



Explanation of Evaluation Sheet/Practice Checklist



Volume

A performer should be loud enough to be heard by the entire audience.

Speed

Most of us speak too quickly when we are nervous, which can make performance difficult to understand. Speak slowly, but not so slowly that the language sounds unnatural or awkward. Speak at a normal pace.

Voice Inflection and Clarity

Avoid monotone recitation. If a performer sounds bored, he or she will project that boredom onto the audience. One should also avoid using too much inflection, which can make the recitation sound insincere.

Eye Contact, Posture, and Presence

Stand up straight and attentively. Appropriate gestures and movements on the stage are encouraged, as long as they are not overdone. Engage your audience. Look them in the eye. If you have trouble with that, look past them to the far wall, but try not to look down unless appropriate to the text.

Evidence of Tone or Understanding

Be sure you know the meaning and correct punctuation of every word and line in your poem. If you are unsure about something, it will be apparent to the audience. Recite your poem with the appropriate tone/mood.