**Duo Interpretation**

By: Brianna Fluhrer and Gavin Tsang

**What is Duo?**

What is duo? What is duo?! Why, my friend, duo is a wonderful and fun event in which two people perform a published piece which can be up to 10 minutes long (with a 30 second grace period) without making eye contact or touching. Duo takes a lot of hard work, but can be incredibly rewarding, and having a duo partner can make all of your tournaments so much more fun as you won't be on your own in round.

**Who Should Be Your Duo Partner**

The absolute most important part of duo is having a good partner!It is very important that your partner wants to put in as much effort as you do, and is easy to work with. You will be spending the entire year with this person, during school, after school practicing, at tournaments. It is likely that you will spend a fair number of hours per week together, and weekends too if you elect to practice then, so you want a duo partner who you will not want to stab in the face by the end of the year. This being said having a great duo partner makes the year all together wonderful, tournaments are so much fun, and practicing is enjoyable, and they really become one of (if not) your best friend.It is important that you avoid picking someone as a duo partner just because you two are friends. When picking a duo partner consider some things:

1. Is this person willing to work as hard as I am?

2. Can I disagree or give criticism to this person without either of us feeling bitter after?

3. Can I trust this person?

4. Do we have chemistry?

Remember it is not set in stone when you pick your duo partner, so if it comes to it you can stop duo-ing at any point during the year, you just mutually have to agree to it.

**Duo Scripts**

Alrighty so you have your duo partner! The next step in the adventure of duo interp is picking a script!

What kinds of scripts are there:

Duo scripts can be funny, sad, dramatic, or a mix of these, but your script must be published! What this means is that you can use books, movies, TV shows, scripts and the like but you cannot use fanfictions, online pdfs, or anything without a copywrite page.

What kind of script should we have?

Fit a script what suits you! If you are two bubbly funny people a dramatic and sad script would likely not be a good fit. The speech room is stocked with scripts for you and your duo partner to look through, and if you can't find the perfect one there you can always order one online. Or if it is a movie script you can use the pdf and order the actual script later in the year to see if it fits right.

But 10 Minutes though!?!

Duo's can only run 10 minutes, but most movies, books, and scripts run far over 10 minutes. To solve this problem you can cut your script, using up to 150 added words for transition and intro, but NOT to change the authors intent. The important part is that a complete story is told beginning to end by the time you are done cutting.

Is it appropriate?

Many duo's do include sexual humor, dark humor, and the like, and that is okay! But there is a fine line between funny and "just no...". Just use your discretion, and be mindful and you'll be cool

**Choreography**

Awesome Possums, you have your duo partner and you stand with your script in hand! Now what? Choreography of course! This is one of the most fun parts of duo! Choreography refers to your movement throughout your piece including the interaction of your characters and the space around them. It is an opportunity to be creative, think outside the box (but inside the performing space, just be mindful that your choreo doesn't land you too close to your judge). You incorporate cool movement into your transitions, and into certain characters (like a robot or alien character).This cool movement is called tech, it's pretty much fancy choreo that in duo usually utilizes both people.

Also if your script permits beatboxing, music or dancing can be added and can really make you stand out. BUT only implement these if it works in your script, it's going to be confusing and won't enhance your piece if you characters break out randomly into song in the middle of the script.

**Anything Else?**

That is the basics of duo there, but more is learned through hands on work. Duo is an incredibly fun event you are sure to enjoy if you find the right partner :) I wish you luck in your endeavors, feel free to contact me or Gavin throughout the course of this year with any questions/concerns about duo!

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