Slam Poetry Script Submission Guidelines

Plagiarism Policy

The Stoa Speech and Debate League does not allow plagiarism in any competitive event. Every competitor is responsible for ensuring that they do not engage in plagiarism in any form. If any competitor(s) are found to have engaged in plagiarism during competition, tournament officials may take appropriate action against the competitor(s).

What is plagiarism?
1. To steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own
2. To present as new and original an idea derived from an existing source
~ Merriam-Webster

What is considered Slam Poetry plagiarism? Copying exact words or paraphrasing without giving credit to the author.

Stoa Preparation Rule: *Any information that comes from source material must be cited orally within the introduction of the speech. Use of another person's words or ideas without crediting them is plagiarism and is strictly forbidden.*

Unpublished Sources

Students may use unpublished works; however, all unpublished works must have written permission from the author. A copy of the written permission must be included with the script.

Underlining and In-Text Citation Examples

Script submission for Slam Poetry contains aspects from both Interp and Platform Submission.
Like Interp Submissions:
- The student must submit a typewritten copy of the speech. The script should be typed exactly as it will be presented.
- All sources and authors must be orally cited in the introduction near the beginning of the speech, including self-authored poems.

Like Platform Submissions:
- All direct quotations must be underlined, and in-text (parenthetical) citations must be added after direct quotations.
- A Citation Page must be created on a separate page at the end of the speech. All sources must be included on the Citation Page.

The Rapid Review and Approve video provides basic Interp and Platform instructions that may be helpful.

Citations

Why Cite Your Sources: Citing your sources, whether in a platform or interpretive speech, is important for several reasons.
1. It gives proper credit to the authors of the words or ideas that you incorporated into your speech.
2. It gives credibility (ethos) to you as a speech writer who did your due diligence in researching your speech. It also allows you to "borrow" the credibility of the sources you use.
3. It allows those who hear your speech to identify your sources in order to learn more about the ideas that you include in your speech.
4. Citing your sources consistently and accurately helps you avoid committing plagiarism in your speech writing.

Slam Poetry Rules
- **Preparation #1a:** Poem selections may come from a wide variety of sources, including original works by the competitor, published works, and/or unpublished works. a. All words that are not self-authored must be cited parenthetically in the script and documented on the citation page; however, they need not be orally cited after they are identified in the introduction.
- **Preparation Rule #10:** The competitor must provide a script and a citation page at each tournament, along with the completed Slam Poetry Script Submission Form Note: Electronic Script Submission is required at NITOC.
- **Presentation Rule #1a:** The competitor will receive a one (1) rank penalty for failure to cite the source(s) in the introduction. This includes self-authored poems.

How to Cite in Your Script: If you directly quote information from any source, you must:
1. **Identify your source(s)** orally for your audience in the introduction.
   a. *Example: "The Raven by Edgar Allen Poe."*
   b. *Example: "From If by Rudyard Kipling and (title of the poem) by (your name)."*

2. **Bible Sources** - When using the Bible as a source in Slam Poetry be sure to identify the book(s) and version(s) verbally in the introduction. If the Bible story is paraphrased, the student can introduce the piece with: the story name, the book, and use the wording *adapted by*.

    a. *Example: "From Psalms in the The Message Bible."*

    b. *Example: "From the books Psalms, Job, and Ephesians written in The Message, NIV and ESV versions."*

    c. *Example: "This is the story of David and Goliath, from I Samuel, adapted by (your name)."*

3. **Adapted Sources** - When a poem is adapted from another published story, the title of the story being adapted must be included. You must also indicate that you are adapting the story in your own words.

    a. *Example: "Little Red Riding Hood by (your name) based on the original story of the same name by Charles Perrault."*

4. **Cite direct quotations in the speech parenthetically** to easily connect it to the source entry on your Citation Page.

    a. If possible, include the author's name and the page number.

       ● Example: *"If you can keep your head when all about you*

            Are losing theirs and blaming it on you…" (Kipling).

    b. If no author is given, use the title of the work.

    c. Scriptural sources should include the name of the version followed by the book, chapter, and verse (if applicable).

       i. ● Example: *"Oh Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!" (New International Version, Psalm 8:1).*

What NOT to Do:

- Leave citations out. This violates Stoa's Plagiarism policy and may result in disqualification or penalties.
- Avoid asking for help. If you are unsure if you are citing your sources correctly, ask a parent, coach, or a member of the Speech Committee.