(1) Contestants may be assigned to sections and speaker order may be established prior to the day of the meet. If the contest director prefers, the contestants in each preliminary section may draw for speaker order just before the contest begins. Inform contestants and coaches of the time and place of the verification period if a panel of judges is used. Spectators and coaches not assigned specific duties in administering the contest should be dismissed from the contest room before the contest starts.

(2) 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.

(3) 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.

**The contest official may ad lib as necessary while conducting the contest.**