

1. Select a poem or short story excerpt from your favorite poet or author, or select one which you composed/wrote. Select from age-appropriate authors, fairy tales, etc. Stray from orally interpreting poetry/short story excerpts which may seem too advanced.
2. Type your selection, using a large font size and be sure to double or triple space each line. Then, place your “script” in a **BLACK** folder.
3. Time your presentation. Try to stay within two-three minutes.
4. Practice, practice, practice. Use a mirror so you can see yourself perform. In addition, practice in front of your family, perhaps at dinner. Stay after school with groups of your friends and offer each other constructive feedback.
5. Remember to merge both aspects of vocal and physical delivery. Remember: **DON'T SIMPLY READ WORDS. AVOID MONOTONE SPEAKING!** Gesture naturally, vary your vocal delivery, change pitch when necessary, etc.

6. Introduction: All students! Please introduce your selection in this format: “Good Morning/Afternoon Mr. Del Rossi and class. Sit back and enjoy as I orally interpret an excerpt from the short story “Agnes Stops Using Filler Words” (or if you plan to orally interpret a poem) Sit back and enjoy as I orally interpret a poem by Shel Silverstein entitled “Sick.”

7. Delivery Options

- a. Plan to deliver your chosen selection using the format listed above, but remember to practice, practice, and **PRACTICE** so we see your eyes and observe your facial expressions and other physical delivery aspects **90%** of the time. **Remember to hold your script at eye level, in one hand ONLY, so you can use the other hand to freely gesture.**\
- b. Use the same format above, but **LEARN** your short story excerpt or poem. Avoid the script; just present a copy to me in case you need a cue—one cue only per performance, without the loss of points. In this way, you freely circulate throughout the classroom, gesturing, establishing eye contact, varying vocal delivery aspects, and maintaining spatial relationships.

c. Option Three. (For short story excerpts ONLY)

Once you decide on your short story excerpt, retell the ENTIRE story in your own words, similar to my brief class demonstration of *Little Red Riding Hood*. Instill creativity and dynamics in your retelling to keep us all on the edges of our seats. In addition I want to be in AWE of your presentation, no matter which option you select.

d. I gladly condone the use of props and costumes for any option you choose.

8. Presentation Dates: Plan to present your oral interpretations/storytelling performances on the following dates:

a. **Thursday, December 1**

b. **Friday, December 2**

c. **Monday, December 5**

d. **\*Wednesday-Friday, December 7-9**

**\*(If necessary to present on these dates)**

9. I plan to select student presenters BY LOTTERY ONLY!

Notes:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

