

Suggested County Interpretive Reading Rules for 2016

1. Junior contestants are 4-H age 8-10. Intermediate contestants are 4-H age 11-13. Senior contestants are 4-H age 14-18.
2. Contestants may use notes or read from a book. Older members (11-18 years old) are encouraged to speak from memory.
3. A microphone may be provided for optional use by each presenter during the contest.
4. Members are discouraged from using a podium; however, a podium may be provided for optional use.
5. Adult judges will use the Colorado Public Presentation score sheets for the specific division/class. Ties will be broken by the judges.
6. Members deliver a rendition of a piece of pre-written material. The pre-written material should be a selection from a book, poem, story, etc. and should be 4-H appropriate. This area is not intended for presentation of original material written by the presenter. Members may choose which selection or multiple portions of a text to present, but may not change the content. Content should be cohesive and transition smoothly from one portion to the next.

We ask that all presenters be sensitive to the diverse audience that attends the fair. All materials to be presented are subject to review and approval by the county extension office. Materials which include foul language, racial or religious overtones, or other topics/subjects deemed inappropriate by the county extension office will not be allowed.

7. During the beginning of the speech, speakers should introduce their piece (by author and title) and explain the significance of the material.
8. Costumes and small props can be used but they need to be simple and minimal, not detracting from the strength of the presenter. Each individual will be expected to provide their own equipment. General equipment and supplies, such as tables and chairs, will be furnished when requested in advance of competition (see General Rules.)
9. Each Interpretive Reading presentation will be timed. Senior readings must be between 6-8 minutes in duration. Intermediate readings must be between 4-6 minutes in duration. Two points will be deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit for intermediates and seniors. Participants will be given a 30-second warning before end of time period. Junior readings should be between 3 minutes in duration, but this is only a suggested time range. Juniors will not be penalized for going over or under the suggested time range.