

## Oral Interpretation Speech Assignment

For this speech, you need to choose 1 – 3 poems to read to the class. Keep in mind the 3 – 5 minute time limit on this speech when choosing poems. You may use any appropriate poem you want. You cannot use a poem you have written yourself. When choosing a poem, choose one that will work well for oral interpretation. Poems that tell stories or have characters talking might be best for your performance. If you are choosing more than one poem, you need to make sure that all poems are connected by theme or something else that you can explain in the introduction.

Your speech must have an introduction. In the introduction, you need a good attention getter and you have set up your poetry selection. Your speech is 3 – 5 minutes. If you give a 30 second introduction, you will have to fill the rest up with poetry. A 30 second introduction will not be enough to make time limit, nor will it be sufficient to set up what you are doing. You might want to make your introduction closer to a minute long. The introduction is the same as the previous speeches: you need to make eye contact and help the audience with understanding what you are going to read.

### Introduction

- Attention-getter
- Necessary information
  - Poet's name
  - Title of the poem
  - Sentences where a theme is stated
  - Background information
    - Poet (you will need to do some research on the poet and say something about him or her)
    - Setting in the poem
    - Context
    - Poetic devices if they need to be paid attention to
    - Time frame

### Poetry Reading

- Have two copies of your poem typed out double spaced.
  - One will be turned into me
  - The other will be in the small black binder – Make sure this copy is no larger than 5 ½ x 8 ½. I will have three-hole puncher in the class.
- Use nonverbal communication to communicate with the audience; in short, act the part you are reading. You will be graded on your eye focus, use of voice, stance, body language.
- Keep the binder close during your introduction and transitions if you have any.
- Have transitions if you have more than one poem.

### Conclusion

- You may have a conclusion if you want. Model after the conclusions we have done for other speeches—make sure you round off. You do not need a conclusion if you covered everything in your introduction.

### Requirements:

\*3 – 5 minutes

\*use miniature black binder (provided for you)

\*Typed out poem(s)

\*research on poet and readings

\*Acting with face, voice, and body

\* Good introduction—mention theme(s) and poetry devices. Use poetry terms.