Shakespeare Unit

Oral Interpretation Speech

Concept: You will perform and interpret a poem for a classroom audience. You will not only make literature come alive for your classmates through your performance, you will help listeners understand the literature by pointing out and explaining various literary techniques used by the author. You will also decipher any confusing language.

Details:

1. Become VERY familiar with your poem. Decipher, for yourself, any confusing language or difficult passages. Know exactly what message the speaker is intending to convey. You MUST have a minimum of FOUR lines memorized. You need to turn in a copy of the poem when you give your speech.
2. Understand the literary elements of the piece. You will need to find THREE DIFFERENT elements that you will explain to the class. These can be irony, metaphor, simile, oxymoron, foreshadowing, rhyme, meter, allusion, personification, symbolism, analogy, or any other literary/poetry elements discussed in class.
3. You MUST have an obvious introduction and conclusion to your speech. Your introduction should have a hook and your conclusion should help listeners understand the significance of the poem. Be sure to thank the audience.
4. Practice is ESSENTIAL. You may use two notecards (no larger than 4x6) but this CANNOT be for the memorized part of the poem. See the rubric on the back of this page so you know exactly what the expectations for this speech are and how you will be graded.
5. You must have one visual aid. This will consist of presentation software (PowerPoint, Prezi, Google slides, other) of at least 5 content-based slides. The memorized part of your poem may not be a part of the slides.
6. The speech must be 4-8 minutes long.

What the speech will look like: You will start with a hook (grab our attention). You will then introduce your poem—give the title, author, themes and meanings of the poem, and any pertinent background information (this might be a good time to use a slide or two). Then transition into your memorized performance. Next, discuss three literary elements from your poem—tell what you found, SHOW what you found (a great time for slides), explain why it is an example of that literary device and why it is effective, etc. Conclude with a clincher—make us remember your poem and speech! Thank the audience and ask for questions. This should take you 4-8 minutes. Remember all the communication skills, too (eye contact, no dead words, appropriate speech, etc.) See the outline for more information.

Dates to know:

Library work days: February 26 (find a poem if haven’t already—begin preparing speech)

March 5 (outline due at the end of the hour)

March 12 (finish slide shows/finishing touches/rehearse—you may also work on your

SSR paper at this time)

Presentations: March 25

Oral Interpretation Speech Rubric

Name:

Hour:

Introduction: (10 points)

\_\_\_\_\_Speech began with a hook

\_\_\_\_\_The poem and its author were introduced

\_\_\_\_\_Background information/speaker/themes/meanings of poem covered

\_\_\_\_\_A copy of the poem was turned in to the instructor before beginning the speech

Body: (10 points)

\_\_\_\_\_A minimum of four lines were effectively performed for the class

\_\_\_\_\_Effectively showed and discussed three literary elements

Conclusion: (5 points)

\_\_\_\_\_Had an obvious conclusion with a clincher

\_\_\_\_\_Thanked the audience

\_\_\_\_\_Asked for questions

Performance: (10 points)

\_\_\_\_\_No dead words (one point will be deducted for every five dead words)

\_\_\_\_\_Eye contact

\_\_\_\_\_Effective rate of speaking/voice inflection/volume

\_\_\_\_\_Appropriate body movements

Visual Aid: (10 points)

\_\_\_\_\_A minimum of five content-based slides

\_\_\_\_\_Slides were typo-free, easy to read, creative, effective, and incorporated into the speech

Other: (5 points)

\_\_\_\_\_Appropriate length

\_\_\_\_\_Overall quality and effort and preparedness

Oral Interpretation Speech Outline

Name:

Hour:

1. Introduction
   1. Introduce yourself
   2. Hook. Write the hook word for word here:
2. Poem Introduction
   1. State the title and author of your poem:
   2. Themes/meanings/background information on the poem must be covered next. Briefly summarize what you will be covering (use the back of this sheet if necessary):
3. Memorized portion
   1. Write the four lines you have memorized (use the back of this sheet if necessary):
4. Literary Elements
   1. State the first element you found and will *explain* (both what they are and why they are effective):
   2. Second element:
   3. Third element:
5. Conclusion
   1. State your clincher word for word (make both the poem and your speech memorable):
   2. Thank the audience and ask for questions.

Other: Put a star next to the five places (minimum) a slide will be used.