



STUDY GUIDE

Directive (LITERATURE)

Category Overview

This category will be based upon literary analysis, poetry writing and poetry recitation. It will be composed of three rounds, each presenting a unique competition for the delegates to participate in.

Round 1

Duration: 2 hours

Word limit: 700 words

Delegate cap: 2

Delegates will be provided with a variety of classical, well known poems, one of which they will be required to analyse according to the given criteria. Delegates are encouraged to reference certain pre-established literary theories such as Freudian psychoanalysis and post-structuralism. The delegates may base their analysis on any theory, given it can be linked to the poem.

Note: This will be an elimination round. Elimination, delegate caps, and round timings are open to change on the day of the event. Category head decisions on such are final. The judging criteria below is a guide to what aspects of the poem need to be analyzed, and might not reflect the final total accurately.

Judging criteria (35):

- Central idea and theme (5)
- Literary techniques/devices (5)
- Imagery and symbolism (5)
- Language, title, and punctuation (5)
- Philosophical, psychological and emotional depth. (5)
- Structure (including stanza divisions, syllabic patterns, meter, rhyme and rhythm.)(5)
- References to pre-established literary theories. (5)

Round 2

Duration: 2 hours

Word limit: 300 words

Delegate cap: 2

In this round, delegates will be provided a literary analysis from the round before—completely randomized. Using their extensive knowledge of literary lenses and critiques, however, they will now have to reverse engineer and write a poem based upon the analysis of another team, not to recreate the original piece but to paint a new picture with the same tools.



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Note: This will be an elimination round. Elimination and round timings are open to change on the day of the event. Category head decisions on such are final.

The judging criteria below is a guide to what aspects of the poem will be judged, and might not reflect the final total accurately.

Judging criteria (20):

- Central idea and theme (5)
- Literary techniques/devices (5)
- Imagery and symbolism (5)
- Language, title and punctuation (5)
- Philosophical, psychological and emotional depth. (5)
- Structure (including stanza divisions, syllabic patterns, meter, rhyme and rhythm.) (5)

Round 3:

Duration: 1 hour

Delegate cap: 2

The qualified delegate teams from the two previous rounds will advance to the third and final round of the category. This round will require delegates to recite the poem they have written in the previous round.

Judging criteria:

- Tone (5)
- Clarity (5)
- Pacing and rhythm (fluency and pauses) (5)
- Accent (5)