

SPEECH:

n/a	248	Humorous Reading	n/a	252	Religious Poetry
n/a	250	Patriotic Reading	n/a	253	Religious Reading
151	251	Poetry	154	254	Scripture Passage Reading
			156	256	Choric Speaking

GENERAL SPEECH RULES:

1. All material should be in good taste and of high quality. Entries will not be restricted to sacred themes. However, entries which reflect anti-biblical themes, content, and/or word usage (including profanity or suggestive language)—or which contain sensualism, humanism, or worldliness (including offensive performance)—will be disqualified.
2. All selections must be memorized.
3. **Scripture Passage Reading has no time limit. Choric Speaking has a time limit of 3 to 8 minutes. For all other speeches the time limit is 1½ to 6 minutes.**
4. Each participant will hand *two* copies of his script and the judging sheets to the event coordinator (or judge, if there is no coordinator present).
5. The source of the script should be footnoted on the script, if it is known.
6. All speeches must be taken from published material. Church bulletins are considered published material.
7. Props are not permitted. No theatrical make-up may be used. Costumes are NOT permitted.
8. Each entrant must announce his name, the title of his selection and the author, then timing will begin.
9. Points will be deducted if the speech goes under or over the time limit (see Point Deduction page).
10. The participant will be disqualified if the speech goes over two minutes beyond the time limit.

SPECIFIC SPEECH RULES BY EVENT:

HUMOROUS READING:

Definition: A humorous reading is a speech whose purpose is to bring out the humor in everyday life situations. It shows the effective use of humor, satire, and irony.

PATRIOTIC READING:

Definition: A patriotic reading is a speech in which the author shows loyalty to his own country (the author could be of a nationality other than the USA). The material may come from a book, short story, play, speech, essay, or other literature medium so long as it clearly contains a patriotic theme.

POETRY:

Definition: Poetry is the rhymed and/or rhythmic (free verse) treatment of a subject.

Level I Poetry includes *both* secular and religious poetry. *Level II* has two separate events; this event deals with *non*-religious poetry (see next event definition).

RELIGIOUS POETRY:

The material must be of a clearly religious nature.

RELIGIOUS READING:

Definition: A religious reading concerns a Biblical topic or an inspirational theme to draw the unbeliever and/or encourage the Christian and promote godly living. This material may come from sermon excerpts, missionary stories, or articles from a church bulletin.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE READING:

1. Several designated passages of Scripture are included in the appendix at the end of this manual. Entrants may choose one of these passages, or a narrative passage of his own choosing. For Level I, this chosen passage must be 10 to 20 verses in length. For Level II, this chosen passage must be 15 to 30 verses in length. The passage may be edited, but not rearranged or altered in text.
2. The King James Version of the Scriptures is to be memorized for this event.
3. All Scripture Passage Readings must be typed and submitted to the judges as a script.
4. Participants need give only their names and the Scripture reference of the passages they will perform. They *may* introduce the passage with two or three sentences of explanation (context of the passage or who is speaking).

CHORIC SPEAKING:

Definition: An oral group presentation utilizing some or all of the following techniques: unison speaking, solo speaking, vocal effects, word color, dramatic climax, and group movement. Characters are not to interact with each other.

1. Group size consists of 7 to 15 individuals.
2. The presentation must be memorized. It may be directed.
3. The director (or a member of the group if there is no director) will announce the title and author of the selection (if known).
4. All members dressed in the same color or style shall not be considered to be wearing costumes.
5. The presentation will be judged on originality of arrangement and the skillful use of the techniques to move the audience with the chosen material.
6. Scripts: Any form of literature, poetry, or prose adapted to Choric Speaking form will be appropriate for this contest. All literature and music used in the choric reading must be published material. More than one script may be combined along with music to design the Choric Reading; otherwise the scripts must meet guidelines listed in Speech General Rules 1.
7. Movement/Interaction:
 - a. Group movement may be used to enhance the presentation, but should be limited to simple choices such as changing positions between “scenes” or divisions in the presentation.
 - b. Movement, individual and group, should be more limited than movement in Readers Theatre.
 - c. Characters are not to interact with each other, as they do in Acting. All speaking and visual expression is to be directed toward the audience rather than toward other actors. There should be no intentional physical contact between characters.
8. Hand Props/Instruments: No hand props or costume pieces will be permitted. An instrument may not be played during the presentation and auditory props may not be used.

9. Risers may be used. Please inform the SCACS Festival Director if you will need risers.
10. Music: Any form of singing or music used in the presentation should be used to complement the speech effects, and may not exceed 1.5 minutes of the entire presentation.
10. Use of Voice and Group vs. Individual Voices: Performers are to express different pitch levels, pace, pause effect, rate, intensity, and volume. Their speech should be expressed mainly in groups of voices, with **infrequent** solo lines. Large and small group voices must dominate. Excessive use of dialogue between characters without engagement of the chorus must not dominate the performance. Diction must be clearly understood, spoken with ease, and expressed with energy.