

Prose

To: State Meet Qualifier and Coach

From: Jana Riggins
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Congratulations on qualifying for the UIL State Meet! A tentative program with contest times and location is posted on the League's website: www.uil.utexas.edu/academics/index.html, along with maps, hotel information and other details. Please read the following pertinent information concerning your contest.

All of us in the League office who work with the Speech events hope that your experience at State Meet will be a rewarding one. We offer the following "words of wisdom" to help prepare you for the Meet.

- Sunday evening at 7:30 pm, coinciding with registration, we will hold an informal question and answer period with each of the State contest directors in University Teaching Center 2.112A. Important information about your contest will be distributed. This provides an **opportunity to ask questions about your documentation** prior to the contest. Attendance is optional.
- **Bring the appropriate published documentation** for both categories. Please read the contest rules in the *Constitution and Contest Rules* (available online) carefully to verify that your documentation and selections meet the category requirements. As instructed in the *C&CR*, coaches are also responsible for reviewing the *UIL Prose & Poetry Handbook* and the official UIL website in advance of the contest for additional discussion and details concerning categories and contest procedures. Do not assume that because your documentation was accepted at District and Regionals you have what is required by the *C&CR*. Sometimes, documentation gets approved that should not have been passed. **If you change selections, make certain your documentation will meet requirements.**
- **You are advised to bring the original published source of your selections to the contest.** The original source very often provides an effective method of defending a selection that has been called into question. If you cannot, students are urged to add bibliographic information in the form of a footnote on their manuscript copy indicating the source of the material and the page numbers from which the selection was taken. This information is not to be confused with the documentation requirements of categories A & B.
- **Be on time!** Roll is called before contestants are sent to the prep room. After roll call is completed, alternates are called to take empty places. Once an alternate has been called and verified, even if you arrive, you may not compete. Upon advancing to finals, again, be on time. Contestants are not allowed to compete out of order **for any reason**. Check the final schedule you receive at registration carefully.
- Time your selections again! The timekeeper is there for your convenience, but it is **your** responsibility to adhere to the seven minute time limit. **There is no grace period.**
- **If you have qualified for more than one State Meet event**, congratulations! **Now call me at the League office** to double-check your schedule.
- **Allow plenty of time to locate the University Teaching Center and for parking. Review parking information posted on-line.** Vehicles left in a towing zone or without payment in a pay lot will be towed. Vehicles parked in spaces labeled "University Vehicles," "F At All Times," and "Handicapped", A, F, G, D, O, or "Reserved At All Times" spaces will be ticketed and/or towed. Do not park in "Official Visitors" spaces. These should NOT be used by UIL schools. **Do not park** in restricted spaces on campus during posted hours of restrictions. The League is not responsible for any parking citation received by visitors to the campus.
- Don't hesitate to ask questions. Have a safe trip to Austin and best of luck at State!