



Participant Name: _____

CATEGORY	4 Excellent	3 Good	2 Average	1 Weak
Physical Presence	Confident and relaxed; posture and eye contact show commanding stage presence.	Comfortable; confident body language.	Body language is at times unsure, at times confident.	Timid; unsure; body language reflects nervousness.
Voice and Articulation	Very clear, crisp, mastery of rhythm and pace, skillful use of volume and intonation.	Clear, appropriate intonation and pacing.	Clear, adequate intonation, even pacing.	Audible, but quiet; too loud; monotone; paced unevenly; affected tone.
Dramatic Appropriateness	Style of delivery reflects internalization of poem; all gestures and movements feel essential to poems success.	Poem is enhanced by style of delivery; any gestures, facial expressions, and movement are	Poem is neither overwhelmed nor enhanced by style of delivery.	Poem is secondary to style of delivery; includes instances of distracting gestures, facial expressions, and vocal inflections; inappropriate tone.
Evidence of Understanding	Masterfully interprets poem for audience, deftly revealing poems meaning.	Conveys meaning of poem well.	Satisfactorily communicates meaning of poem.	Doesn't sufficiently communicate meaning of poem.
Level of Difficulty	Contains multiple elements of extremely challenging content, language and/or length.	Contains multiple elements of challenging content, language and/or length.	Some challenging content, language, or length.	Straight-forward language and content; moderate length
Overall Performance	Captivating performance - whole equals "more than the sum of the parts; shows mastery of recitation skills.	Enjoyable recitation; successfully delivers poem.	Sufficient recitation; lacks meaningful impact on audience.	Inadequate recitation; lackluster; does disservice to poem.

Total Points Earned /24



THE GILDER LEHRMAN
INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY

