

Prose Interpretation

Grades: 1-3 Contest time: 1 ½ hours

Grades: 4-8 Contest time: 2 hours

Individual times: see below

1. Students must select a published prose piece, prepare and memorize an introduction to the selection, and present the memorized introduction and selection. Contestants should choose pieces that are age appropriate. Contestants must provide documentation which proves that the literary selection is poetry prior to competition. Failure to provide documentation of the type of literary work being presented will result in disqualification of the student from the contest.
2. The introduction should prepare the audience to hear the selection and should contain the title and author of the piece.
3. Both the introduction and the prose presentation are to be completed within a 4-minute time limit for grades 1-3 and a 6-minute time limit for grades 4-8. Judges may stop a reader if the piece exceeds the time limit.
4. Although the prose may be memorized, contestants are required to hold a transcript which should be placed in a solid color folder or notebook. Responsive use of the body is allowed and includes facial expressions, appropriate hand gestures, spontaneous changes in posture, and limited place to place movement. This responsive use of body should be appropriate, a natural outgrowth of the piece, and not call attention to itself. The judges' opinion in this matter is final.
5. Order of contestants will be determined by the roster.
6. Students are required to be present throughout the competition.
7. A panel of three judges will be used.
8. Judging will be based on the memorized introduction, the speaker's understanding of the author's meaning in the selection, use of suitable character voices, clear and distinct enunciation, use of body and facial expressions appropriate to the selection, and overall effect.
9. Judges' evaluation sheets will be returned to the students.
10. No contestants will be allowed to use the St. Patrick Library for documentation purposes.

Geography

Grades: 3-8

Contest time: 30 minutes

1. Geography content includes basic geography skills and is taken from the grade level textbooks, National Geography Bee tests from previous years and PSIA Maps, Graphs, and Charts tests from previous years.
2. Each test will have at least 65 questions.
3. Grade 3 answers are written on the test paper and grades 4-8 use Scantron answer sheets.
4. Pencils will be provided.
5. One point is given for each correct answer. There is no point deduction for skipped or incorrect answers.
6. Geography test papers and answer sheets are not returned to contestants, parents, or teachers.

Spelling

Grades: 1-8

Contest time: 1 hour

1. Spelling content is 80% of the words on the test are from the study list provided to participating schools. The remaining 20% of the words may be from other sources.
2. Words per grade:

♣ Grades 1 and 2	40 words plus 10 tie-breaking words
♣ Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6	50 words plus 10 tie-breaking words
♣ Grades 7 and 8	60 words plus 10 tie-breaking words
3. Each spelling word will be repeated twice at the time the word is originally called. The monitor will not repeat words at the end of the test. The monitor will offer a definition upon request at the time the word is called. The monitor will **not** offer the part of speech, origin, or sentence using the spelling word.
4. Contestants may print or use cursive. Writing must be legible. Uppercase and lowercase letter formation and the correct use of capitalization will be judged when determining the accurate spelling of a word.
5. Pencils will be provided.
6. One point is given for each correct answer. There is no point deduction for skipped or incorrect answers.
7. Contestants late for the Spelling contest will be disqualified.
8. Spelling test papers will be given to each school to distribute to individual students.

Written Math

Grades: 1-8

Contest time: 30 minutes

1. The math contest problems will include basic and challenging math concepts at and above grade level.
2. Each test will have at least 50 problems.
3. For grades 1-3, answers are written on the test paper and grades 4-8 use Scantron answer sheets. All students will be provided with scratch paper on which to do their calculations.
4. Fractions must be reduced to lowest terms.
5. No calculator may be used.
6. Pencils will be provided.
7. One point is given for each correct answer. There is no point deduction for skipped or incorrect answers.
8. Math test papers and answer sheets are not returned to contestants, parents or teachers.

Algebra

Grade: 8

Contest time: 30 minutes

1. The contest problems will include concepts taught in Algebra I and is open only to Grade 8 algebra students.
2. The test will have at least 50 problems.
3. Answers are recorded on Scantron answer sheets. All students will be provided with scratch paper on which to do their calculations.
4. Fractions must be reduced to lowest terms.
5. No calculator may be used.
6. Pencils will be provided.
7. One point is given for each correct answer. There is no point deduction for skipped or incorrect answers.
8. Algebra test papers and answer sheets are not returned to contestants, parents or teachers.

Mental Math

Grades: 3-8

Contest time: 10 minutes

1. The contest consists of solving basic and challenging math problems mentally.
2. Each test will have at least 70 problems.

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3. All answers are written in blue ink and only the answer is written in the space provided.
4. Any problem with a marked- out answer will be considered incorrect.
5. No written calculations are allowed on any surface.
6. Fractions must be reduced to lowest terms.
7. No calculator may be used.
8. Blue pens will be provided.
9. One point is given for each correct answer. There is no point deduction for skipped or incorrect answers.
10. Mental Math test papers are not returned to contestants, parents or teachers.

On-Site Drawing

Grades: 1-4

Contest time: 40 minutes

1. The drawing should be based on the topic given to the contestants by the monitor.
2. Drawing will be done on paper 12 X 18. Paper will be provided.
3. Contestants use crayons and pencils to do their drawing and coloring. Crayons and pencils will be provided. Contestants do not have to use pencils on the picture unless they wish to.
4. Contestants are not to bring any drawing utensils or tools from outside into the contest.
5. No words are to be used in the drawing.
6. Drawing will be judged on creative thinking, expression, form and completion of picture.

On-Site Drawing

Grades: 5-8

Contest time: 1 hour

1. Drawing will be of objects (4 - 7 objects) on display (Still Life). It should include all objects on display and a representation of the surface. Detailing of the surface, the table, and the background should not be done.
2. Drawing will be on paper 12x18. Paper will be provided.
3. All contestants use the same media, pencils, which will be provided.
4. Contestants are not to bring any drawing utensils or tools from outside into the contest.
5. No words are to be used in the drawing.
6. Judging based on these elements:
 - a. What makes this work different from others?
 - b. What degree of quality is found for the type of media and the technique used?

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- c. What other aspects add to this work's appeal?
- d. Unified appearance of the whole display.