

Category Descriptions

Bible Memory: Grades 1-6

The student begins with a brief introduction that includes **stating the Scripture reference and the Bible version**. No other introduction is required. The student will then recite the Scripture, **following it with a concluding explanation** (in his or her own words) of one or two sentences. As the student prepares, adult help may be necessary to explain the passage, but the student must express the meaning in his or her own words, not those of the adult. Facial and vocal expressions and good speech techniques should be evident. Gestures are not required and only natural speaking gestures are appropriate. The presentation is not to be dramatized. Bible memorization verses must be selected, per grade level, from the online materials. Scripture passages must come from one of the following Bible versions:

- King James Version (KJV)
- New American Standard Bible (NASB)
- New International Version (NIV)
- New American Bible (NAB)
- New King James Version (NKJV)

Poetry – Grades 1-6

Students must begin their presentations by **announcing the title and author**. No further explanation is necessary. Students should make the poem come alive through facial and vocal expressions. Gestures may be appropriate to enhance the presentation but are not required. When used, gestures should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures” with the hands. The face, voice, and body language should tell the story. The entire presentation must be memorized.

Fable and Folklore: Grades 2-4

Students must begin their presentations by **announcing the title, author or source of the story (Aesop, etc.), and moral application or introductory information regarding the selection**. Students should make the presentation come alive through facial and vocal expressions. Gestures and body movements are certainly appropriate in story-telling to enhance the presentation but are not required. When used, gestures and body movements should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures” with the hands. The entire presentation must be memorized. Note: The moral application or background is provided in italics for most selections in the online materials; however, for selections without this information, the teacher or parent may compose the moral application for the student to present.

Dramatic Bible Prose: Grades 5-6

All presentations must begin with an introduction. The introduction shall **include the title and scripture address from which the story is found**. This category is for the dramatic presentation of a Bible story in the form of a speech or an interpretation, but it is not to be acted out as in a play. Gestures and body movements are certainly appropriate in story-telling to enhance the presentation but are not required. When used, gestures and body movements should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures” with the hands. The presentation is given by one student, working alone. No costume or prop is permitted. The student should make the selection come alive by mentally becoming a part of the story. The entire presentation, including an introduction of the title, must be memorized.

Patriotic Oration: Grades 5-6

This category is for patriotic material written by or presented by famous persons. All presentations must begin with **an introduction consisting of two to three sentences which includes the title and some background information regarding the time or circumstance surrounding the speech**. The online materials provide this background for most of the selections in the italicized paragraph prior to the body of the article. For those articles without such information, the background must be provided through knowledge or research (adult assistance permitted). Facial and vocal expressions and good speech techniques should be evident, as well as an obvious patriotic spirit arising from the presentation. Gestures should be appropriate for a patriotic speech and not for the purpose of dramatizing the presentation. The entire presentation must be memorized.