

Second Quarter Poetry Recitation

Dear Parents and Students,

As part of our total language program at Freedom, all fourth grade students are required to perform four recitations throughout the year. Students need to rank attached four poems in order of preference, and then we will assign a poem to each student. **The ranking list below is due Friday, November 5th.** If students do not return it on time, a poem will be assigned to them. **Recitations will be held by Friday, December 10th.** No late recitations will be accepted. Please help your child work on memorizing the poem and reciting it according to the attached grading rubric.

Here are some helpful hints for memorizing the poem:

- Read over the poem several times and learn the meaning of all the words. Record and listen to yourself reading the poem repeatedly.
- Begin memorizing the poem one line at a time. Repeat the line over and over until you can say it without thinking.
- Always practice the way you will recite (aloud and with expression). “Practice like you will play!”
- Use your family and after-school groups as your audience (ask soccer coach if you can recite in front of your team for practice etc.).

Thank you,
The Fourth Grade Team

Name

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

4th Choice _____

Parent Signature _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Posture	Stands up straight, looks relaxed and confident during the entire presentation.	Stands up straight and fidgets occasionally.	Sometimes stands up straight and/or fidgets frequently.	Slouches and/or fidgets through the entire presentation.
Eye Contact	Establishes eye contact with everyone in the room during the entire presentation.	Establishes eye contact with everyone in the room during most of the presentation.	Sometimes establishes eye contact.	Does not look at people during the presentation
Speaks Clearly and well-paced	Speaks clearly, distinctly, and well-paced all (100-95%) the time, and mispronounces no words.	Speaks clearly, distinctly, and well-paced all (100-95%) the time, but mispronounces one word.	Speaks clearly, distinctly, and well-paced most (94-85%) of the time. Mispronounces no more than one word.	Often mumbles or can not be understood , is not well-paced OR mispronounces more than one word.
Volume	Volume is loud enough to be heard by all audience members throughout the presentation.	Volume is loud enough to be heard by all audience members at least 90% of the time.	Volume is loud enough to be heard by all audience members at least 80% of the time.	Volume often too soft to be heard by all audience members.
Accuracy	No errors were made, no prompts were given and both the title and the author were stated	Few errors were made, 1-2 prompts were given and both the title and author were stated Or no errors or prompts were given but forgot title and/or author	Several errors were made, 3-5 prompts were given and both the title and author were stated	Many errors were made, more than 5 prompts were given
Listens to Other Presentations	Listens intently. Does not make distracting noises or movements.	Listens intently but has one distracting noise or movement.	Sometimes does not appear to be listening but is not distracting.	Sometimes does not appear to be listening and has distracting noises or movements.

Total points /24

Democracy
By: Langston Hughes

Democracy will not come
Today, this year
Nor ever
Through compromise and fear.

I have as much right
As the other fellow has
To stand
On my own two feet
And own the land.

I tire so of hearing people say,
Let things take their course.
Tomorrow is another day.
I do not need my freedom when I'm dead.
I cannot live on tomorrow's bread.
Freedom
Is a strong seed
Planted
In a great need.
I live here, too.
I want freedom
Just as you.

The Road not Taken
By: Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Don't Quit
By: Anonymous

When things go wrong, as they sometimes
will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up-
hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit –
Rest if you must, but don't you quit!

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a person turns about
When they might have won had they stuck it
out,
Don't give up though the pace seems slow –
You may succeed with another blow,
Often the struggler has given up,
When he might have captured the victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the night came
down,
How close he was to the golden crown!

Success is failure turned inside out!
So stick to the fight when you are hardest hit!
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't
quit!

Cause to Remember White Buffalo
By: Marge Tindal

With feather-light heart
I take pause.
Time to remember
another cause.

When the White Buffalo comes
to reclaim the bundle,
lightning will flash,
thunder will rumble.

When all is over
the calm begins.
The Spirits have come,
The people will know no end.

An awakening of equal measure
will spread across the land.
White Buffalo Calf appears
joining tribal hands.

We will stand
on land
once ours,
now returned.
White Buffalo born
and the vision is done.