

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL SPOKEN LANGUAGE CONTEST

Judges' Script for Levels

(prepared by Dr. Carol Wilkerson)

Level I

These students will discuss self, family, school schedule, leisure activities, friends, weather, and time for a maximum of five minutes. The present tense and immediate future will be used. At this level students will probably give short answers or lists.

Example:

Q: Hello. What is your name?

A: My name is John.

Q: John, what do you study at school?

A: I study math, science, English, French and art.

Q: What is your favorite class?

A: I like math.

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: I don't understand.

Q: What do you do when you are not in school?

A: I eat. I sleep.

Q: Do you play a sport?

A: I play golf.

Q: Do you play alone or with friends.

A: I play with friends.

Q: What are your friends' names?

A: My friends are Mark and Steve.

Q: Tell me a little about your family.

A: I have two brothers and a mother.

Q: Are your brothers students also?

A: Yes. They are students.

Q: I've been inside the building for a long time. What is the weather like outside?

A: It is sunny. It is warm.

Q: Thank you for coming today, John.

A: Thank you.

Level II

These students will discuss Level I topics plus food, vacations, sports, and school activities (curricular and extra-curricular) for a maximum of eight minutes. Past tense will be used. At this level, students will probably still speak in listed activities, but sentences will also be common.

Example:

Q: Hello. What is your name?

A: My name is John.

Q: John, what do you study at school?

A: I study math, science, English, French and art.

Q: What is your favorite class?

A: I like math.

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: I don't understand.

Q: What do you do when you are not in school?

A: I eat. I sleep.

Q: Do you play a sport?

A: I play golf.

Q: Do you play alone or with friends.

A: I play with friends.

Q: What are your friends' names?

A: My friends are Mark and Steve.

Q: Let's talk for a few minutes about your daily routine. Tell me what you did yesterday.

A: I went to school. I played basketball. I ate dinner. I did my homework. I slept.

Q: What did you eat for dinner?

A: Pizza.

Q: What about your homework? What did you study?

A: I studied algebra and French.

Q: When did you go to bed?

A: I went to bed at 10:30.

Q: What about today? What did you do before this interview?

A: I got up early. No breakfast. I got on the bus. I ate at McDonald's. I came to the school. I came to the classroom.

Q: It sounds like you have been busy. Thank you for coming, John.

A: Thank you.

Level III

These students will discuss all topics for Levels I and II and be able to talk about interests such as movies and books in more detail. Students should be able to demonstrate competency in the present, past, imperfect and future tenses. The interview will last a maximum of 12 minutes.

Example:

Q: Hello, what is your name?

A: My name is Eva.

Q: Eve, what do you study in school?

A: I study German, calculus, advanced English, world history, band, and office monitor.

Q: What is your favorite class?

A: German.

Q: What instrument do you play in the band?

A: I play the flute and the oboe.

Q: When did you first begin to play these instruments?

A: I played them in third grade.

Q: Tell me a little about your daily routine. What did you do yesterday?

A: I got up. I ate breakfast. I got a shower. My mother drove me to school. I went to school. I came home and called my friend. We talked on the phone. I ate dinner. I did my homework. I went to bed.

Q: Let's talk about your music class. Can you describe the room to me?

A: It's big with a lot of chairs and instruments. We play music and Mr. Calhoun is the teacher. It is third period, after English. It's okay. I like it.

Q: Are you going to play in the band next year?

A: Yes.

Q: What about in ten years? Are you going to play the flute in ten years?

A: I think I will play in ten years. I don't know.

Q: What plans do you have for the next ten years?

A: I want to be a doctor. I want to go to college in Kentucky and study medicine. After college, I want to be a doctor in California.

Q: Did anyone give you any advice about being a doctor?

A: Yes, I need to study very hard and make good grades. It is important to study to go to a good college.

Q: Do you have any advice for other students who want to be doctors?

A: You need to study. You should study lots of math and science. It sounds like you are a busy person. Thank you for coming.

A: Thank you.

Level IV and V:

These students will be prepared to discuss all of the previous topics and tenses for a maximum of twenty minutes. At these levels, there should be evidence of connected, paragraph-level speech. Again, lead up to this level of discourse by beginning with short answer and sentence-level speech. At these levels, complexity and quantity are important criteria.

Example:

Q: Hello, what is your name?

A: My name is Eva.

Q: Eve, what do you study in school?

A: I study German, calculus, advanced English, world history, band, and office monitor.

Q: What is your favorite class?

A: German.

Q: What instrument do you play in the band?

A: I play the flute and the oboe.

Q: When did you first begin to play these instruments?

A: I played them in third grade.

Q: Tell me a little about your daily routine. What did you do yesterday?

A: I got up. I ate breakfast. I got a shower. My mother drove me to school. I went to school. I came home and called my friend. We talked on the phone. I ate dinner. I did my homework. I went to bed.

Q: Let's talk about your music class. Can you describe the room to me?

A: It's big with a lot of chairs and instruments. It is third period, after English. It's okay. I like it.

Q: Are you going to play in the band next year?

A: Yes.

Q: What about in ten years? Are you going to play the flute in ten years?

A: I think I will play in ten years. I don't know.

Q: What plans do you have for the next ten years?

A: I want to be a doctor. I want to go to college in Kentucky and study medicine. After college, I want to be a doctor in California.

Q: Did anyone give you any advice about being a doctor?

A: Yes, I need to study very hard and make good grades. It is important to study to go to a good college.

Q: Do you have any advice for other students who want to be doctors?

A: You need to study. You should study lots of math and science. I don't know much about music.

Q: Let's pretend that I want to learn to play the flute. What advice would you give

me?

A: You have to practice every day. You need to buy a flute.

Q: Am I too old to learn to play?

A: No. Maybe.

Q: Do you know anyone who learned to play as an adult?

A: No. Most people are children when they play.

Q: Let's change topics for a moment. Teachers always give students advice. What suggestions do students want to give teachers?

A: Not to give homework. Students don't want teachers to give homework.

Q: What else?

A: I don't know. Maybe to give more extra credit.

Q: Pretend that I am your German teacher. Tell me three things that you want me to do.

A: I want you to give less homework. I want you to give more free time. I want you to cook in class.

Q: Well, Eva, you sound like you are going to be busy these next few years. Thank you for coming.

A: Thank you.