

# The English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition

## 2017 SONNET RUBRIC

<b><u>UNDERSTANDING</u></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>MEANING</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- misunderstands the meaning of the poem</li> <li>- misunderstands the content of the poem (messages, allusions, ironies, tonal shifts, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- understands the general meaning of the poem (i.e. it is about love)</li> <li>- does not understand the content of the poem (messages, allusions, ironies, tonal shifts, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- clearly understands the meaning of the poem</li> <li>- clearly understands the context of the poem (messages, allusions, ironies, tonal shifts, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sophisticated understanding of the meaning of the poem</li> <li>- detailed understanding of the context of the poem (messages, allusions, ironies, tonal shifts, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b><i>LANGUAGE</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- does not understand certain words, metaphor or imagery in the poem.</li> <li>- misunderstands poetic elements (rhythm, rhyme scheme, etc.).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- understands most words, metaphor or imagery in the poem.</li> <li>- understands some poetic elements (rhythm, rhyme scheme, etc.).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- understands all words, metaphor or imagery throughout the poem.</li> <li>- understands the poetic elements (rhythm, rhyme scheme, etc.).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- excellent understanding of all words, metaphor or imagery in poem.</li> <li>- nuanced understanding of poetic elements (rhythm, rhyme scheme, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b><u>EXPRESSION &amp; COMMUNICATION</u></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>VOCAL</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- vocal expression unclear or ineffective (related to articulation, volume, pace, stress, etc.)</li> <li>- vocal choices do not reflect the poem and its structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- vocal expression somewhat unclear or ineffective (related to articulation, volume, pace, stress, etc.)</li> <li>- vocal choices somewhat reflect the poem and its structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- vocal expression clear and effective (related to articulation, volume, pace, stress, etc.)</li> <li>- vocal choices accurately reflect the poem and its structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- excellent vocal expression that's clear and effective (related to articulation, volume, pace, stress, etc.)</li> <li>- vocal choices fully reflect the poem and its structure</li> </ul>
<b><i>PHYSICAL</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- physical expression unclear or inappropriate (related to use of space and body movement)</li> <li>- physical choices overpower the poem and its language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- physical expression somewhat unclear or inappropriate (related to use of space and body movement)</li> <li>- physical choices somewhat reflect the poem and its language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- physical expression clear and appropriate (related to use of space and body movement)</li> <li>- physical choices clearly reflect the poem and its language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- excellent physical expression that's clear and appropriate (related to use of space and body movement)</li> <li>- physical choices expertly enhance and illuminate the poem and its language</li> </ul>
<b><i>OWNERSHIP</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- lacks confidence or poise</li> <li>- lacks energy</li> <li>- not connected to the poem</li> <li>- does not engage the audience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- minimal confidence or poise</li> <li>- has low energy</li> <li>- mostly connected to the poem</li> <li>- somewhat engages the audience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confident and poised</li> <li>- has moderate energy</li> <li>- fully connected to the poem</li> <li>- engages the audience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- impressive confidence and poise</li> <li>- performance level energy used skillfully</li> <li>- exceptionally connected to the poem throughout</li> <li>- captivates the audience.</li> </ul>