

# SPOKEN WORD

(FKA: POETRY PERFORMANCE)

## **Description:**

Craft an original poem or prose and bring it to life through a compelling monologue or dialogue that is performed.

## **Overview**

Your performance can incorporate various styles, including reading, singing, or acting. Spoken word is an art form designed to captivate and engage, so feel free to integrate elements like music, dance, or visual arts to elevate your presentation. Remember to infuse your performance with a sense of spontaneity through extemporaneous speaking, creating an experience that is both dynamic and unforgettable for your audience.

## **Requirements:**

1. Submission: Submit one notarized copy of your original poem or prose.
2. Formatting:
  - Each page must include your name, page number, and unit name and number.
  - Your work should be original, typed in 12-point Calibri or Times New Roman font.
  - Retain the original form of your piece (free verse, rhymed metrical poetry, etc.).

- Do not exceed 3 pages.
3. Performance:
- Perform your work **from memory** before a panel of judges.
  - Your performance must not exceed 3 minutes. Exceeding this limit may result in point deductions or disqualification.

**Necessary equipment:**

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers, a microphone, and necessary cables that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Outlet Surge Protector

**Judging Criteria:**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Description</b>
Emotional/Physical Presence	20	
Original Thought	20	
Voice and Articulation	20	
Structure/Form and Overall Presentation	20	
Evidence of Understanding/Accuracy	20	

Point Deduction

-1 to -5

In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.

**Total**

**100**

Emotional/Physical Presence:

- Emotional connection to the topic
- Eye contact, body language, and poise

Original Thought:

- Unique subject matter or perspective
- Avoidance of cliché or derivative ideas

Voice and Articulation:

- Volume, pace, rhythm, and intonation
- Clear pronunciation

Structure/Form and Overall Presentation:

- Effective use of line breaks and stanzas
- Strong title
- Correct grammar and punctuation

Evidence of Understanding/Accuracy:

- Clear comprehension of the material
- Accurate recitation of the text

**Notes for Judges**

- Each contestant will have 3 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 7-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
  - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
  - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
  - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
    - Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”.

There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

### **Tips for Contestants:**

- **Choose a Topic You're Passionate About:** Your enthusiasm will shine through in your performance.
- **Practice, Practice, Practice:** Rehearse your piece multiple times to perfect your delivery.
- **Connect with Your Audience:** Use eye contact to engage your listeners and create a personal connection.
- **Embrace Extemporization:** Be prepared to think on your feet and adapt to unexpected situations.

- **Pay Attention to Detail:** Proofread your work carefully and ensure your performance is polished.
- **Be Yourself:** Let your unique personality shine through in your performance.
- **Enjoy the Process:** Have fun and express yourself creatively!