

Oral Recitation

My Pencil

Author Unknown

A pencil is most marvelous.
It takes thoughts from out of us,
The things we've learned, our fancies free,

And puts them down where I can see.
And then in case they disappear,
I know I'll find them somewhere near.

It draws me flowers, folks, and things,
Cars, houses, boats, and rocking swings.
And yet it cannot move itself
But simply loiters on a shelf,
Until some fingertips that know
Just pick it up and make it go.

Evaluation Criteria: Meets the standard. 20 points each. Points may be subtracted for errors.

_____	Posture and Gestures
_____	Enunciation
_____	Accuracy
_____	Volume
_____	Pacing
=====	Total
_____	Not Prepared on the Scheduled Day = 0 points
_____	Revised Total

Posture and Gestures: Standing straight and tall, eye contact, demonstrates accuracy and appropriate pacing or gestures.

Enunciation: Can the audience clearly understand the words, and have you brought the recitation to life?

Accuracy: Are you prepared, and do you know the words?

Volume: Does your voice project to the back of the room?

Pacing: Is the pacing correct for the recitation? Too fast, or too slow? (Often this is a factor of knowing the memorized piece fluently.)

Oral Recitation

The Gingerbread Man

By Rowena Bennett

The gingerbread man gave a gingery shout:
"Quick! Open the oven and let me out!"
He stood up straight in his baking pan.
He jumped to the floor and away he ran.
"Catch me," he called, "if you can, can, can."

The gingerbread man met a cock and a pig
And a dog that was brown and twice as big
As himself. But he called to them all as he ran,
"You can't catch a runaway gingerbread man."

The gingerbread man met a reaper and sower.
The gingerbread man met a thresher and a mower;
But no matter how fast they scampered and ran
They couldn't catch up with a gingerbread man.

Then he came to a fox and he turned to face him.
He dared Old Reynard to follow and chase him;
But when he stepped under the fox's nose.
Something happened. What do you s'pose?
The fox gave a snap. The fox gave a yawn,
And the gingerbread man was gone, gone, GONE.

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Oral Recitation

The Turkey Shot Out of the Oven

The turkey shot out of the oven
And rocketed into the air,
It knocked every plate off the table
And partly demolished a chair.

It ricocheted into a corner
And burst with a deafening boom,
Then splattered all over the kitchen,
Completely obscuring the room.

It stuck to the walls and the windows,
It totally coated the floor,
There was turkey attached to the ceiling,
Where there'd never been turkey before.

It blanketed every appliance,
It smeared every saucer and bowl,
There wasn't a way I could stop it,
That turkey was out of control.

I scraped and I scrubbed with displeasure,
And thought with chagrin as I mopped,
That I'd never again stuff a turkey
With popcorn that hadn't been popped.

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Theme in Yellow

By Carl Sandburg

I spot the hills
With yellow balls in autumn.
I light the prairie cornfields
Orange and tawny gold clusters
And I am called pumpkins.
On the last of October
When dusk is fallen
Children join hands
And circle round me
Singing ghost songs
And love to the harvest moon;
I am a jack-o'-lantern
With terrible teeth
And the children know
I am fooling.

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