

## 2025 WJCL Memorized Oratory (All Levels)

*All passages are taken from those that have been selected for the 2025 NJCL convention.*

*The WJCL will also use the NJCL's judging scoring rubric. Here's a sample of the judging score sheet.*

Judges will use the following criteria:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Points</b>
Memorization	20
Pronunciation	15
Eye Contact with Audience	15
Natural Gestures and Oratorical Style	15
Enunciation and Voice Control	15
Phraseology and Interpretation of Passage	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

## Level 1

### Cicero Reveals Catiline's Secrets

Dīcō tē priōre nocte vēnisse inter falcāriōs--nōn agam obscurē--in M. Laecae domum; convēnisse eōdem complūrēs eiusdem āmentiae scelerisque sociōs. Num negāre audēs? quid tacēs? Convincam, sī negās. Videō enim esse hīc in senātū quōsdam, quī tēcum ūnā fuērunt. Ō dī immortalēs! ubinam gentium sumus? in quā urbe vīvimus? quam rem pūblicam habēmus?

Cicero, *In Catilinam I*, 8-9

I say that you (Catiline) came the previous night among the scythe-makers--I do not say this secretly--into the house of Marcus Laeca; several associates of the same folly and crime came together in the same place. Surely you do not dare deny this? Why are you silent? I will convict you, if you deny this. For I see that there are certain people here in the senate, who were together with you. O immortal gods! Where in the world are we? In what city do we live? What republic do we have?

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## Level 2

### Everyone Has Forgotten How Pompey Defeated Pirates

tantamne unius hominis incredibilis ac divina virtus tam brevi tempore lucem adferre rei publicae potuit, ut vos, qui modo ante ostium Tiberinum classem hostium videbatis, ei nunc nullam intra Oceanii ostium praedonum navem esse audiatis? Atque haec quam celeritate gesta sint quamquam videtis, tamen a me in dicendo praetereunda non sunt. Quis enim umquam aut obeundi negotii aut consequendi quaestus studio tam brevi tempore tot loca adire, tantis cursibus conficere potuit, quam celeriter Cn. Pompeio duce tantum bellum impetus navigavit?

Cicero, *De Imperio Pompei*, 33-34

#### Translation:

Could the incredible and divine courage of one man in such a short time bring such light to the republic, that you, who just saw the fleet of the enemy in front of the harbor of the Tiber, hear now that not any ship of plunderers is within the harbor of the ocean? And although you see with what speed these things were done, nevertheless they must not be passed over by me in speaking. For whoever either in the pursuit of engaging in business or pursuing profit goes so many places in so short a time, could complete such great voyages, as quickly as the assault of such a great war sailed with Pompey as the leader?

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## Advanced (Level 3 and Above)

### Don't Send Milo Away!

Ō dī immortalēs! fortem et ā vōbīs, iūdicēs, cōservandum virum! 'Minimē, minimē,' inquit. 'Immō vērō poenās ille dēbitās luerit: nōs subeāmus, sī ita necesse est, nōn dēbitās.' Hīcine vir, patriae nātus, usquam nisi in patriā moriētur? aut, sī forte, prō patriā? Huius vōs animī monumenta retinēbitis, corporis in Ītaliā nūllum sepulcrum esse patiēminī? Hunc suā quisquam sententiā ex hāc urbe expellet, quem omnēs urbēs expulsum ā vōbīs ad sē vocābunt? Ō terram illam beātam, quae hunc virum excēperit: hanc ingrātam, sī ēiēcerit; miseram, sī amiserit! Sed fīnis sit: neque enim prae lacrimīs iam loquī possum, et hic sē lacrimīs dēfendī vetat.

Cicero, *Pro Milone*, 38.103-105

Oh immortal gods! (This is) a brave man and (a man) to be protected by you, judges! 'No, no,' he said. 'But truly he has suffered deserved punishments: let us submit to, if it is thus necessary, not deserved ones.' Will this man, a son of our country, ever die unless in his country? Or, if by chance, on behalf of his country? Will you all keep remembrances of this spirit, will you allow no tomb for his body to be in Italy? Will any person, by their own opinion, expel a man from this city, whom, expelled by you, all cities will call to their own? Oh that land will be blessed, that will have received this man: this one, ungrateful, if it will have thrown him out, miserable, if it will have lost him! But let it be the end: and indeed I cannot speak now except with tears, and this man forbids that he be defended with tears.