

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATE LITERARY MEET**  
**Instructions for Chairperson**  
**Literary Interpretation**

Two judges for each contest – judges are not to confer.

Judges will rank the contestants (1 thru 8 at State level) as well as give points. Ties will be broken by points. Points awarded by the judge must reflect the ranking of the judge.

Example: At State level where there are eight (8) regions competing, the rank of #1 must have the highest point total, the rank of #8 must have the lowest point total.

In a Region or State event, the judges will be seated in different parts of the room or auditorium and will render their decisions to the person in charge without conferring.

This is a contest in communication of prose, poetry, and/or dramatic literature. The contest is built on communication - one in which the contestant communicates the author's meaning to the audience. In order to do this the student must study and understand the selection and have an intense desire to share his/her understanding with the audience. This contest is one of interpretation rather than acting.

The material selected should be of good literary value and appropriate to the contest. The student gives to the audience a brief introductory statement about the selection(s) which is part of the total time allotted. The material must be memorized and delivered without use of a manuscript. In Duo, team members should have approximate equal roles. (“Eye contact and physical touch” are allowed in GHSA.)

No costumes, properties, musical, or sound effects may be used in the presentation.

The time limit shall not be more than ten (10) minutes, including the introduction. An official time keeper and time cards must be used. Do not disqualify because of exceeding the time limit. Adult time keeper will record times. Any school that exceeds time limit will be penalized (2) two points for each (15) fifteen second periods or portions thereof per judge. Time begins when the first word is spoken and ends ten (10) minutes later. (Remaining time should be given by time cards).

If order of appearance is not assigned, contestants will draw for order of appearance upon reporting to location of contest at the specified time or their position will be drawn for them.

Judges shall take into consideration the following: selection, communication skills, vocal technique, and physical technique.

Announce each contestant by number.

Mark top of each score sheet: Humorous, Dramatic, or Duo - Indicate Classification (AAAAAAA, AAAAAA, AAAAA, AAAA, AAA, AA, or A – Division 1 or Division 2).

List time each contestant used in proper place on score sheet.

At the conclusion of the contest, sign score sheets, take up the score sheets, place them in the envelope with the Master Summary Sheets (make sure envelopes and Master Summary Sheets match), seal and turn in, along with the contest folder and all materials, to the GHSA representative.

DO NOT announce results. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places will be announced and posted by the GHSA representative.

Duo participants should have equal or fairly equal parts. An introduction or teaser must be included; however it does not have to be at the beginning. There is nothing in the GHSA rules and regulations referring to how many characters a speaker must develop in their presentation.

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATE LITERARY MEET**  
**Instructions for Chairperson**  
**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING**

Two judges for each contest – judges are not to confer.

Judges will rank the contestants (1 thru 8 at State level) as well as give points. Ties will be broken by points. Points awarded by the judge must reflect the ranking of the judge.

Example: At State level where there are eight (8) regions competing, the rank of #1 must have the highest point total, the rank of #8 must have the lowest point total.

In a Region or State event, the judges will be seated in different parts of the room or auditorium and will render their decision to the person in charge without conferring.

If order of appearance is not assigned, contestants will draw for order of appearance upon reporting to location of contest or their position will be drawn for them.

Permit no contestant to compete other than those listed on the Master Summary Sheet without written directions from the Georgia High School Association Office.

This is a speaking contest. Contestants may use a 3x5 or a 4x6 card. The presentation is not to be prepared ahead of the preparation session. Instruct each contestant to give the notes used for speaking to the judges at the end of speech.

Thirty (30) minutes before the contest is to begin, the student who drew the first speaking position, shall draw three (3) topics, select one and return the other two (2). Thereafter, at intervals of seven (7) minutes, the remaining speakers shall draw for topics in order of their speaking positions. The official shall record the student's name, position, topic drawn, and name of the school.

The following procedure applies to all contestants:

1. As each student draws, he shall be escorted to a room where he/she will have 30 minutes to prepare his/her speech in brief outline form. He/she will be severely marked down for reading the speech.
2. The student may use any material which he/she brought with him/her, but he/she may not have the assistance of any person.
3. At the end of the preparation time, the speaker will be escorted to the judging site, where, upon entering the room, he/she will give a copy of his/her topic to the judge. The contestant should speak on the topic chosen..
4. Computers may be used for downloaded material only, absolutely no internet usage.
5. Smart phones and smart watches must be kept by the monitor until contestant has finished speaking.

The speaking time will be no more than seven (7) minutes. Time begins when the first word is spoken and ends seven (7) minutes later. Do not disqualify because of exceeding the time limit. Adult time keeper will record times. Any school that exceeds time limit will be penalized (2) two points for each (15) fifteen second periods or portions thereof per judge. (Remaining time should be given by time cards).

The judge shall take into consideration the following: thesis and content, development and support, organization and structure, language and delivery.

Announce each contestant by number.

Mark top of each score sheet: Domestic or International - Indicate Classification (AAAAAAA, AAAAAA, AAAAA, AAAA, AAA, AA or A – Division 1 or Division 2).

At the conclusion of the contest, sign score sheets, take up the score sheets, place them in the envelope with the Master Summary Sheets (make sure envelopes and Master Summary Sheets match), seal and turn in, along with the contest folder and all materials, to the GHSA representative.

DO NOT announce results. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places will be announced and posted at the GHSA representative.

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATE LITERARY MEET**  
**Instructions for Chairperson**  
**SOLO**

Two judges and a timer for each contest – judges are not to confer.

Judges will rank the contestants (1 thru 8 at State level) as well as give points. Ties will be broken by points. Points awarded by the judge must reflect the ranking of the judge.

Example: At State level where there are eight (8) regions competing, the rank of #1 must have the highest point total, the rank of #8 must have the lowest point total.

In a Region or State event, judges may sit together to read a single set of music but shall not confer or base their ranking or scoring decisions from each other.

Audiences shall not be excluded from this event. In order to protect the contestants, the chairman should request the audience to turn off cell phones and withhold applause of any soloist until all of the selections given by that soloist have been completed.

If order of appearance is not assigned, contestants are required to draw for order of appearance upon reporting to the location of the contest or their position will be drawn for them. Show order of appearance by each name listed on the Master Summary Sheet. Announce each contestant by number. Advise each contestant that they are to announce their selections. Judges should list the selections on the score sheets on space provided.

One legal copy of music must be provided to judges.

Permit no contestant to compete other than those listed on the Master Summary Sheet without written directions from the Georgia High School Association Office.

Mark top of each score sheet: Boys or Girls - Indicate which event - Indicate Classification (AAAAAAA, AAAAAA, AAAAA, AAAA, AAA, AA or A – Division 1 or Division 2).

Two selections shall be sung, one (1) of which must be from the standard repertory of the art song, oratorio aria, operatic aria, folk, or spiritual. Both selections must be original vocal solo compositions, and not arrangements of instructional or choral pieces. Both selections shall be performed by the contestant from memory.

Vocal solo may be with or without pianist. No other accompanist or tape recording may be used. Soloist must bring own pianist.

A director/coach is expressly prohibited from "conducting" during a musical contest at both the Region and State competitions.

Time for the solo is limited to seven (8) minutes. Time begins when the soloist begins to sing the first number and ends eight minutes after time has started. If the actual singing has ended prior to the expiration of the eight minutes of time, the soloist is within the time limit. Adult time keeper will record times. Any school that exceeds time limit will be penalized (2) two points for each (15) fifteen second periods or portions thereof per judge.

There must be no ties in individual scoring or ties when the judges' scores are added together. At the end of the event, judges must break all ties. Place score sheets in order of rank from highest to lowest score to make sure there is no tie.

At the conclusion of the contest, sign score sheets, take up the score sheets, place them in the envelope with the Master Summary Sheet (make sure envelopes and Master Summary Sheets match), seal and turn in, along with the contest folder and all materials, to the GHSA representative.

DO NOT announce results. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places will be announced and posted by the GHSA representative.

**CONTEST REGULATIONS**

1. Time Limit: Eight (8) minutes
2. Not more than two selections may be presented.
3. Solo may be with or without accompanist, piano accompanist only.

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATE LITERARY MEET**  
**Instructions for Chairperson**  
**QUARTET**

Two judges and a timer for each contest – Judges are not to confer.

Judges will rank the contestants (1 thru 8 at State level) as well as give points. Ties will be broken by points. Points awarded by the judge must reflect the ranking of the judge.

Example: At State level where there are eight (8) regions competing, the rank of #1 must have the highest point total, the rank of #8 must have the lowest point total.

In a Region or State event, judges may sit together to read a single set of music but shall not confer or base their ranking and scoring decisions from each other.

One legal copy of music must be provided to judges.

Audiences shall not be excluded from this event. In order to protect the contestants, the chairman should request the audience to turn off cell phones and withhold applause of any quartet until all of the selections given by that quartet have been completed.

If the order of performance is not assigned, contestants are required to draw for order of appearance upon reporting to the location of the contest or their position will be drawn for them. Order of appearance by each name listed on the Master Summary Sheet. Announce each quartet by number. Advise each quartet that they are to announce their selections. Judges should list the selections on the score sheets on space provided.

Permit no contestant to compete other than those listed on the Master Summary Sheet without written directions from the Georgia High School Association Office.

Mark top of each score sheet: Quartet - Indicate Classification (AAAAAAA, AAAAAA, AAAAA, AAAA, AAA, AA or A – Division 1 or Division 2)

A Quartet shall consist of four (4) voices and carry the following distinct harmony parts: (1) Tenor 1, (2) Tenor 2, (3) Bass 1, (4) Bass 2. Unless these four (4) harmony parts are heard, the group shall not place in the Top 4. Choreography will not be considered in the judging of this event.

Two (2) selections shall be sung, each of which shall be appropriate for a small group of singers, and one of which must have serious musical value: a chorale, madrigal, art song, folk song, or spiritual song, whether originally composed or in an arrangement. Both selections shall be performed by the contestants from memory. One selection must be a cappella.

Quartet may be with or without pianist. No other accompanist or recording may be used. Quartets must bring their own accompanist.

A director/coach is expressly prohibited from "conducting" during a musical contest at both the Region and State competitions.

Time for the quartet is limited to eight (8) minutes. Time begins when the quartet begins to sing their first number and ends eight (8) minutes after time has started. If the actual singing has ended prior to the expiration of the eight minutes of time, the quartet is within the time limit. Adult time keeper will record times. Any school that exceeds time limit will be penalized (2) two points for each (15) fifteen second periods or portions thereof per judge.

There must be no ties in individual scoring nor ties when the judges' scores are added together. At the end of the event, judges must break all ties. Place score sheets in order of rank from highest to lowest score to make sure there is no tie.

At the conclusion of the contest, sign score sheets, take up the score sheets, place them in the envelope with the Master Summary Sheet (make sure envelopes and Master Summary Sheets match), seal and turn in, along with the contest folder and all materials, to the GHSA representative.

DO NOT announce results. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places will be announced and posted by the GHSA representative.

**CONTEST REGULATIONS**

1. Time Limit: Eight (8) minutes
2. Not more than two selections may be presented.
3. Quartet must be male.
4. Four distinct harmony parts must be heard.
5. Quartet may be with or without accompanist.

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
STATE LITERARY MEET  
Instructions for Chairperson  
TRIO**

Two judges and a timer for each contest – judges are not to confer.

Judges will rank the contestants (1 thru 8 at State level) as well as give points. Ties will be broken by points. Points awarded by the judge must reflect the ranking of the judge.

Example: At State level where there are eight (8) regions competing, the rank of #1 must have the highest point total, the rank of #8 must have the lowest point total.

In a Region or State event, the judges will be seated so they can share presented music but must render their decisions to the person in charge without conferring.

One legal copy of music must be provided to judges.

Audiences shall not be excluded from this event. In order to protect the contestants, the chairman should request the audience to turn off cell phones and withhold applause of any trio until all of the selections given by that trio have been completed.

If the order of performance is not assigned, contestants are required to draw for order of appearance upon reporting to the location of the contest or their position will be drawn for them. Disqualification will result if performance time is not met. Show order of appearance by each name listed on the Master Summary Sheet. Announce each trio by number. Advise each trio that they are to announce their selections. Judges should list the selections on the score sheets on space provided.

Permit no contestant to compete other than those listed on the Master Summary Sheet without written directions from the Georgia High School Association Office.

Mark top of each score sheet: Trio - Indicate Classification (AAAAAAA, AAAAAA, AAAAA, AAAA, AAA, AA or A – Division 1 or Division 2)

A Trio shall consist of three (3) voices carrying three (3) distinct harmony parts: Soprano 1, Soprano 2 and Alto. Unless these three (3) harmony parts are heard, the group will not place in the Top 4. Choreography will not be considered in the judging of this event.

Two (2) selections shall be sung, each of which shall be appropriate for a small group of singers, and one (1) of which must have serious musical value: a chorale, madrigal, art song, folk song, or spiritual song, whether originally composed or in an arrangement. Both selections shall be performed by the contestants from memory.

Trio may be with or without pianist. No other accompanist or recording may be used. Trios must furnish their own pianist.

A director/coach is expressly prohibited from "conducting" during a musical contest at both the Region and State competitions.

Time for the trio is limited to eight (8) minutes. Time begins when the trio begins to sing their first number and ends eight (8) minutes after time has started. If the actual singing has ended prior to the expiration of the eight minutes of time, the trio is within the time limit. Adult time keeper will record times. Any school that exceeds time limit will be penalized (2) two points for each (15) fifteen second periods or portions thereof per judge.

There must be no ties in individual scoring or ties when the judges' scores are added together. At the end of the event, judges must break all ties. Place score sheets in order of rank from highest to lowest score to make sure there is no tie.

At the conclusion of the contest, sign score sheets, take up the score sheets, place them in the envelope with the Master Summary Sheet (make sure envelopes and Master Summary Sheets match!), seal and turn in, along with the contest folder and all materials, to the GHSA representative.

DO NOT announce results. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places will be announced and posted by the GHSA representative.

**CONTEST REGULATIONS**

1. Time Limit: Eight (8) minutes
2. Not more than two selections may be presented.
3. Three distinct harmony parts must be heard.
4. Trio may be with or without accompanist.

**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
STATE LITERARY MEET  
Instructions for Chairperson**

**ESSAY**

Two judges for each contest - Argumentative, personal, and rhetorical essays will be judged separately. Each of the three judges must score two sets of essays. Example: Judge A – Argumentative and Personal, Judge B – Personal and Rhetorical, Judge C – Argumentative and Literary Analysis.

Regulations which govern the contest are listed in the *GHSA Constitution and By-Laws*.

After the contestants have assembled for the contest, present the 3 topics, 2 in Literary Analysis, from which each contestant will choose 1.

**One (1) hour** will be given for writing the essay. The contestants must not receive any coaching during the contest. A verbalized stop should be issued.

An essay is not to exceed 600 words (not a disqualification) and shall be written in ink.

Topic chosen is to be written at the top of the page, along with essay event (Argumentative, Personal, or Literary Analysis).

**AFTER THE ESSAY HAS BEEN JUDGED**, the meet official or tabulator should write the student's name, school, region and classification. **THIS IS IMPERATIVE.** Judges should not know this information before and during the judging.

The use of a dictionary or other reference material is not permitted during the contest.

The essay shall be judged by thesis and line of reasoning, content and development, analysis and support, organization and structure, style and sophistication. Verbal and grammatical correctness, spelling, and punctuation shall have weight, but shall be considered of less importance than the interest and general effectiveness of the whole composition. This is an on the spot writing contest, and evidence of pre-memorized composition shall weigh heavily against contestants.

Select 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places.

Do not judge as ties.

After essays have been judged, return essays and Master Summary Sheets with placements shown, along with the contest folder and all materials, to the GHSA desk.

DO NOT announce results. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places will be announced and posted at the GHSA desk.

Students may pick up their essays at the GHSA desk after announcements of winners.