CREATIVE WRITING—SHORT STORY

(Check Category)

☐ **Elementary (4th–6th grade)** ☐ **Junior High (7th–8th grade)**

Name _____ Grade _____

School _____ City _____ State _____

Title (required) _____ Number of Words (required) _____

FACTORS EVALUATED	POINTS	COMMENTS
Creativity		
1. Appeal: Author demonstrates originality. Story sustains reader interest for its intended audience.		
2. Details: Descriptions contribute to the reader's enjoyment.		
3. Style: Elements enhance the story. May include but not limited to: word choice, figurative language, tone, voice.		
4. Theme/Purpose: Author's message or intent is effectively obtained.		
Content/Development Elements support theme/purpose, contribute to a unified whole, and follow Phil. 4:8 guidelines. May include but not limited to:		
1. Setting/Mood		
2. Characterization and Dialogue (if any)		
3. Plot/Conflict – May include but not limited to: engaging beginning, Introduction of conflict, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution.		
4. Organization		
Writing Mechanics		
1. Meets or exceeds grade level. 2. Errors are minimal and do not confuse the reader.		

Points

1 = Poor
2 = Fair/Average
3 = Good/Above Average
4 = Excellent
5 = Superior

Total (45 possible points) _____

_____

Judge's Signature

CREATIVE WRITING—POETRY

(Check Category)

☐ **Elementary (4th–6th grade)** ☐ **Junior High (7th–8th grade)**

Name _____ Grade _____

School _____ City _____ State _____

Title (required) _____ Number of Words (required) _____

FACTORS EVALUATED	POINTS	COMMENTS
Originality/Content/Communication		
1. Approach to topic is creative/original.		
2. Content is organized intentionally.		
3. Poem captures the reader's interest.		
4. Theme or main idea is developed, well integrated, and adheres to Phil. 4:8 guidelines.		
5. Poem contains unique details.		
Poetic Devices		
1. Rhyme a. If the poem is in rhyme, the rhyme scheme is correct. b. If there is no rhyme, there are compensating sound devices (alliteration, consonance, onomatopoeia, etc.).		
2. Meter a. Meter is consistent throughout and appropriate. b. If there is no meter, phrasing possesses a rhythmic flow to distinguish it from prose.		
3. Poem is infused with imagery-specific sensory impressions, rather than broad generalities. Word choice is precise and free of cliches.		
4. Literary devices such as metaphor or symbol add depth or layers of meaning to the poem.		
5. Visual appearance: Structure is intentional and meaningfully connected to the content.		
Writing Mechanics		
Writer shows a clear understanding of the rules of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar/syntax **OR** consistency and intentionality in breaking the rules.		

Points
1 = Poor
2 = Fair/Average
3 = Good/Above Average
4 = Excellent
5 = Superior

Total (55 possible points) _____

_____
Judge's Signature