

# Speech Meet Category Descriptions

## **Bible Memory: Grades 1-8**

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 may be used for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures” with the hands. Bible memorization verses must be selected from the approved materials. Scripture passages must come from one of the following Bible versions: King James Version (KJV), New American Bible (NAB), New American Standard Bible (NASB), New International Version (NIV), New King James Version (NKJV).

## **Poetry: Grades 1-8**

The student begins the presentation 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.

## **Dramatic Interpretation: Grades 2-6**

The student begins the presentation by **announcing the title, then the author or source of the story (e.g. the Bible, etc.)**. This category is for the dramatic presentation of a story in the form of a speech or an interpretation. Students should seek to make each character in the story distinguishable from any other character through voice, facial expression, gestures and body language. When used, gestures and body movements should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures.” The entire presentation, including any introductory material printed with the selection, must be memorized.

## **Patriotic Recitation: Grades 5-7**

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 is permitted). Facial and vocal expressions and good speech techniques should be evident, as well as an obvious patriotic spirit arising from the presentation. Gestures and appropriate body movements are encouraged for a patriotic speech but not for the purpose of dramatizing the presentation. The entire presentation must be memorized.

## **Dramatic Monologue: Grades 7-8**

The student begins the presentation by **announcing the title, then the author or source of the story**. This category is for the dramatic presentation of a story in the form of a speech or an interpretation. Students should seek to make each character in the story distinguishable from any other character through voice, facial expression, gestures and body language. When used, gestures and body movements should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures.” The entire presentation, including any introductory material printed with the selection, must be memorized.

## **Original Speech: Grade 8**

Students compose an original persuasive speech in response to the speech prompt. The prompt and additional guidelines are published at [annapolischristianacademy.com](http://annapolischristianacademy.com). The student should clearly demonstrate a Christian worldview, communicating a nuanced understanding of the Bible's teachings and moral and ethical imperatives, as applicable. Students must name their works, and it must have been written in the 2015-16 school year. Each speech will be submitted to the school coordinator by the deadline, (date tbd by the school coordinator) and must meet with the coordinator's approval. The coordinator may refuse entry to any speech considered inappropriate or unsuitable for a Christian school speech meet (e.g., the student's speech advocates behavior or opinions in *clear opposition* to the primary doctrine teachings of the Bible). The coordinator's decision is final. While students are invited to receive constructive criticism from others, the work should be completed entirely by the student. The entire presentation must be memorized. The student must begin the presentation by announcing the speech title. The entire speech must be given within a 3-to-5-minute time limit. Students who go under/over time will lose 2 points every 5 seconds.