

## INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

**Events with ASSIGNED times prior to contest day:** Chorus, Classical Instrumental Ensemble, Contemporary German Music, Einzelplattler, Folk Dance, Polka Band, Duet Acting, Play, Puppet Show, Skits, Paß Auf!, Scavenger Hunt

**Events with UNASSIGNED times** (contestants must sign in on contest day): Directed Dialogue, Extemporaneous Speaking, Oral Presentation, Sight Reading, Student-Led Pair Discussion, Vocal Solo, Prose/Poetry Memory, Prose/Poetry Reading

**Arts/Culture Events:** Club Album, Crafts, Digital Logo Design, Doll Costume, Gingerbread House, Original Models, Needlework, Photo Essay, Photography, Poster Design, Research Paper, T-shirt Design, Video Show

All Arts/Culture entries should be turned in to the designated rooms no later than 9:00 AM, at which time judging begins. For all other events, each contestant/group must perform at their pre-assigned time or their chosen sign-in time (Contestants are required to sign in by 10:30 am.). 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 an entry for any reason (time limit violation, forgotten lines, etc.), deduct points within an appropriate criterion, thereby lowering the ranking of that entry. For Declamation and Drama events, you may prompt if necessary; however, excessive prompting should be reflected in the score. After all, even the best English-speaking performers occasionally forget a line; it's even more difficult in a foreign language. **IF STUDENTS FAIL TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THEIR PIECES (MUSIC, DRAMA, PROSE/POETRY) or IDENTIFYING INFORMATION (NAME, SCHOOL) ON THEIR ARTWORK, DEDUCT 10 POINTS FROM THEIR TOTAL CUMULATIVE POINTS EARNED.**

*Each judge should fill out his/her own critique sheet for each entry. 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. The same is true for multiple art events in one room! 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. **PLEASE PROVIDE SOME WRITTEN POSITIVE AND CORRECTIVE COMMENTS ON EACH SHEET, especially if rankings are low and/or points are specifically deducted!!!** These comments are especially **appreciated and necessary** in order to help the students improve, and they 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/artistic quality of the materials performed/presented. Try not to let yourself be biased by your own personal taste. Please do not reveal your decision to the contestants and 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 Director of the contest.**

Fill out the AWARD ASSEMBLY SHEET after all entries have been judged. Make sure you confer with other judges to determine your overall rating. Determine the winners by adding all the points given by the judges for each contestant. The ten highest cumulative scores will be ranked first through tenth place. Schools receive sweepstakes points for these rankings. **DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR ADDITION!!!** 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 (all judges should check out at the Tab Room):

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

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

Your donation of time, encouragement and constructive comments tremendously benefits our students and our German programs!

**VIELEN HERZLICHEN DANK!!!**

### **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.**