress writing and higher order thinking skills and to teach students the basics of communication necessary in life.~~ EDITORIAL WRITING TEACHES CRITICAL AND ANALYTICAL THINKING, AS WELL AS THE ABILITY TO WRITE PERSUASIVELY AND CONCISELY. STUDENTS LEARN TO EXAMINE BOTH SIDES OF AN ISSUE, SELECT AND DEVELOP A STANCE AND SUPPORT THAT STANCE WITH LOGICAL, CLEAR WRITING.
- (2) ~~Contest Format. This is a 45-minute contest. Contest materials shall consist of a fact sheet from which participants will develop an editorial.~~ CONTESTANTS WILL BE PROVIDED A FACT SHEET FROM WHICH THEY WILL DEVELOP AND WRITE AN EDITORIAL. FORTY-FIVE MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE WRITING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) Contest Material. One prompt will be provided for grades seven and eight. The League will make available one contest prompt for invitational meets, one for fall/winter district meets and one for spring district meets.~~

~~(aB) REPRESENTATION.~~

- (1) ~~Contestants. Students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grade~~ OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE who are eligible under Section 1400 OR 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) ~~Divisions. This contest will consist of one division unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in ~~this contest~~ EDITORIAL WRITING.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.*

~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director shall be responsible for preventing any communication between contestants or any reference on the part of contestants to notes, books or printed material other than a standard bound or electronic thesaurus and/or dictionary. The contest director shall be timekeeper of the contest and give warnings of the time remaining at 15 and 5 minutes, even if the contest is held in a room where a clock is clearly visible to the contestants. When 45 minutes have elapsed from the time the contestants have been instructed to begin the contest, the contest director shall collect all entries. THE CONTEST DIRECTOR MAY BE THE COACH OF A PARTICIPATING STUDENT. A SINGLE OR AN ODD NUMBER OF JUDGES SHOULD BE SELECTED. JUDGE(S) SHALL NOT BE COACHES OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS.~~

~~(B) *Judges.* The contest director shall select a properly qualified and impartial single judge or an odd number panel of judges. The papers shall be graded in accordance with the list of journalism contest judging criteria.~~

~~(2) *Materials.*~~

~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~

~~(i) *Prompts.*~~

~~(ii) *A list of editorial judging criteria. The contest director shall make available copies of the list for review by judges prior to the contest.*~~

~~(iii) *Contest rosters.*~~

~~(B) *Provided by the Student or School.*~~

~~(i) *Blank paper (ruled or plain white.)*~~

~~(ii) *Pens, pencils and/or erasers.*~~

~~(C) *Other.* Students may use a standard bound or electronic thesaurus and/or dictionary during the contest.~~

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

~~(1) *Number Contestants.* Contestants shall be assembled and seated throughout the room(s). A roll is called. Students should be instructed to write their assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of each page and to circle the number. Coaches may assist in this process prior to the contest.~~

~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of an optional viewing period, if one is scheduled. Spectators and coaches not assigned specific duties in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~

~~(3) *Distribute Prompts.* Place a copy of the prompt in front of each contestant and instruct them not to open the contest material until the start signal is given.~~

~~(4) *Signal to Stop.* When 45 minutes have elapsed, tell the students to stop writing. Collect all prompts, notes and contestant papers.~~

~~(e2) *OPTIONS FOR WRITING.* Contestants may use ruled or plain white paper, standard notebook or typing paper to hand-write their editorials OR Students may bring and use their own computers. If contestants choose to use their own computers, they shall bring their own~~

printers, associated hardware, software and paper. ~~Laptop computers are permitted and recommended.~~ Spell check and thesaurus functions may be used ~~if available on computers.~~ Students who opt to compose their entries on computers accept the risk of computer malfunction. In case of computer malfunction, the contestant may use the remaining allotted time to complete the composition in handwriting. Contestants may use electronic or printed dictionaries and thesauruses. ~~The entry should be written on one side in pencil or ink, or typed on a word processing computer using any standard 12-point font and one-inch margins on regular-sized computer paper. Contestants shall not include their names or the names of their schools on the contest entry. Papers will be identified by numbers assigned by the contest director.~~

- ~~(f) JUDGING CRITERIA. Judging criteria shall be enclosed in the contest material requisitioned from the League office. The contest director shall make these criteria available to judges prior to the contest. The following is a general outline of an editorial for judges and contestants:~~
- ~~(1) Introduction presents problem and establishes staff stance.~~
 - ~~(2) Body supports stance taken.~~
 - ~~(3) Conclusion.~~
 - ~~(A) The contestant offers original solutions or suggestions, if warranted.~~
 - ~~(B) Conclusion restates staff stance.~~
 - ~~(4) Considerations for Judging.~~
 - ~~(A) Writing is exact, active and precise.~~
 - ~~(B) Alternative viewpoints are presented and rebutted when appropriate.~~
 - ~~(C) Editorial is written in third person, although first person plural may be used when appropriate.~~
 - ~~(D) Secondary consideration is given to grammar, spelling and neatness.~~
- ~~(g) POINTS. Individual points shall be awarded through sixth place. See Section 1408 (i).~~
- ~~(3) VIEWING PERIOD. AN OPTIONAL PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 15 MINUTES MAY BE ARRANGED FOR COACHES AND CONTESTANTS TO REVIEW THEIR OWN EVALUATIONS AND STORIES AND VERIFY IDENTIFICATION.~~
 - ~~(4) OFFICIAL RESULTS. AFTER THE VIEWING PERIOD HAS ENDED AND ALL CONTEST PAPERS HAVE BEEN COLLECTED, THE CONTEST DIRECTOR SHALL ANNOUNCE THE OFFICIAL RESULTS. OFFICIAL RESULTS, ONCE ANNOUNCED, ARE FINAL.~~
 - ~~(5) POINTS AND TIES. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i). THERE CAN BE NO TIES IN THIS CONTEST.~~
- ~~(h6) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from the fall/winter district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1426: IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) Summary. This contest GIVES STUDENTS EXPERIENCE IN FORMULATING AND ORGANIZING CLEAR THOUGHTS AND EFFECTIVELY DELIVERING THOSE THOUGHTS TO AN AUDIENCE. THE CONTEST PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO EXPLORE THE USE OF THE VOICE AND BODY IN SPEAKING SITUATIONS; TO EXAMINE DIFFERENT PURPOSES FOR SPEAKING; TO ORGANIZE IDEAS AND DELIVER SPEECHES ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS; TO~~

EVALUATE SPEECHES GIVEN BY OTHERS; AND TO DEVELOP SELF-CONFIDENCE. ~~provides opportunities for students to evaluate speeches given by others; to explore the use of the voice and body in speaking situations; to examine the different purposes for speaking; to organize ideas; to prepare and deliver various speeches; and to develop self confidence.~~

- (2) *Contest Format.* Contestants will draw three topics, SELECT ONE, and have three minutes to prepare a speech, which shall be presented without any notes. ~~The contest gives participants experience in thinking, organizing, formulating clear thoughts and effectively delivering those thoughts to an audience.~~ Contestants may not use costumes or props in the contest. THE MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT FOR EACH SPEECH IS FIVE MINUTES. THERE IS NO MINIMUM TIME LIMIT. STUDENTS WHO EXCEED THE ALLOTTED FIVE MINUTES SHALL BE PENALIZED ONE RANK. FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE JUDGES RANK A STUDENT SECOND WHO HAS GONE OVERTIME, THAT STUDENT SHALL BE ASSIGNED THIRD PLACE AND THE STUDENT WHO WAS RANKED THIRD WILL BE GIVEN SECOND PLACE. NO SPEAKER MAY BE COACHED OR PROMPTED IN ANY MANNER DURING THE PRESENTATION. AUDIENCES ARE PERMITTED.
 - (3) ~~*Topics.* The League will make available one set of topics for invitational meets, one set of topics for fall/winter district meets and one set of topics for spring district meets.~~
- (aB) REPRESENTATION.
- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Section 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest. A student may enter no more than two speech events.
 - (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of one division unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
 - (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
 - (4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest.
- (c) ~~PREPARATION.~~
- (1) ~~*Topics.* Topics, which may be serious or humorous in nature, will be designed to include subjects that are familiar to the student. Several practice topics are listed in the A+ Handbook.~~
 - (2) ~~*Practice.* Students may prepare for the contest by designing topics similar to ones used in the contest and speaking to classes and groups.~~
- (d) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.
- (1) *Personnel.*
 - (A) ~~*Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director. The contest director may be the coach of a participating student.~~
 - (B) ~~*Timekeeper.* A timekeeper should be provided for each SECTION. contest to notify the contestant of the amount of time remaining from the total allotted time. The timekeeper should demonstrate to the contestant the type of time signals to be used. While the timekeeper may use either hand signals or timecards to indicate to the speaker the remaining time, time cards are a much preferred method of signal.~~

- ~~(C) *Judges.* The contest director may recruit~~ CONTEST OFFICIALS SHOULD SELECT one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges ~~may~~ SHALL not be coaches of participating students. So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.
- (2) ~~*Creating Sections.* A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter A DIVISION OF impromptu speaking, they shall be divided into sections using the guidelines in Section 1003~~ ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. ~~Districts may create smaller sections when space permits. A separate room is needed for each preliminary section.~~ Winners from the preliminary rounds will compete in a final round using the guidelines in Section 1003.
- ~~(3) *Materials.*~~
- ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) and (e) for the dates when invitational materials and district materials will be available.~~
- ~~(i) — Evaluation sheets.~~
- ~~(ii) — One set of topics for the preliminary rounds.~~
- ~~(iii) — One set of topics for the final round.~~
- ~~(iv) — Judges' Ballots.~~
- ~~(v) — Contest Director's Ranking Sheet for a panel of judges.~~
- ~~(vi) — Contest rosters.~~
- ~~(B) *Provided by the Host School.* Blank paper.~~
- ~~(C) *Provided by the School or Student.* Pens, pencils and/or erasers to be used to organize ideas during preparation.~~
- ~~(D) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~
- ~~(4) *Time Allotted for Contest.* The maximum time limit for each speech is five minutes. There is no minimum time limit.~~
- ~~(e) — CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~
- ~~(1) *Drawing Topics.* One at a time, contestants will draw three topics, select one and return the other two to the container. Contestants will be given three minutes to prepare. Blank paper may be used to organize ideas during preparation; however, notes may not be used during the speech. Contestants may remain in the contest room.~~
- ~~(2) *Speaker Order.* 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 each preliminary section may draw for speaker order just before the contest begins.~~
- ~~(3) *Time Limit Penalty.* Students who exceed the allotted five minutes shall be penalized one rank. For example, if the judges rank a student second who has gone overtime, that student shall be assigned third place and the student who was ranked third will be given second place.~~
- ~~(4) *Coaching.* No speaker may be coached or prompted in any manner during the presentation.~~
- ~~(5) *Audience.* Audiences are permitted. Audiences should be instructed to remain seated and quiet during all presentations. Audience courtesy should be extended at all times.~~
- ~~(f) — JUDGING.~~
- ~~(1) *Briefing Judges.* Judges should be encouraged to give students written evaluations on the Impromptu Individual Evaluation Sheet. Oral critiques are optional, but when given, should be directed to the group as a whole, acknowledging good points and giving suggestions for improvement.~~

- ~~(2) *Criteria.* Judges should be instructed to use the following criteria in ranking the contestants:~~
- ~~(A) effectiveness of delivery;~~
 - ~~(B) organization of ideas; and~~
 - ~~(C) overall impression of the speech.~~
- (3) *RankingS, TIES AND POINTS. the Contestants. See Section 1003.* CONTESTANTS SHALL BE RANKED AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. THERE CAN BE NO TIES IN THIS CONTEST. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).
- ~~(4) *Ties.* There can be no ties in this competition.~~
- ~~(5) *Questions.* Questions should be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is announced as official. The decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.~~
- ~~(6) *Points.* Points are awarded through sixth place according to Section 1408 (i).~~
- (g4) VERIFICATION PERIOD. If a panel of judges is used, a verification period ~~should~~ SHALL be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that tabulation of rankings is correct. The decisions of the judges are not subject to question. EVALUATION SHEETS MAY BE VIEWED BY CONTESTANTS AND COACHES DURING THE VERIFICATION PERIOD AND SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR AT THE END OF THE VERIFICATION PERIOD. FOR ROUNDS WITH SINGLE JUDGES, A 15-MINUTE VIEWING PERIOD IS RECOMMENDED.
- (h5) OFFICIAL RESULTS. The contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (i6) RETURNING EVALUATIONS MATERIALS. ~~Evaluation sheets may be viewed by contestants during the ballot verification period. Ballots shall be returned to the contest director at the end of the verification period. No materials from the fall/winter district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1430: LISTENING

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to help students recognize the importance of effective listening skills and to identify problems they may have in listening effectively. It also provides a challenging format to test the improvement of their listening abilities. Through preparation for the contest, participants will listen to a variety of material and learn to evaluate and critically analyze a speaker's message. ~~Tests will include, but are not limited to, language arts, fine arts, natural sciences and social studies.~~ The objective tests will measure skills such as identifying the main idea and supporting ideas, listening for details, drawing conclusions and distinguishing fact from opinion.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Contestants will listen to a script ranging from approximately seven to 10 minutes in length, take notes as needed, and use their notes to answer 25 ~~multiple choice, fill in the blanks and true/false~~ test objective questions. TEN MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD. ~~A variety of subject matter will be used for the listening tests.~~
- ~~(3) *Tests.* The League will make available one test for each division for invitational meets, one test for each division for fall/winter district meets and one test for each division for spring~~

~~district meets.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions (fifth and sixth; seventh and eighth) unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students except the script reader. The reader may not be a coach of any contestant entered in the contest.
 - ~~(A) Contest Director.~~ The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.
 - ~~(B) Script Reader.~~ The contest director may serve as the script reader or may appoint a qualified person to act in this capacity. The script reader should be given the test script well in advance of the contest. Contest directors may choose to administer the test by using a recording of test material, but contest directors are responsible for creating the recording before the contest. The UIL does not provide recorded contest scripts.
 - ~~(C) Timekeeper.~~ An official timekeeper will give only start and stop signals. The contest director may serve as the official timekeeper.
 - ~~(D) Graders.~~ At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.
- (2) *Time.* Time should be scheduled to read the script and distribute tests. Then, students will have 10 minutes to answer test questions.
- (3) *Materials.*
 - ~~(A) Provided by UIL.~~ The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.
 - ~~(i) Tests and answer blanks.~~
 - ~~(ii) Test script.~~
 - ~~(iii) Answer key.~~
 - ~~(iv) Contest rosters.~~
 - ~~(B) Provided by the Host School.~~ Blank paper for note taking.
 - ~~(C) Provided by the School or Student.~~ Pens, pencils and/or erasers.
 - ~~(D) Other.~~ No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) Number Contestants.~~ Distribute answer sheets. As roll is called, instruct students to write

~~their assigned contestant number in the space provided on the answer sheets.~~

- ~~(2) *Clear the Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Spectators and coaches who are not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~
 - ~~(3) *Read Script.* The script reader should read the script clearly and distinctly, following the script's time markings, or play the recorded script. The students may take notes on the blank sheets of paper.~~
 - ~~(4) *Distribute Tests.* When the script reader has finished reading the script or playing the recording, the contest director should place a copy of the test questions in front of contestants, and direct them not to open the tests until instructed to do so. Inform the contestants that all answers should be recorded on the answer sheet, not on the copy of the test. Contestants may use their notes during the test.~~
 - ~~(5) *Time.* The contestants will be given 10 minutes to answer the test questions.~~
 - ~~(6) *Test Collection.* When the stop signal has been given, the contest director shall have all contestants place their pencils on their desks and then collect all tests, answer sheets and notes. The contest director is responsible for destroying all copies of the script.~~
- ~~(e) JUDGING.~~
- ~~(1) *Briefing Graders.* Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.~~
 - ~~(2) *Criteria.* The 25-question test is graded objectively. A perfect score is 75.~~
 - ~~(3) *Scoring.* Each test shall be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. Award three points for every correct answer. Deduct two points for every incorrect answer. There shall be no deduction of points for unanswered questions.~~
 - ~~(4) *Ties AND POINTS.* No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~
 - ~~(5) *Points.* Individual points are to be awarded through sixth place. Team points shall be awarded through third place. See Section 1408 (i). Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.~~
 - ~~(#3) VERIFICATION PERIOD. The contest director should designate a time and place for a 15-minute verification period at which time contestants and/or coaches are given the opportunity to view their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final. A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.~~
 - ~~(g4) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.~~
 - ~~(h5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from the fall/winter district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday~~

~~prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1434: MAPS, GRAPHS AND CHARTS

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to help students learn to get information from a variety of maps, graphs and charts including world maps, pie charts, bar charts and local area maps. The objective test will measure skills such as using an atlas as a reference book to locate information, making comparisons, estimating and approximating, using scale and interpreting grid systems, legends and keys.
- (2) *Contest Format.* SOME SUBJECT MATTER WILL BE TAKEN FROM THE DESIGNATED OFFICIAL SOURCE(S). Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 75 ~~multiple choice, true/false and fill in the blank~~ OBJECTIVE questions ~~that shall be answered in 45 minutes.~~ CONTESTANTS MAY USE AN ATLAS DURING THE CONTEST; AN ATLAS WILL BE NEEDED TO ANSWER SOME TEST QUESTIONS. FORTY-FIVE MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Tests.* Subject matter used for the test will be taken from the *Nystrom Desk Atlas*, available through Nystrom, a division of Herff Jones, Inc. and the League. Contestants may use other atlases in the contest. Tests will also include some combination of other maps, graphs and/or charts that students have never seen before. The atlas and the test will contain the information needed to answer the objective test questions.~~

~~(aB) REPRESENTATION.~~

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions, one for grades 5 and 6 and one for grades 7 and 8. With the approval of the district executive committee, a district may have separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

~~(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.~~

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
 - ~~(B) *Timekeeper.* The contest director will serve as the official timekeeper and will give only a start and stop signal.~~
 - ~~(C) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time.* In both divisions, contestants will be given 45 minutes to answer the test questions.~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*
 - ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the~~~~

appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.

(i) ~~Printed tests.~~

(ii) ~~Answer key.~~

(iii) ~~Contest rosters.~~

(B) ~~Provided by the School or Student.~~

(i) ~~Atlas (which may be tabbed.)~~

(ii) ~~Pens, pencils, rulers, erasers and/or pencil sharpener.~~

(C) ~~Provided by the Host School. Blank paper.~~

(D) ~~Other. No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~

(d) ~~CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

(1) ~~Number Contestants.~~ Distribute a copy of the test to the contestants, instructing them not to open the test until the start signal is given. As roll is called, instruct students to write their assigned contestant number in the space provided on the cover sheets.

(2) ~~Clear Room.~~ Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Coaches who are not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.

(3) ~~Testing.~~ Inform contestants that answers should be recorded in the blanks provided on the tests. Students may write or mark on the maps, graphs, charts and margins as needed.

(4) ~~Test Collection.~~ When the stop signal has been given, ask all contestants to put their pencils down. Collect all tests. All note sheets should be collected and destroyed after official results are announced.

(e) ~~GRADING.~~

(1) ~~Brief Graders.~~ Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.

(2) ~~Criteria.~~ The test is graded objectively.

(3) ~~Scoring.~~ Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. Award three points for each correct answer. Deduct two points for each incorrect answer. There shall be no deduction of points for unanswered questions.

(4) ~~Ties AND POINTS.~~ No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).

(5) ~~Points.~~ Points are awarded through sixth place. Team points are awarded through third place. See Section 1408 (i). Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.

(f) ~~VERIFICATION PERIOD.~~ The contest director should designate a time and place for a 15-minute verification period at which time contestants and/or coaches are given the opportunity to view their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final. A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE

DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.

- (g4) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (h5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1438: MATHEMATICS

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* Learning to complete math problems quickly is a valuable skill in all facets of life. This contest includes problems covering, but not limited to: numeration systems, arithmetic operations involving whole numbers, integers, fractions, decimals, exponents, order of operations, probability, statistics, number theory, simple interest, measurements and conversions. Geometry and algebra problems may be included as appropriate for the grade level.
- (2) *Contest Format.* The contest consists of 50 multiple-choice problems. THIRTY MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Tests.* The test will cover the content of current state-adopted middle school/junior high mathematics textbooks.~~

(a) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of one division unless the district executive committee approves of separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
 - ~~(B) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time Allotted for Contest.* Thirty minutes will be allowed for the contest. There should be a clock visible to all contestants.~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*
 - ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the~~~~

appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.

~~(i) Tests and answer blanks.~~

~~(ii) Answer key.~~

~~(iii) Contest rosters.~~

~~(B) Provided by the Host School. Blank paper.~~

~~(C) Provided by the School or Student. Pens, pencils and/or erasers.~~

~~(D) Other. No other materials, including calculators or notes, may be used in the contest.~~

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

~~(1) Check Tests. In the presence of coaches, open the test envelope. Check tests for defects and omissions.~~

~~(2) Clear Room. Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Coaches and parties other than the contest officials and contestants should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~

~~(3) Number Contestants. Distribute answer sheets and instruct contestants to write their assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of the answer sheets.~~

~~(4) Distribute Tests. Instruct contestants not to open the test until the signal has been given to begin.~~

~~(5) Stop Signal. After the stop signal has been given, instruct contestants to put their pencils down. Collect all tests, answer sheets and scratch paper.~~

~~(e) GRADING.~~

~~(1) Briefing Graders. Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading.~~

~~(2) Criteria. The 50 question test is graded objectively. A perfect score is 250.~~

~~(3) Scoring. Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. Award five points for each problem solved correctly. Deduct two points for problems incorrectly solved. There is no deduction for problems skipped.~~

~~(4) Ranking. Rank tests from highest to lowest scores. Individual places shall be determined and recognized through sixth place in each division. Team places may be determined and ranked through third place in each division.~~

~~(5) Ties AND POINTS. No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~

~~(6) Points. Individual points are awarded through sixth place. Team points are awarded through third place. See Section 1408 (i). Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.~~

~~(3) VERIFICATION PERIOD. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final. A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.~~

~~(4) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been~~

collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

- (#5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1442: MODERN ORATORY

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* In this contest, the contestant will select one of the topics, determine the critical issues in the topic, and acknowledge both pro and con points citing support discovered in their research. Students will choose a side they will defend and support that side with additional evidence. Along with the skills of analysis, research, note-taking, documentation, evaluation and decision-making come those of memorization and delivery.
- (2) *Contest Format.* THE LEAGUE WILL PROVIDE A SELECTION OF TOPICS EACH ACADEMIC YEAR FROM WHICH THE STUDENT WILL PICK ONE. ~~Students~~ CONTESTANTS will deliver a three to six minute speech on their topic without the use of notes. CONTESTANTS SHALL NOT USE COSTUMES OR PROPS IN THE CONTEST. STUDENTS GOING OVER THE MAXIMUM OR UNDER THE MINIMUM TIME LIMIT SHALL BE PENALIZED ONE RANK. FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE JUDGES RANK A STUDENT SECOND WHO HAS GONE OVER THE TIME LIMIT, THAT STUDENT SHALL BE ASSIGNED THIRD PLACE AND THE STUDENT WHO WAS RANKED THIRD WILL BE GIVEN SECOND PLACE. NO SPEAKER MAY BE COACHED OR PROMPTED IN ANY MANNER DURING THE PRESENTATION. AUDIENCES ARE PERMITTED.
- ~~(3) *Topics.* The League will provide three to five topics in the *Constitution and Contest Rules* and on the UIL website each year from which the student will pick one.~~

~~(aB) REPRESENTATION.~~

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Section 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest. A student may enter no more than two speech events.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of only one division. With the approval of the district executive committee, a district may have separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest.

~~(c) PREPARATION.~~

- ~~(1) *Guidelines.* In the process of preparing for the contest, the student will need to:~~
 - ~~(A) define the problem;~~
 - ~~(B) determine the pro and con issues;~~
 - ~~(C) research the issue;~~
 - ~~(D) look at both sides of an issue;~~
 - ~~(E) reach a conclusion; and~~

~~(F) support that conclusion with documentation.~~

~~— To achieve and maintain the educational goals of the contest activity, teachers and parents may guide the development of the research and writing of the speech, but no one other than the contestant shall be permitted to write the speech.~~

~~(2) Topics. Contestants shall select one of five topics from the official list posted on the UIL website.~~

~~(3) Delivery. The oration shall be delivered from memory, without the assistance of notes, and shall be between three and six minutes in length. Contestants may not use costumes or props in the contest. Delivery may include an introduction, statement of the question, development of both pro and con points, statement of the position, defense of that position and a conclusion.~~

(d) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) Personnel.

~~(A) Contest Director. The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director. The contest director may be the coach of a participating student.~~

~~(B) Timekeeper. A timekeeper should be provided for each section to notify the contestant of the amount of time remaining from the total allotted time. The timekeeper should demonstrate to the contestant the type of time signals to be used. While the timekeeper may use either hand signals or time cards to indicate to the speaker the remaining time, time cards are a much preferred method of signal.~~

~~(C) Judges. The contest director may recruit~~ CONTEST OFFICIALS SHOULD SELECT one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges ~~may~~ SHALL not be coaches of participating students. So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.

~~(D) Monitors. One person is needed for each section to see that the contest progresses without problems. Monitors may be coaches of participating students.~~

(2) ~~Creating Sections.~~ A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter A DIVISION OF modern oratory, they shall be divided into sections ~~using the guidelines in Section 1003~~ ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. ~~Districts may create smaller sections when space permits. A separate room is needed for each preliminary section. Winners from the preliminary rounds will compete in a final round using the guidelines in Section 1003.~~

~~(3) Materials.~~

~~(A) Provided by UIL. The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~

~~(i) Topics will be posted on the UIL website each year.~~

~~(ii) Evaluation sheets.~~

~~(iii) Judges' Ballots.~~

~~(iv) Contest Director's Ranking Sheet for a panel of judges.~~

~~(v) Contest rosters.~~

~~(B) Other. No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~

~~(4) Time Allotted for Contest. The maximum time limit for each speech is six minutes. Each speech should be at least three minutes long.~~

~~(e) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) *Creating Sections and Speaking Order.* 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 each preliminary section may draw for speaker order just before the contest begins.~~
- ~~(2) *Call Contestants to Contest Room.* Contestants are to be called into the contest room one at a time according to their arranged speaking order. Contestants may remain in the contest room.~~
- ~~(3) *Audience.* Audiences are permitted. The audience should be instructed to remain seated and quiet during all presentations. Audience courtesy should be extended at all times.~~
- ~~(4) *Coaching.* No speaker may be coached or prompted in any manner during the presentation.~~

~~(f) JUDGING.~~

- ~~(1) *Briefing Judges.* Judges should be encouraged to give students written evaluations on the Modern Oratory Evaluation Sheet. Oral critiques are optional, but when given, should be directed to the group as a whole, acknowledging good points and giving suggestions for improvement.~~
- ~~(2) *Criteria.* Criteria for judging the contest should include:
 - ~~(A) *Delivery.* Did the speaker demonstrate effective communication? Was the speaker able to enlist and hold the interest of the audience?~~
 - ~~(B) *Content.* Did the student analyze the topic, giving both sides of the issue?~~
 - ~~(C) *Organization.* Did the student have an appropriate introduction? Did he/she clearly define the problem and show both sides of the issue? Did he/she reach and support a conclusion?~~
 - ~~(D) *Overall effectiveness.*~~~~
- ~~(3) *Rankings, TIES AND POINTS the Contestants.* If a panel of judges is used, the contest director shall tabulate all judges' ranks to determine places. See Section 1003 (b). Students going over or under the time limit shall be penalized one rank. For example, if the judges rank a student second who has gone over the time limit, that student shall be assigned third place and the student who was ranked third will be given second place. CONTESTANTS SHALL BE RANKED AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. THERE CAN BE NO TIES IN THIS CONTEST. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~
- ~~(4) *Questions.* Questions should be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is announced as official. Decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.~~
- ~~(5) *Points.* Points are awarded through sixth place according to Section 1408 (i).~~
- ~~(g4) VERIFICATION PERIOD. If a panel of judges is used, a verification period should be provided, during which unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that rankings were tabulated correctly. The ranks assigned by the judges are not subject to question. IF A PANEL OF JUDGES IS USED, A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO VERIFY THAT TABULATION OF RANKINGS IS CORRECT. THE DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES ARE NOT SUBJECT TO QUESTION. EVALUATION SHEETS MAY BE VIEWED BY CONTESTANTS AND COACHES DURING THE VERIFICATION PERIOD. FOR ROUNDS WITH SINGLE JUDGES, A 15-MINUTE VIEWING PERIOD IS RECOMMENDED.~~
- ~~(h5) OFFICIAL RESULTS. The contest director shall announce the official results. Official~~

results, once announced, are final.

- (6) RETURNING MATERIALS. NO CONFIDENTIAL MATERIALS ARE USED IN THIS CONTEST. THEREFORE, EVALUATION SHEETS MAY BE RETURNED TO CONTESTANTS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONTEST.

Section 1446: MUSIC MEMORY

~~(bA)~~ NATURE OF THE CONTEST.

- (1) *Summary.* The focus of this contest is an in-depth study of fine pieces of music ~~literature~~ taken from a wide spectrum of ~~music~~ genres to expose students to great composers, their lives and their music. In the course of preparing for the contest, students should be given the opportunity to describe and analyze the music, relate the music to history, to society and to culture, and to evaluate musical performance. THE LEAGUE WILL PUBLISH EACH YEAR THE OFFICIAL UIL MUSIC MEMORY LIST AND PROVIDE SOURCES FOR OBTAINING RECORDINGS OF THE MUSIC AND INFORMATION ON THE PIECES AND COMPOSERS.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Students will listen to approximately 20 seconds of up to 20 musical selections. Students in grades 3 and 4 should be allotted sufficient time to answer the matching portion of the test and to write down the name of the major work, if it is required, and the selection title for the tiebreaker. Students in grades 5 and 6 are allotted sufficient time to write down the name of the major work, if it is required, selection title and the name of the composer. No matching portion exists for grades 5 and 6.
- ~~(3) *Music List.* The League will publish each year the Official UIL Music Memory List and provide sources for obtaining recordings of the music and information on the pieces and composers.~~

~~(aB)~~ REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades~~ who are eligible under Section 1400 OR 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions (third/fourth and fifth/sixth) unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individuals.* Each participant school may enter AS MANY AS five contestants in each division in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of all contestants in each division from a school, divided by the number of contestants from that school, shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have at least three contestants compete to participate in team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
 - ~~(B) *Judges.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time Allotted for Contest.* Allow approximately 20 seconds of listening time for each of the~~

~~16 music segments and the four tie-breaking segments, and at least one minute between each selection for writing.~~

~~(3) *Materials.*~~

~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~

~~(i) Matching test for the third/fourth grades and answer sheet for the fifth/sixth grades.~~

~~(ii) The League provides the official list of selections at the beginning of each school year.~~

~~(iii) Audio CD.~~

~~(iv) Contest rosters.~~

~~(B) *Provided by the Host School.* Sound equipment to play audio material. The contest room should be appropriate for an event which requires contestants to listen to and identify recorded music.~~

~~(C) *Provided by the School or Student.* Pens, pencils and/or erasers.~~

~~(D) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

~~(1) *Number Contestants.* Distribute answer sheets. As roll is called, instruct contestants to write their assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of the answer sheets.~~

~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~

~~(3) *Test and Tie-Breaking Selections.*~~

~~(A) *Third/Fourth Grades.* STEP ONE: Contestants should write the letter of the selection and major work in the blank next to the correct composer's name, using each letter once. STEP TWO: contestants should listen to the music excerpt and put the correct number next to the selection name. STEP THREE: contestants should write major work (where needed) and selection name for tie breaker selections.~~

~~(B) *Fifth/Sixth Grades.* Play the 16 test musical selections and the four tie-breaking musical selections in the time indicated. Contestants should write the title of the selection, major work (where needed) and the composer in the blanks provided.~~

~~(e) JUDGING.~~

~~(1) *Briefing Graders.* Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.~~

~~(2) *Criteria.* The test is graded objectively. Two points are awarded for each correct answer; one point is awarded if the answer is correct but misspelled.~~

~~(3) *Scoring.* Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. To receive full credit for an answer, all information about the music selection should be complete as shown on the Official List. For additional scoring instructions, refer to the official Music Memory Scoring Guidelines provided in the *A+ Handbook* and on the UIL website.~~

~~(A) In the 3rd/4th grade matching portion of the contest, award two points for recognition of the composer and two points for recognition of selection title. In the 3rd/4th grade tie breaking portion of the contest, award two points for the correct major work, if required, and two points for the correct selection. Award one point if the major work is~~

~~correct but misspelled. Award one point if the selection title is correct but misspelled. Award no points for incorrect or unanswered items.~~

- ~~(B) In the 5th/6th grade contest, award two points for the correct major work, if required, and two points for the correct selection. Award one point if the major work is correct but misspelled. Award one point if the selection title is correct but misspelled. Award two points for the correct composer. Award one point if the composer's name is correct but misspelled. In the 5th/6th grade tie-breaking portion of the contest, the same scoring method shall be used. Award no points for incorrect or unanswered items.~~
- ~~(4) *Ties.* Ties shall be broken by grading the four tie-breaking sections for each tied contestant or team in the same way that the original test was graded. If a tie remains after the tie breaker has been scored, then the tie will stand. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc.~~
- ~~(5) *Ranking Teams.* Scores of all members who participated on the team should be added and divided by the number of team members. A team shall have at least three contestants to participate in the team competition.~~
- ~~(6) *TIES AND Points.* TIES SHALL BE BROKEN BY GRADING THE FOUR TIE BREAKING SELECTIONS FOR EACH TIED CONTESTANT OR TEAM IN THE SAME WAY THAT THE ORIGINAL TEST WAS GRADED. IF A TIE REMAINS AFTER THE TIEBREAKER HAS BEEN SCORED, THE TIE WILL STAND. IF THERE IS A TIE FOR FIRST PLACE, THERE IS NO SECOND PLACE. IF THERE IS A TIE FOR SECOND PLACE, THERE IS NO THIRD PLACE, ETC. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i). Individual points are awarded through sixth place. Team points are awarded through third place. See 1408 (i). Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.~~
- ~~(7) *Certificates.* Students having a 100% correct paper on the district test selections are eligible for a Certificate of Achievement. The four tie-breaking questions are not to be considered in determining 100% papers.~~
- ~~(4) VERIFICATION PERIOD. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final. A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.~~
- ~~(5) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.~~
- ~~(6) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from the fall/winter district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1450: NUMBER SENSE

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) *Summary.* Individuals are called upon every day to use their ability to make quick mental~~

calculations to make decisions. The development of such abilities should be an integral part of the math curriculum. Concepts covered include, but are not limited to: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, proportions, and use of mathematic notation.

- (2) *Contest Format.* Students will be given a ~~10-minute~~, fill-in-the-blank test that they shall complete without doing calculations on paper or on a calculator. Erasures, mark-overs and mark-outs are not permitted. REQUIREMENTS FOR NUMERIC FORMS SHALL BE AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. EXACTLY 10 MINUTES SHALL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Test.* The test will cover basic arithmetic and mathematical functions in grades four through six. Another test for the junior high level will include algebra, geometry and number theory.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions, one for students in grades 4, 5 and 6 and one for students in grades 7 and 8, unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
 - ~~(B) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time Allotted for Contest.* Ten minutes are allowed for the contest.~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*
 - ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~
 - ~~(i) Printed tests.~~
 - ~~(ii) Answer key.~~
 - ~~(iii) Contest rosters.~~
 - ~~(B) *Provided by the School or Student.* Pencils or pens.~~
 - ~~(C) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~~~

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) *Number Contestants.* The contest director shall number the folded sheets and keep notes of the name and school of each contestant.~~

- ~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~
- ~~(3) *Distribute Tests.* Place the folded test sheets on the writing surface in front of each contestant. Instruct contestants not to handle or unfold the test sheets until the signal is given for the contest to begin. Instruct contestants to write their answers in the blank immediately following the problem without attempting to solve the problem on paper, in accordance with instructions on the test sheet. This is a test in mental mathematics, and only the results of calculations arrived at without the use of pencil and paper should be accepted. The director of the contest should disqualify a contestant for violating these instructions.~~
- ~~(4) *Signal to Stop.* After exactly 10 minutes, give the stop signal. Instruct contestants to rise and fold the test sheet and be ready to deliver it to the person designated to collect the sheets.~~
- ~~(5) *Collect Tests.* Collect all tests immediately.~~
- ~~(e) GRADING.~~
- ~~(1) *Briefing Graders.* Brief graders on procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.~~
- ~~(2) *Scoring.* Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third or fourth time as needed. Award five points for each problem solved correctly. Deduct four points for each problem not solved correctly and for each problem skipped. No deduction is taken for problems after the last problem attempted. An illegible figure constitutes an incorrect answer. The contest director, with the assistance of graders, may determine whether a figure is legible.~~
- ~~(A) *Fractions.* All fractions in test papers must be reduced to lowest terms. Improper fractions are permitted. Decimal answers are permitted for those unstarred problems whose answers are exactly expressible as decimals. For example, $\frac{3}{5}$, $1\frac{1}{5}$, and 1.5 are all acceptable. Starred problems on the test sheets require approximate integral answers, i.e., they permit 5% error; unstarred problems require exact answers.~~
- ~~(B) *Symbols.* Symbols such as ^o and % are usually printed on the sheet. Therefore, answers require only the writing of numerals. If a symbol is omitted from the printed sheet, it is not the responsibility of the contestant to make sure the answer is complete. If not printed, the student need not include it in the answer.~~
- ~~(C) *Exception for Dollars and Cents.* In agreement with the philosophy that answers should be complete, all dollars and cents problems must have complete answers. That is, twenty-three dollars must be written as \$23.00 (with \$ and .00). Sixteen cents must be written as \$.16 or 16¢, depending on the answer blank format.~~
- ~~(D) *Efficient Forms.* Numerical answers should be written so that the answers are complete as in the two examples above. However, the answer should be written in the most efficient form possible. For example, if the answer is 16, the written answer 16.000 is not acceptable for the purposes of the number sense competition. Extraneous zeroes are not to be used. For example, if .16 is the answer, 0.16 is not an acceptable format.~~
- ~~(E) *Exponentials.* An answer such as 3×10^3 should be expressed as 3000 and not left in exponential form.~~
- ~~(3) *Ties AND POINTS.* Ties are not to be broken in either individual or team competition. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~
- ~~(4) *Points.* Individual points are awarded through sixth place. Team points are awarded through~~

~~third place. See Section 1408 (i).~~ Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.

- ~~(#3)~~ VERIFICATION PERIOD. ~~Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final.~~ A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.
- (g4) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (h5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1454: ONE-ACT PLAY

(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.

- (1) *Summary.* Students will have the opportunity to work in all aspects of the production of a 40-minute play. During the production of the play they will be able to:
 - (A) satisfy the competitive, artistic spirit with friendly rivalry among schools, emphasizing high quality performance in this creative art;
 - (B) foster appreciation of good acting, good directing and good drama;
 - (C) promote interest in that art form most readily usable in leisure time during adult life;
 - (D) learn to lose or win graciously, accepting in good sportsmanship the judge's decision and criticism with a view to improve future productions; and
 - (E) increase the number of schools that have adopted theatre arts as an academic subject in school curricula.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Schools will produce a play in strict accordance to the rules and regulations in the current *One-Act Play Handbook* and Sections 1033 and 1034, with the following exceptions:
 - (A) All deadlines and schedules are to be determined by the district executive committee.
 - (B) Enrollment and Title Entry ~~Cards~~ FORMS are not required for junior high schools and will not be available from the League office.
 - (C) Directors for eighth grade and below do not have to be full-time employees of the school district as required by 1033 (b) (5) (A).

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in the seventh and eighth grades who are eligible under Section 1400 may enter this contest. Sixth graders who are eligible under Section 1405 may participate in the contest if they are on the same campus as the seventh and eighth grade. Participants shall be full-time students in grades six, seven or eight at the school they represent.
- (2) *Divisions.* This contest consists of one division.
- (c) OFFICIAL RESULTS. The decision of the critic judge or judges is final. The winner of a junior high school one-act play contest shall not advance beyond the district level. Winners shall be

ranked first, second and third.

- (d) MATERIALS. No printed materials are shipped for A+ One-Act Play contests. All instructions and forms are available for download from the UIL website.

Section 1458: ORAL READING

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* Reading a text out loud serves four purposes: to analyze the text as a literary critic; to grow and to develop as a performer; to communicate a message to an audience; and to perform an artistic creation. All of these apply to the Oral Reading competition, which should be an extension of the classroom literary and language arts activities in poetry, short stories and children's fiction.

- (2) *Contest Format.* REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCEPTABLE SELECTIONS SHALL BE AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. THE MAXIMUM TIME FOR EACH PRESENTATION IS SIX MINUTES. THERE IS NO MINIMUM TIME LIMIT. STUDENTS WHO EXCEED THE ALLOTTED FIVE MINUTES SHALL BE PENALIZED ONE RANK. FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE JUDGES RANK A STUDENT SECOND WHO HAS GONE OVERTIME, THAT STUDENT SHALL BE ASSIGNED THIRD PLACE AND THE STUDENT WHO WAS RANKED THIRD WILL BE GIVEN SECOND PLACE. CONTESTANTS MAY NOT USE COSTUMES OR PROPS IN THE CONTEST. NO SPEAKER MAY BE COACHED OR PROMPTED IN ANY MANNER DURING THE PRESENTATION. AUDIENCES ARE PERMITTED.

~~(A) Grades 4, 5 and 6. Students shall have a maximum of six minutes to read a selection of poetry. Each selection may be one poem, a cutting of a poem or a combination of poems. The same selection may be read in all rounds, but different selections are permissible. Selections shall be published although the poet may be unknown or anonymous. The maximum time for each presentation is six minutes. There is no minimum time limit.~~

~~(B) Grades 7, 8 and 9. Students shall have a maximum of six minutes to read selections of prose or poetry according to the following schedule.~~

~~—— 2013-14 poetry~~

~~—— 2014-15 prose~~

~~—— 2015-16 poetry~~

~~—— Each may be a single reading, a cutting from a longer selection or a combination of several selections. The same selection may be read in all rounds, but different selections are permissible. Selections shall be published although the author may be unknown or anonymous. Prose readings may include fables, yarns, tales, science fiction, fantasy, mysteries, etc. Selections may be fiction or nonfiction. The maximum time for each presentation is six minutes. There is no minimum time limit.~~

(a) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest at the district meet. ELIGIBLE NINTH GRADE STUDENTS MAY ALSO ENTER ORAL READING. At the district meet, students in grades four through eight may enter no more than two speech events (~~Impromptu Speaking, Modern Oratory, Oral Reading~~). Ninth grade students are limited by the requirements in Section 1000 (b).

- (2) *Divisions*. ~~This contest will consist of two divisions unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition*. Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition*. There is no team competition in ~~the Oral Reading~~ THIS contest.
- (c) ~~PREPARATION.~~
- (1) *Selecting Material*. ~~The League office does not prescribe a list of poetry or prose selections for oral reading. However, the *A+ Handbook* contains helpful information about selecting appropriate material. Selections used by contestants should not offend the moral standards of the community nor be in bad taste. Plays or speeches may not be used as selections. Coaches should revise or reject all selections that in any way fail to meet these qualifications.~~
- (2) *Manuscripts*. ~~Contestants shall read their selection from a manuscript. It is suggested that the selection be held in a simple, dark colored folder or small notebook that does not draw attention to itself.~~
- (3) *Introductions*. ~~An introduction is not required but is permitted. The introduction shall be delivered within the time limit. The main emphasis should be on the individual selection or selections of prose or poetry.~~
- (4) *Style and Delivery*. ~~Contestants may not use costumes or props in the contest. Responsive use of the body (i.e. spontaneous changes in posture, gestures and place-to-place movement) is permissible. However, this active use of the body should:~~
- (A) ~~be appropriate to the demands of the selection;~~
- (B) ~~be a natural outgrowth from the literature to be performed; and~~
- (C) ~~be limited in scope.~~
- ~~— The judge's opinion in this matter is final. Coaches are encouraged to prepare contestants for the fact that judges will apply their own opinions to what they value in style and delivery and these opinions will vary from judge to judge.~~
- (d) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.
- (1) *Personnel*.
- (A) *Contest Director*. ~~The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director. The contest director may be the coach of a participating student.~~
- (B) *Timekeeper*. ~~A timekeeper should be provided for each contest SECTION. to notify the contestant of the amount of time remaining from the total allotted time. The timekeeper should demonstrate to the contestant the type of time signals to be used. While the timekeeper may use either hand signals or timecards to indicate to the speaker the remaining time, time cards are a much preferred method of signal.~~
- (C) *Judges*. ~~The contest director may recruit~~ CONTEST OFFICIALS SHOULD SELECT one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges ~~may~~ SHALL not be coaches of participating students. ~~Prior to the contest, judges should become familiar with the oral reading evaluation sheet and the standards for style and delivery.~~ So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.
- (2) *Creating Sections*. A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter A DIVISION OF oral reading, they shall be divided into sections ~~using the guidelines in Section 1003~~ ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.

~~Districts may create smaller sections when space permits. A separate room is needed for each preliminary section. Winners from the preliminary rounds will compete in a final round using the guidelines in Section 1003.~~

~~(3) *Materials.*~~

~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~

~~(i) *Evaluation sheets.*~~

~~(ii) *Judges' Ballots.*~~

~~(iii) *Contest Director's Ranking Sheet for a panel of judges.*~~

~~(iv) *Contest rosters.*~~

~~(B) *Provided by the Student.* Literature to be performed in appropriate notebook.~~

~~(C) *Other.* No other materials may be used in the contest.~~

~~(e) *CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.*~~

~~(1) *Speaker Order.* 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 each preliminary section may draw for speaker order just before the contest begins.~~

~~(2) *No Cheering.* Audiences are permitted. Cheering should not be permitted during a contestant's presentation, and the contest director shall see that this rule is strictly enforced.~~

~~(3) *No Coaching.* No speaker may be coached or prompted in any manner during the delivery of the selection.~~

~~(f) *JUDGING.*~~

~~(1) *Briefing Judges.* Prior to the contest, judges should become familiar with the oral reading evaluation sheet and the standards for style and delivery.~~

~~(2) *Criteria.* The evaluation sheet will include sections for commentary on understanding of the text, control of the performance, appropriateness of the selection, how well the performer prepared the audience and made the meaning of the selection clear as well as the quality of the performance including portrayal of the characters and how well the performer captured and communicated the essence of the literary work.~~

~~(3) *Length of Readings.* Students who go over the allotted six minutes shall be penalized one rank. For example, if the judges rank a student second who has gone over the time limit, that student shall be assigned third place and the student who was ranked third will be given second place. Because contestants of many ages participate in this activity, and because coaches are encouraged to choose selections of lengths which are suited to the ages of the contestants, there is no minimum time limit.~~

~~(4) *Questions.* Questions should be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is announced as official. The decisions of the contest directors and/or meet officials on these matters are final.~~

~~(5) *Rankings, TIES AND POINTS. the Contestants.* If a panel of judges is used, the contest director shall tabulate all judges' ranks to determine places. See 1003 (b). CONTESTANTS SHALL BE RANKED AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. THERE CAN BE NO TIES IN THIS CONTEST. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~

~~(6) *Ties.* There can be no ties in this competition. Ties shall be broken in accordance with Section 1003 (b).~~

~~(7) *Points.* Points are awarded through sixth place according to Section 1408 (i).~~

- (g4) VERIFICATION PERIOD. If a panel of judges is used, a verification period ~~should~~ SHALL be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that tabulation of rankings is correct. The decisions of the judges are not subject to question. EVALUATION SHEETS MAY BE VIEWED BY CONTESTANTS AND COACHES DURING THE VERIFICATION PERIOD AND SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR AT THE END OF THE VERIFICATION PERIOD. FOR ROUNDS WITH SINGLE JUDGES, A 15-MINUTE VIEWING PERIOD IS RECOMMENDED.
- (h5) OFFICIAL RESULTS. The contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (6) RETURNING MATERIALS. NO CONFIDENTIAL MATERIALS ARE USED IN THIS CONTEST. THEREFORE, EVALUATION SHEETS MAY BE RETURNED TO CONTESTANTS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONTEST.

Section 1462: READY WRITING

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* Texas has put a great emphasis on writing skills at all levels of school and all levels of statewide testing. Ready Writing builds upon those skills and helps students refine their writing abilities. In particular, this contest helps them learn to write clearly and correctly a paper that is interesting and original.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Contestants are given a choice between two prompts, each of which defines the audience and provides the purpose for writing. Students should be encouraged to analyze the prompts for purpose, format, audience and point of view. The format may be, for example, a letter, an article for the newspaper or an essay for the principal. Various writing strategies may be stated or implied in the prompt. Some of these include:
 - (A) description to inform – describe the happening or person/object from imagination or memory;
 - (B) narration – write a story;
 - (C) persuasion – describe and argue just one side of an issue; describe both sides of an issue then argue only one side; write an editorial; write a letter to persuade, etc.

There is no minimum or maximum number of words the contestants may write. TWO HOURS ARE ALLOWED FOR WRITING THE COMPOSITION. THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF THE CONTEST PERIOD TO CONFORM TO THE NEEDS OF THE GRADE LEVEL.

- ~~(3) *Tests.* One test will be provided for grades 3 and 4; another test will be provided for grades 5 and 6, and a third test will be provided for grades 7 and 8. The League will make available one set of prompts for invitational meets, one for fall/winter district meets and one for spring district meets.~~

(a) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of three divisions (third/fourth, fifth/sixth, seventh/eighth) unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH

PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.

- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
 - (4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in the ~~Ready Writing~~ THIS contest.
- (c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.
- (1) *Personnel.*
 - (A) ~~Contest Director.~~ The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director. The contest director may be the coach of a participating student. A SINGLE OR AN ODD NUMBER OF JUDGES SHOULD BE SELECTED. JUDGE(S) SHALL NOT BE COACHES OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS.
 - (B) ~~Judges (Graders).~~ A single or an odd number panel of judges should be familiar with the instructions for judging and the contest rules. They should be qualified and impartial. Judge(s) may not be coaches of participating students. The contest director may recruit as many judges as necessary.
 - (2) ~~Time Allotted for Contest.~~ Two hours are allowed for writing the composition. The district executive committee may shorten the length of the contest period to conform to the needs of the grade level.
 - (3) ~~Materials.~~
 - (A) ~~Provided by UIL.~~ The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.
 - (i) — Prompts and evaluation sheets.
 - (ii) — Judges' Ballots.
 - (iii) — Contest rosters.
 - (B) ~~Provided by the Student or School.~~
 - (i) — Blank paper (ruled or plain white).
 - (ii) — Pens, pencils and/or erasers.
 - (C) ~~Other.~~ Contestants may use a standard thesaurus and dictionary during the contest.
- (d) ~~CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~
- (1) ~~Number Contestants.~~ As roll is called, instruct contestants to write the assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of each page and circle the number. Coaches may assist in this process prior to the contest.
 - (2) ~~Clear Room.~~ Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of an optional viewing period, if one is scheduled. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.
 - (3) ~~Distribute Topic Sheets.~~ Instruct contestants to select only one topic. Read each topic and accompanying statements aloud but allow no discussion.
 - (4) ~~Time Warning.~~ Warn contestants when only 15 minutes remain in the contest period.
- (e) OPTIONS FOR WRITING. Contestants may use ruled or plain white paper, standard notebook or typing paper to hand-write their essays OR Students may bring and use their own computers. If contestants choose to use their own computers, they shall bring their own printers, associated hardware, software and paper. Laptop computers are permitted and recommended. Spell check and

thesaurus functions may be used ~~if available on computers~~. Students who opt to compose their entries on computers accept the risk of computer malfunction. In case of computer malfunction, the contestant may use the remaining allotted time to complete the composition in handwriting. Contestants may use electronic or printed dictionaries and thesauruses. ~~The entry should be written on one side in pencil or ink, or typed on a word processing computer using any standard size font and one inch margins on regular sized computer paper. Instruct contestants to write the topic they have chosen about two inches below the top of the first page and begin the body of their compositions below the topic. Contestants shall not include their names or the names of their schools on the contest entry. Papers will be identified by numbers assigned by the contest director. Instruct contestants to write or type their numbers in the upper right hand corner of each page.~~

~~(f) JUDGING.~~

~~(1) *Briefing Judges.* Prior to the contest, the director should discuss thoroughly with judges the criteria for evaluating the compositions.~~

~~(2) *Criteria for Judging.* The composition is judged on interest (50%), organization (35%) and correctness of style (15%).~~

~~(A) Interest depends primarily upon substance, i.e., having something to say that is worth saying because of its acuteness of analysis and its originality of thought. It depends next upon clarity and upon including specific details and examples which individualize the writing as an outgrowth of the writer's character and experience.~~

~~(B) The plan of the whole composition should be such that each part contributes to an understanding of the writer's main idea or thesis. No part should be misleading or unrelated to that thesis. The organization of each paragraph should be directed to the logical and full development of one idea.~~

~~(C) Correctness of style includes avoiding errors in sentence structure, punctuation, grammar, spelling and word use that hinder clear communication.~~

~~(3) *Ranking Compositions.* Judges should read the compositions and without marking on the papers, rank them in the order of their excellence: 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. The judges should discuss the compositions contending for rank, and may alter their decisions as a result of discussion. Judges are to reach a consensus on the rankings.~~

~~(g3) VIEWING PERIOD. An optional period of time not to exceed 15 minutes may be arranged for coaches and contestants to review their own evaluations and compositions.~~

~~(4) *Ties AND POINTS.* There can be no ties in this contest. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~

~~(5) *Preparing Critiques.* Judges should prepare comments for each entry on the Ready Writing Individual Evaluation Sheets.~~

~~(6) *Points.* Points are awarded through sixth place. See Section 1408 (i).~~

~~(h5) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the optional viewing period has ended and all compositions have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official winners. Official results, once announced, are final.~~

~~(i6) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from the fall/winter district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1466: SCIENCE I AND II

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* Emphasis for the Science contest will be placed on knowledge of scientific fact, understanding of scientific principles and the ability to think through scientific problems. The contests are designed to test not only memory but the ability to think critically about science and scientific processes and concepts. Such concepts include, but are not limited to: matter and energy, equilibrium, force and motion, physical and chemical properties, the relationship between organisms and the environment, the components of our solar system, the composition of matter and genetics. The contests will build upon the vast body of changing and increasing knowledge described by physical, mathematical and conceptual models.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Each test will consist of approximately 35 objective questions that will be taken primarily from current state-adopted science textbooks and the curriculum. FORTY-FIVE MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
- ~~(3) *Tests.* For both Science I and Science II, one invitational test, one fall/winter district test and one spring district test will be provided.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Section 1400 OR 1405 may enter each division of this contest only one time. ~~With permission of the district executive committee, sixth grade students may participate in the Science I contest; however, students shall not compete more than one year in each division.~~
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions: Science I for seventh grade; Science II for eighth grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
 - ~~(B) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time Allotted for Contest.* This is a 45 minute contest.~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*
 - ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~
 - ~~(i) — Printed tests and answer blanks.~~
 - ~~(ii) — Answer keys.~~
 - ~~(iii) — Contest rosters.~~
 - ~~(B) *Provided by the Host School.*
 - ~~(i) — Blank paper.~~~~~~

~~(ii) Pens, pencils and/or erasers.~~

~~(C) Other. No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

~~(1) Number Contestants. Distribute answer sheets. As roll is called, instruct contestants to write the assigned contestant number in the upper right hand corner of the answer sheet.~~

~~(2) Clear Room. Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~

~~(3) Distribute Tests. Instruct contestants not to open the tests until the start signal has been given.~~

~~(4) Time Warning. After 30 minutes, warn the contestants that there are only 15 minutes left in the testing period.~~

~~(5) Signal to Stop. At the end of 45 minutes give a stop signal and ask contestants to put their pencils and pens down.~~

~~(6) Test Collection. Collect all tests, answer sheets and scratch paper.~~

~~(e) GRADING.~~

~~(1) Briefing Graders. Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.~~

~~(2) Criteria. The approximately 35 question test is graded objectively.~~

~~(3) Scoring. Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. For each correct answer, add five points. For each incorrect answer, subtract two points. No deduction is taken for skipped or unanswered items.~~

~~(#2) VERIFICATION PERIOD. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final. A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.~~

~~(#3) Ties AND POINTS. Ties shall not be broken. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third, etc. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(I).~~

~~(5) Points. Individual points are awarded through sixth place. Team points are awarded through third place. See Section 1408 (i). Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.~~

~~(g4) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers and answer sheets have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.~~

~~(h5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from the fall/winter district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1468: SOCIAL STUDIES

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- (1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to encourage students to expand their knowledge of social studies, particularly in the areas of history, government systems, economics, citizenship and culture. SUBJECT MATTER USED FOR THE TEST WILL BE TAKEN FROM CURRENTLY ADOPTED SOCIAL STUDIES TEXTBOOKS AND IDENTIFIED PRIMARY SOURCES.
 - (2) *Contest Format.* Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 40 questions, ~~which shall be answered in 30 minutes.~~ THIRTY MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR THE TESTING PERIOD EXCLUSIVE OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
 - ~~(3) *Tests.* Subject matter used for the test will be taken from currently adopted social studies textbooks and identified primary sources.~~
- (aB) REPRESENTATION.
- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.
 - (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of two divisions, one for grades 5 and 6 and one for grades 7 and 8. With the approval of the district executive committee, a district may have separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
 - (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.
 - (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.
- (c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.
- (1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~
 - ~~(B) *Timekeeper.* The contest director or assistant will serve as the official timekeeper and will give only a start and stop signal.~~
 - ~~(C) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
 - ~~(2) *Time.* Contestants will be given 30 minutes to answer the test questions.~~
 - ~~(3) *Materials.*
 - ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (c) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~
 - ~~(i) Tests.~~
 - ~~(ii) Answer key.~~
 - ~~(iii) Answer sheets.~~
 - ~~(iv) Contest rosters.~~
 - ~~(B) *Provided by the School or Student.* Pens and/or pencils.~~
 - ~~(C) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~~~

~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) *Number Contestants.* Distribute a copy of the test to all contestants, instructing them not to open tests until the start signal is given. As roll is called, instruct students to write their assigned contestant number in the space provided on the answer sheets.~~
- ~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Anyone not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~
- ~~(3) *Testing.* Inform contestants that answers should be recorded on the answer sheet provided.~~
- ~~(4) *Test Collection.* When the stop signal has been given, ask all contestants to put their pencils down. Collect all tests and answer sheets.~~

~~(e) GRADING.~~

- ~~(1) *Brief Graders.* Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.~~
- ~~(2) *Criteria.* The test is graded objectively.~~
- ~~(3) *Scoring.* Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. Award three points for each correct answer. Deduct two points for each incorrect answer. No points are added or deducted for questions that are not answered.~~
- ~~(#2) VERIFICATION PERIOD. The contest director should designate a time and place for a 15-minute verification period at which time contestants and/or coaches are given the opportunity to view their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final. A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.~~
- ~~(43) *Ties and Points.* No ties are to be broken. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~
- ~~(5) *Points.* Points are awarded in individual competition through sixth place. Points are awarded in team competition through third place. See Section 1408 (i). Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.~~
- ~~(g4) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.~~
- ~~(h5) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from the fall/winter district contests may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1470: SPELLING

~~(bA) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.~~

- ~~(1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to give students exposure to a wide variety of vocabulary words. It is not a contest of memorization. For the most educational value, preparation for this contest should include instruction in the rules of the English language, meanings and~~

definitions, and root words. In addition to learning to spell proficiently, contestants will learn to write clearly and to capitalize words properly. WORDS WILL COME FROM THE APPROPRIATE UIL SPELLING LIST, STATE ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS AND WORDS OF COMMON USAGE. APPROXIMATELY 20 PERCENT OF THE TEST WORDS WILL COME FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN THE UIL SPELLING LISTS. THE SOURCE DESIGNATED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES WILL SERVE AS THE AUTHORITY FOR ALL WORDS IN THE CONTEST.

- (2) *Contest Format.* Students will write down words given by the pronouncer on their paper at a rate of approximately five words per minute.

(A) Grades 3 and 4: 50 words; tiebreaker, 15 words.

(B) Grades 5 and 6: 80 words; tiebreaker, 20 words.

(C) Grades 7 and 8: 110 words; tiebreaker, 30 words.

The tiebreaker is given to all contestants immediately following the initial test. CONTESTANTS WHO DO NOT TAKE THE TIEBREAKER SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED.

- ~~(3) *Tests.* One test will be provided for grades 3 and 4, another for grades 5 and 6 and another for grades 7 and 8. For elementary and junior high contests, words will come from the appropriate UIL spelling list, state adopted textbooks and words of common usage. The authority for all words is *Merriam-Webster's Intermediate Dictionary*. Approximately 20 percent of the test words will come from sources other than the UIL spelling lists.~~

(aB) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades~~ who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of three divisions—one for grades 3 and 4, one for grades 5 and 6, and one for grades 7 and 8—unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.

- (3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

- (4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.*

~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may also serve as the pronouncer as long as he/she is not the coach of any student in the contest. The director may appoint an assistant director.~~

~~(B) *Pronouncer.* The pronouncer shall not be a coach of any contestant entered in the contest. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRONOUNCER ARE AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. ADDITIONAL REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED CONTEST PERSONNEL ARE SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. The pronouncer should receive the test and tiebreaker well in advance of the contest and~~

should become familiar with the words and verify pronunciations and spellings of all words on the test. The pronouncer should be prepared not only to give two pronunciations of each word (if the word has more than one pronunciation) but also to provide an illustrative sentence for words which offer unusual difficulties.

- ~~(C) *Verifier.* One or two verifiers check the pronunciations and definitions given by the pronouncer.~~
- ~~(D) *Monitor (Optional).* The monitor shall not be a coach of a contestant in the contest. The monitor's duty is to make certain that contestants work quietly and independently.~~
- ~~(E) *Graders.* At least three graders should be familiar with the instructions for grading and the contest rules, and they may be coaches. The contest director may recruit more than three graders.~~
- ~~(2) *Time Allotted for Contest.* Time should be allotted for introductory information, roll call, for pronouncing each word at a rate of approximately five words per minute, and for pronouncing words a second time, as needed.~~
 - ~~(A) Grades 3 and 4: approximately 30 minutes~~
 - ~~(B) Grades 5 and 6: approximately 45 minutes~~
 - ~~(C) Grades 7 and 8: approximately 60 minutes~~
- ~~(3) *Materials.*~~
 - ~~(A) *Provided by UIL.* The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~
 - ~~(i) List of test and tie-breaker words.~~
 - ~~(ii) Contest rosters.~~
 - ~~(iii) Instructions for the pronouncer, grader, verifier and monitor.~~
 - ~~(B) *Provided by the Host School.* Dictionary for the pronouncer, verifiers and graders to use if needed.~~
 - ~~(C) *Provided by the School or Student.* Pens or pencils and blank, lined paper, which may be numbered.~~
 - ~~(D) *Other.* No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~
- ~~(4) *Delivery of Tests.* All tests should be delivered to the contest director and/or pronouncer well in advance of the contest.~~
- ~~(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.~~
 - ~~(1) *Number Contestants.* As roll is called, instruct contestants to place their assigned numbers in the upper right hand corner of their answer documents.~~
 - ~~(2) *Clear Room.* Contestants and coaches should be informed of the time and place of the verification period. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest begins.~~
 - ~~(3) *Pronounce Words.* The following are points of clarification for the pronouncer and verifier:~~
 - ~~(A) *Homonyms.* The pronouncer should be careful to distinguish between words that sound alike but have different meanings. When pronouncing the word "bass," be careful to give an example phrase "bass drum," or "bass voice," to distinguish it from "base."~~
 - ~~(B) *Clarification.* The pronouncer may provide a sentence and/or definition for clarification, if needed.~~
 - ~~(C) *Verifiers.* Verifiers should be given a copy of the test list and should mark any words for which they question the pronunciation or definition as the test is being dictated.~~
 - ~~(D) *Verifying Pronunciation.* After each test, when all words have been pronounced, the~~

~~pronouncer, with the assistance of the verifier, shall verify and clarify any words in question. These words should be repronounced by the pronouncer.~~

- ~~(4) *Tie Breaker Mandatory.* Contestants who do not take the tie breaker test shall be disqualified.~~

~~(e) JUDGING.~~

- ~~(1) *Briefing Graders.* Brief graders on the procedure to be used for grading and explain the scoring process.~~

- ~~(2) *Criteria.* The test is graded objectively.~~

- ~~(3) *Scoring.* Each test should be independently scored twice, and papers contending to place should be scored a third time. From the total number of word entries, deduct one point for each incorrectly spelled word.~~

~~(A) *Word Order.* Any word omitted by the contestant is a miss. If all contestants omit the same word, the pronouncer is presumed to have failed to have given the word, so the omission by contestants is not considered a miss.~~

~~(B) *Punctuation and Capitalization.* The misuse of an apostrophe or hyphen, or a mistake in capitalization is considered a miss. Contractions and possessive forms may be written with all letters connected or written separately.~~

~~(C) *Misspelled Words on List.* Any word misspelled on the spelling list is not to be considered in grading the tests unless a correction has been published in the "Official Notices" section of the *Leaguer* and posted on the UIL website.~~

- ~~(4) *Determining Legibility.* Contestants may print or write words. If there is a question about legibility of a letter, place a blank piece of paper on either side of the letter, separating it from its context, and then determine whether the letter can be identified. If two of three graders rule that a letter is legible, it should be considered correct.~~

- ~~(#2) *Verification Period.* Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final. A VERIFICATION PERIOD SHALL BE PROVIDED. UNOFFICIAL RESULTS SHOULD BE POSTED. CONTESTANTS AND COACHES SHOULD BE GIVEN NO MORE THAN 15 MINUTES TO EXAMINE THEIR TEST PAPERS WITH OFFICIAL KEYS. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR, WHOSE DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.~~

- ~~(53) *Ties AND POINTS.* Ties in individual competition are to be broken by scoring the tiebreaker test of only those involved in the tie. When calculating team scores, do not include scores from the tiebreaker portion of the test unless a tie exists. If a tie exists in team competition, calculate the tiebreaker scores for only those teams involved in the tie. If the tie remains after scoring the tiebreaker, the tie shall stand. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~

- ~~(6) *Points.* Individual points are awarded through sixth place. Team points are awarded through third place. See Section 1408 (i). Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.~~

- ~~(74) *Certificates.* Students who score 100% in district competition are eligible to receive a Certificate of Achievement. Words misspelled on the tiebreaker do not disqualify a student from a certificate.~~

- ~~(g5) OFFICIAL RESULTS. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been~~

collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

- (h6) RETURNING MATERIALS. No materials from ~~the fall/winter~~ district contestS may be returned to contestants PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RELEASE DATES. ~~before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.~~

Section 1474: STORYTELLING

~~(b)~~A) NATURE OF THE CONTEST.

- (1) *Summary.* To tell a story, the participant should develop skills in listening, thinking and speaking. This contest also allows for the development of creative expression. For practice, teachers can use stories from any good children's books or magazines.
- (2) *Contest Format.* Contestants shall listen to a storyteller read a brief story (between 600 and 1100 words long) only once, and then retell that story in their own words before a judge or judges. Contestants shall not use costumes or props in the contest. NO MATERIALS OR NOTES MAY BE USED DURING THE PRESENTATION. THERE IS NO MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT FOR THE PRESENTATION. CONTESTANTS MAY NOT RECEIVE PROMPTING OF THE STORY PLOT OR DETAILS. AUDIENCES ARE PERMITTED TO HEAR CONTESTANTS TELL THEIR STORIES.
- ~~(3) *Tests.* Two stories will be provided, one to be used in the preliminary round and one to be used in the final round. The League will make available one pair of stories for invitational meets, one pair for fall/winter district meets and one pair for spring district meets.~~

(a) REPRESENTATION.

- (1) *Contestants.* Students in OFFICIALLY PRESCRIBED GRADE LEVELS BELOW 9TH GRADE ~~the second and third grades~~ who are eligible under Section 1400 OR 1405 may enter this contest.
- (2) *Divisions.* ~~This contest will consist of one division unless the district executive committee approves separate divisions for each grade.~~ DISTRICTS SHALL OFFER EITHER A SEPARATE DIVISION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING GRADE LEVEL OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.
- (3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.
- (4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest ~~Storytelling~~.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

- (1) *Personnel.*
 - ~~(A) *Contest Director.* The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may appoint an assistant director. The contest director may be the coach of a participating student.~~
 - ~~(B) *Storyteller.* If the contest director is not the coach of a participating student, the contest director may serve as the storyteller or may appoint a qualified person to act in this capacity. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STORYTELLER ARE AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. The storyteller should be given the stories well in advance of the contest. The contest may also be administered by playing a recording of the test material prepared by the contest director in advance of the contest. The League does not provide this recording. The storyteller may select which story provided by the League office will be used for the preliminary round and which will be~~

~~used for the final round.~~ The storyteller may not be the coach of a participating student.

~~(C) *Monitors* (optional). The monitors may be a coach of a participating student. The monitor's duty is to make certain that contestants work quietly and independently before and after their turn.~~

~~(D) *Judges*. The contest director may recruit~~ CONTEST OFFICIALS SHOULD SELECT one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges ~~may~~ SHALL not be coaches of participating students. So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.

~~(2) *Materials*.~~

~~(A) *Provided by UIL*. The following materials will be provided to schools submitting the appropriate requisitions. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when invitational materials will be available. See Section 1408 (e) for the dates when district materials will be available.~~

~~(i) *Evaluation sheets*.~~

~~(ii) *Two stories, one to be used in the preliminary round and one in the final round.*~~

~~(iii) *Judges' Ballots*.~~

~~(iv) *Contest Director's Ranking Sheet for a panel of judges*.~~

~~(v) *Contest rosters*.~~

~~(B) *Provided by the Host School*. Blank paper and pencil (optional) for use in the waiting area. Contestants may use these materials to organize their thoughts while waiting, but may not carry notes outside the waiting area.~~

~~(C) *Other*. No other materials or notes may be used in the contest.~~

~~(3) *Time Allotted for Contest*. There is no minimum or maximum limit on the presentation.~~

~~(4) *Creating Sections*. A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter A DIVISION OF storytelling, they shall be divided into sections using the guidelines in Section 1003 ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. Districts may create smaller sections when space permits. A separate room is needed for each preliminary section. Winners from the preliminary rounds will compete in a final round using the guidelines in Section 1003.~~

~~(d) *CONDUCTING THE CONTEST*.~~

~~(1) *Clear Room*. Spectators and coaches not assigned a specific duty in administering the contest should be dismissed from the storytelling room before the story is read.~~

~~(2) *Speaker Order*. 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 each preliminary section may draw for speaker order just before the contest begins.~~

~~(3) *Telling the Story*. Assemble contestants in a room separate from the room or rooms in which they will retell the story. The storyteller shall read the story only once to the contestants. Admit the first contestant in each preliminary section to the contest rooms to tell the story. When the first contestant has finished, admit the second one, and so on until all the contestants in each preliminary section have told their stories.~~

~~(4) *No Prompting*. Contestants may not receive prompting of the story plot or details. Audiences are permitted to hear contestants tell their stories.~~

~~(e) *JUDGING*.~~

~~(1) *Briefing Judges*. The judges should be instructed to evaluate all the contestants. If possible, judges should not hear the same students in both preliminary and final rounds. The judges shall not be permitted to hear the story as it is told to the contestants. Judges will be provided~~

a list of key plot and character elements from the story.

- ~~(2) *Criteria.* Judges will use an evaluation sheet provided by the League defining the criteria including, but not limited to, ability of the contestant to command attention, originality, facial expressions, vocal variety, characterization, eye contact, gestures, posture, articulation and enthusiasm. Contestants should include at least one key element of the story in their presentations, and an absence of at least one key story element in the presentation should be considered by the judge when ranking contestants. The judge's decisions on this matter shall be final.~~
- ~~(3) *Rankings, TIES AND POINTS.* Ranks shall be determined through sixth place by the director. See Section 1003. If a panel of judges is used, the contest director shall tabulate all judges' ranks to determine places. See Section 1003 (b). CONTESTANTS SHALL BE RANKED AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES. THERE CAN BE NO TIES IN THIS CONTEST. POINTS ARE AWARDED AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1408(i).~~
- ~~(4) *Ties.* There can be no ties in this competition. Ties are to be broken in accordance with Section 1003 (b).~~
- ~~(5) *Points.* Points are awarded through sixth place according to Section 1408 (i).~~
- (4) VERIFICATION PERIOD. If a panel of judges is used, a verification period ~~should~~ SHALL be provided. ~~during which~~ Unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that tabulation of rankings is correct. The rankings given by judges are not subject to question. EVALUATION SHEETS MAY BE VIEWED BY CONTESTANTS AND COACHES DURING THE VERIFICATION PERIOD AND SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE CONTEST DIRECTOR AT THE END OF THE VERIFICATION PERIOD. FOR ROUNDS WITH SINGLE JUDGES, A 15-MINUTE VIEWING PERIOD IS RECOMMENDED.
- (5) OFFICIAL RESULTS. The director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.
- (6) RETURNING MATERIALS. NO CONFIDENTIAL MATERIALS ARE USED IN THIS CONTEST. THEREFORE, EVALUATION SHEETS MAY BE RETURNED TO CONTESTANTS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONTEST.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

Handbooks would need to be created for each contest, which will be made available in digital download format for a free.

E. Standing Committee Consideration

The UIL Review Advisory Committee recommends that the Standing Committee on Academics approve this proposal to the UIL Legislative Council for consideration.