

Arabic Poetry Recitation Selection Guidelines

Poetry Selection Process

Arabic teachers teaching courses for high school credit may enter their students into the Poetry Recitation event at the 2026 UofM Language Fair. Please remember that per the event judging criteria, heritage and native speakers may NOT participate in this event. This event is only for second-language learners.

It is the responsibility of the teacher to select level-appropriate poems. Judges will take into consideration whether the selected poems are level-appropriate based on the guidelines below and the Poetry Recitation judging criteria. Please review the judging criteria to see event guidelines and judging rubric.

Arabic Level 1 (Freshman Year)

Approximate Reading Level: Novice High

At the Novice High sublevel, readers can understand, fully and with relative ease, key words and cognates, as well as formulaic phrases across a range of highly contextualized texts. Where vocabulary has been learned, they can understand predictable language and messages. Readers at the Novice High sublevel are typically able to derive meaning from short, non-complex texts that convey basic information for which there is contextual or extralinguistic support.

Arabic Level 2 (Sophomore Year)

Approximate Reading Level: Intermediate Low

At the Intermediate Low sublevel, readers are able to understand some information from the simplest connected texts dealing with a limited number of personal and social needs.

Arabic Level 3 (Junior Year)

Approximate Reading Level: Intermediate Mid

At the Intermediate Mid sublevel, readers are able to understand short, non-complex texts that convey basic information and deal with basic personal and social topics to which the reader brings personal interest or knowledge. Readers at this level may get some meaning from short, connected texts featuring description and narration, dealing with familiar topics.

Arabic Level 4 (Senior Year)

Approximate Reading Level: Intermediate High

At the Intermediate High sublevel, readers are able to understand fully and with ease short, non-complex texts that convey basic information and deal with personal and social topics to which the reader brings personal interest or knowledge. These readers are also able to understand some connected texts featuring description and narration.

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