

*Miriam Litcher*  
**Stark Contest**<sup>®</sup>  
*in*  
**Reading and Declamation**  
 ESTABLISHED 1904

**Evaluation Form for Declamation**

Contestant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant's Selection: \_\_\_\_\_

Please score Contestant in Categories I and II below from 10 (Highest) to 1 (Lowest):

**I. Contestant's Introduction of Selection (10%)**

Contestant's introduction is memorized, skillfully delivered and effectively prepared the audience to listen to Contestant's selection

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL SCORE FOR CATEGORY I: \_\_\_\_\_**

**II. Contestant's Delivery/Presentation of Selection (80%)**

The Contestant makes appropriate use of **vocal skills** in Contestant's delivery (i.e., volume, rate, pitch, and tone, together with any quality, are appropriate for selection).  
*For pitch, the height or depth of tone of voice was adequate and fit the selection; for quality, the reader revealed distinct character of an individual voice, when appropriate.*

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant's delivery is articulate, comprehensible and reflects proper pronunciation, enunciation and inflection

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant's manner of delivery was smooth (not clipped), evenly paced and controlled/thoughtful (i.e., use of manuscript, pauses/pacing, sense of closure)

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant makes appropriate use of **physical skills** (natural movements, gestures, expressions, eye contact) in his/her delivery *without acting*; delivery was free of excessive gestures or movements

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_

Contestant effectively demonstrates awareness of the audience of the piece as intended by the writer (i.e., the audience to whom the declamation was originally presented)

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_

Contestant avoids distracting mannerisms

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_

The particular selection is appropriate for Contestant

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_

Contestant's presentation effectively expressed his/her enthusiasm of and familiarity with his/her selection

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1                      Score = \_\_\_\_

**TOTAL SCORE FOR CATEGORY II: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please rate Contestant in Category III below from 5 (Highest) to 1 (Lowest)**

**III. Contestant's Appearance and Poise (10%)**

Contestant's attire was appropriate for the presentation (i.e., suitable clothing and shoes)

5                      4                      3                      2                      1                      Score = \_\_\_\_

Contestant displayed and maintained poise (natural posture, composure, confidence) during delivery

5                      4                      3                      2                      1                      Score = \_\_\_\_

**TOTAL SCORE FOR CATEGORY III: \_\_\_\_\_**

**JUDGES: PLEASE INCLUDE ANY SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENTS:**

**Overall Evaluation:**

What did you like about the presentation and why?

**Additional Comments:** Judges are encouraged to critique Contestant for his/her presentation, as this evaluation form teaches and encourages the Contestant:

**Judge's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Judge's Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The following Section IV will be completed by Contest Officials, separate from Judges:**

**IV. Time Compliance (Potential Deduction in Scoring for any Noncompliance)  
(Completed By Contest Officials)**

Based on the Official Timekeeper's report, was Contestant's delivery in compliance with Contest time limits (i.e., more than 5 minutes, less than 8 minutes)?

If "Yes", no deduction.

If "No", insert 1 point for all or part of every 30 seconds in violation of time limit.  
(i.e., 52 seconds over or under time would yield 2 points deduction, etc.)

**Amount of Deduction = <\_\_\_\_\_>**

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**SCORING SUMMARY AND GRAND TOTAL (Completed by Contest Officials):**

**Total for Category I: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Total for Category II: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Total for Category III: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Less any Deduction for Category IV: <\_\_\_\_\_>**

**TOTAL SCORE FOR CONTEST = \_\_\_\_\_**