Assignment #1: Read A Story

Objectives

- To understand the elements of interpretive reading.
- To learn how to analyze a narrative and plan for effective interpretation.
- To learn and apply vocal techniques that will aid in the effectiveness of the reading.
- TIME : 8 to 10 minutes

Notes to the Evaluator

The purpose of this project was for the speaker to present a narrative using vocal techniques that help the audience to understand and enjoy the selection. The speaker was to convey the author's meaning and emotions. It is suggested that you read the entire project and the appendix before the presentation.

- 1. Was the theme understandable and the storyline clear?
- 2. To what degree did the speaker achieve the author's purpose in projecting the meaning and emotions of the message?
- 3. How did the speaker emphasize the words which were important in revealing the narrative's meaning and emotions?
- 4. How did the speaker build to the story's climax?
- 5. Did the introduction and transitions (if any) help you to better understand the narrative?
- 6. Was the speaker able to establish and maintain eye contact with the audience?
- 7. Did the speaker appear to be spontaneous during the presentation?

Assignment #2: INTERPRETING POETRY

Objectives

- To understand the differences between poetry and prose.
- To recognize how poets use imagery, rhythm, meter, cadence and rhyme to convey the meanings and emotions of their poetry.
- To apply vocal techniques that will aid in the effectiveness of the reading.
- TIME : 6 to 8 minutes

Notes to the Evaluator

In this project, the speaker's task was to present a poem, using vocal techniques to capture the imagery and rhythm of a poem and to convey its meaning and emotions to the audience. It is suggested that you read the entire project and the appendix before the presentation.

- 1. How was the speaker able to express the thoughts and emotions of the poem?
- 2. Did the speaker understand the poem? Was the speaker able to envision the pictures painted by the poet?
- 3. Did the speaker make effective use of pauses, rhythm, and cadence?
- 4. Did the speaker avoid a "sing-song" rhythm?
- 5. What kind of eye contact did the speaker have with the audience? Was it appropriate for the type of presentation?
- 6. Was the speaker well prepared and familiar with the material?

Assignment #3: THE MONODRAMA

Objectives

- To understand the concept and nature of the monodrama.
- To assume the identity of a character and to portray the physical and emotional aspects of this character to an audience.
- TIME : 5 to 7 minutes

Notes to the Evaluator

In this project, the speaker was to present a monodrama, assuming a character who reveals his innermost thoughts and feelings on some matter of importance. All attention is focused on the speaker, and the speaker may seem to be talking to a second, unseen person whose unheard questions and statements seem to motivate the speaker's words and actions. The speaker was to use voice and body to convey mental, emotional, and physical characteristics of the person who is speaking. It is suggested you read the project and the appendix before the presentation.

- 1. Was the character clearly defined by the speaker?
- 2. Did the speaker effectively express the conflict in which the character was involved?
- 3. How effectively did the speaker use voice and gestures/ body movement?
- 4. Did the speaker successfully avoid eye contact with the audience?
- 5. With what parts of the monodrama did the speaker appear most comfortable?
- 6. Did the speaker display any distracting mannerisms?

Assignment #4: THE PLAY

Objectives

- To adapt a play for interpretive reading.
- To portray several characters in one reading, identifying them to the audience through voice changes and movement.
- TIME : 12 to 15 minutes

Notes to the Evaluator

The speaker was to present a play, or portion of a play, using voice and gestures/body movement to suggest the different characters. It is suggested that you read the project and the appendix before the presentation.

- 1. Were the characters vocally, physically, and emotionally distinct? Were character changes smooth and quick?
- 2. Did the pitch or tempo of any character distract you?
- 3. Was the plot of the play clear? Was the play properly cut so it flowed smoothly? Were transitions clear?
- 4. How did the speaker build to the climax of the play?
- 5. Did the speaker have eye contact with the audience? Was eye contact appropriate for the presentation?

Assignment #5: THE ORATORICAL SPEECH

Objectives

- To understand the structure of an effective speech.
- To interpret and present a famous speech.
- TIME : 8 to 10 minutes

Notes to the Evaluator

For this project, the speaker was to present a famous speech, using voice and gestures/ body movements to express the original speaker's meaning and emotions. It is suggested you read the project and the appendix before the presentation.

- 1. Did the speaker reveal the original speaker intelligently, significantly, and with adequate feeling?
- 2. Was the speaker comfortable with the speech?
- 3. How did the speaker establish rapport with the audience? Did the speaker address the audience, not the book?
- 4. Did the speaker inspire the audience?