

HOUSTONFEST

Poetry Memory Critique Sheet

Contestant: _____ Circle level: **1 2 3 4 Advantaged**

School: _____

Title of selection: _____ Author: _____

Judge's initials: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

Please read the "Instructions to Judges" sheet in your packet.

RULES

Entry Limit: 3 contestants per level, per school (Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, & Advantaged)

Length and Time Limits:

Level 1: 16-24 lines **OR** 1-2 min. Level 2: 20-32 lines **OR** 1.5-2.5 min. Levels 3, 4, Adv.: 24-46 lines **OR** 2-3 min.

The selection must be by a German-speaking author, i.e., originally published in German. It may not be a translation from a non-German speaking author, even if it has been published, but it may be by a non-German who writes in German, e.g., Kishon. Poems may be edited to fit time or line limits. Poetry Memory is dramatic interpretation, but without costumes and props. The contestant may use one chair and may move during the presentation. At least 2 copies of the selection must be presented to the judges at the contest. Poetry Memory selections may not be used as Poetry Reading selections or vice versa by the same person.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

1. **Selection and preparation:** The selection is at the appropriate difficulty level. The contestant has memorized their lines sufficiently. (0-20 points)
2. **Pronunciation:** The contestant's pronunciation of the German language is correct and understandable. The intonation is characteristically German. (0-20 points)
3. **Control of form, voice, and diction:** Enunciation is distinct without being pedantic. The voice is clear and the contestant avoids monotone. The contestant maintains a balance between thought and rhythm, i.e., word groupings and pauses are handled meaningfully. (0-20 points)
4. **Insight and understanding:** The contestant reflects the mood and the meaning of the selection. (0-20 points)
5. **Posture:** The contestant is poised and avoids distracting and *unmotivated* movements while making eye contact with the audience and using movement to interpret. (0-20 points)

TOTAL POINTS: (100 possible) _____

MORE COMMENTS TO HELP THE CONTESTANT (Write on the back if necessary.)