

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

Oral Tests, Music Events, Drama Events, Declamation Events

Events with ASSIGNED times prior to contest day: Classical Instrumental Ensemble, Chorus, Folk Dance, Polka Band, Duet Acting, Puppet Show, Play, Skits

Events with UNASSIGNED times (contestants must sign in on contest day): Extemporaneous Speaking, Directed Dialogue, Sight Reading, Vocal Solo, Prose/Poetry Memory, Prose/Poetry Reading

Each contestant/group must perform at their pre-assigned time or their chosen sign-in time. Changes in times (order) may be made upon judges' approval, ie. students are cross entered in other events. Please wait in the room until all designated contestants have performed or until 1:30 p.m., whichever comes first. Do not quit early even if it may seem that no one else is coming-they may be performing in other areas!

Rather than disqualify a performance for any reason (time limit violation, forgotten lines, etc.), deduct points in an appropriate category, thereby lowering the ranking of that entry. Even the best English-speaking performers occasionally forget a line; it's even more difficult in a foreign language. You may prompt if necessary; however, excessive prompting should be reflected in the score. There are, in most cases minimum times and/or number of lines to be considered. **IF STUDENTS FAIL TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THEIR PIECES (MUSIC, DRAMA, PROSE/POETRY), DEDUCT 10 POINTS FROM THEIR TOTAL POINTS EARNED.**

Fill in all information on the critique sheets carefully and LEGIBLY. Make sure to ask the students for their name(s) and school if you are unsure. If you are judging several levels within one room, be very certain that you ask the student his/her level - and make the critique sheet accordingly. Your critique sheets will be returned to the students to assist them with future language learning and contest preparation.

As you listen to contestants, please evaluate them according to the rules and the criteria on the critique sheet. Positive and corrective comments are especially appreciated in order to help the students improve and could be instrumental in a student's further study of German! Please try to rank at 60 or above. In judging, consider the literary/musical quality of the materials performed. Try not to let yourself be biased by your own personal taste. Also, judge heavily on the performance itself and how well the performer used the language. Did he/she communicate? Was his/her performance effective? If the answers to these questions are "yes" and if the performer(s) kept within the rules stated, then he/she indeed deserves a high ranking. Please do not reveal your decision to the contestants. Do not make comments like, "I'm a terrible judge" or "I don't know what I am doing". If you listen carefully and evaluate fairly, then you are rendering a valid decision.

If you have any questions about the level of the competitors, about whether they are advantaged speakers, whether their entry is the proper length, about the instructions given, or about any aspects of the contest, please send to the Tab Room for help. **Please do not make any decisions, i.e., disqualifying a student or a group without first consulting with the Directors of the contest.**

Fill out the AWARD ASSEMBLY SHEET. Make sure you confer with other judges to determine your overall rating. Rank the entries first through tenth place. Schools receive sweepstakes points for these rankings. Please write the names carefully and legibly, as this sheet is used to read names for the awards assembly.

Do not leave campus until you have turned in the following items to the TAB ROOM and been cleared by them:

- 1) The critique sheets,
- 2) The copies of student entries, if applicable (please put school name on them),
- 3) The AWARD ASSEMBLY SHEET

Thank you so much for giving up your Saturday to assist with the judging. It helps our programs tremendously for our students to see that this is important enough for adults to donate their time to help them improve!

The coordinator for your area will be coming by to see that you have enough judging forms and to answer any questions.

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TEXAS STATE GERMAN CONTEST ONLY

Please be sure that no school enters anyone other than those listed as having qualified in this category, which are listed on your envelope. No substitutes are allowed.