

HOUSTONFEST

Sight Reading Critique Sheet

Contestant: _____ Circle level: 1 2 3 4

School: _____

Judge's initials: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

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

A timer will be provided. Set it for 3 minutes. Hand the contestant the reading appropriate for their level and start the timer counting down. When it reads 2:00, say "Begin reading." The contestant will then read aloud for the remaining 2 minutes or until reaching the end of the selection, whichever comes first. You may mark on a copy of the selection as the contestant reads, if you wish.

RULES

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

Time Limits: up to 1 minute preparation time plus 2 minutes to read the piece to the judges

The contestant will receive a copy of a prose piece that they have never seen before. The contestant may look at the prose for up to 1 minute before reading it for the judges. Contestants then have 2 minutes to read aloud the prose selection. The judges will stop the contestant after 2 minutes, regardless of how far they have read into the selection.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

1. **Preparation and fluidity/fluency:** The contestant reads the title and author as part of the presentation. The contestant is able to read fluidly with few pauses and/or self-corrections. (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. **Insight and understanding:** The contestant reflects the mood and the meaning of the selection. There is evidence to the listener that the contestant has a grasp of what they are reading. (0-20 points)
4. **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)
5. **General impression:** The contestant is poised and avoids distracting and *unmotivated* movements, makes at least occasional eye contact with the audience, and uses appropriate facial expressions and hand movements. (0-20 points)

TOTAL POINTS: (100 possible) _____

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