



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Region III  
**DIVISION OF CITY SCHOOLS**  
City of San Jose del Monte



November 5, 2012

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

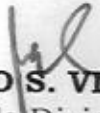
No. 199 s. 2012

To: Public Secondary School Heads / OICs

Please be informed that the Second Layer of the Two-Tiered Division English Olympics will be held on December 14, current at San Jose del Monte National Trade School as stated in the Division Memorandum No. 145 s. 2012.

Attached is a list of literary pieces for poetry interpretation, reader's theater, jazz chants and speech choir.

Immediate and wide dissemination of the contents of this Memorandum is desired.

  
**DR. AMANCIO S. VILLAMEJOR JR., CESO IV**  
Schools Division Superintendent

## POETRY INTERPRETATION

### VOICES OF THE AIR

But then there comes that moment rare  
When, for no cause that I can find,  
The little voices of the air  
Sound above all the sea and wind.

The sea and wind do then obey  
And sighing, sighing double notes  
Of double basses, content to play  
A droning chord for the little throats –

The little throats that sing and rise  
Up into the light with lovely ease  
And a kind of magical, sweet surprise  
To hear and know themselves for these –

For these little voices: the bee. The fly,  
The leaf that taps, the pod that breaks,  
The breeze on the grass-tops bending by,  
The shrill quick sound the insect makes.

**SAVITRI**

**A Tale of Ancient India  
Told by Aaron Shepard  
Reader's Theater Edition # 3**

- NARRATOR 1: In India, in the time of legend, there lived a king with many wives but not one child.
- NARRATOR 2: Morning and evening for eighteen years, he faced the fire on the sacred altar and prayed for the gift of children.
- NARRATOR 3: Finally, a shining goddess rose from the flames.
- GODDESS: I am Savitri, a child of the Sun. By your prayers, you have won a daughter.
- NARRATOR 1: Within a year, a daughter came to the king and his favorite wife. He named her Savitri, after the goddess.
- NARRATOR 2: Beauty and intelligence were the princess Savitri's, and eyes that shone like the sun. So splendid was she, people thought she herself was a goddess.
- NARRATOR 3: Yet when the time came for her to marry, no man asked for her. Her father told her,
- KING 1: Weak men turn away from radiance like yours. Go out and find a man worthy of you. Then I will arrange the marriage.
- NARRATOR 1: In the company of servants and councilors, Savitri traveled from place to place.
- NARRATOR 2: After many years, she came upon a hermitage by a river crossing. Here lived many who had left the towns and cities for a life of prayer and study.
- NARRATOR 3: Savitri entered the hall of worship and bowed to the eldest teacher. As they spoke, a young man with shining eyes came into the hall. He guided another man, old and blind.
- SAVITRI: *(softly, to the teacher)* Who is that young man?
- TEACHER: *(smiling)* That is Prince Satyavan. He guides his father, a king whose realm was conquered. It is well that Satyavan's name means "Son of Truth," for no man is richer in virtue.
- NARRATOR 1: When Savitri returned home, she found her father with the holy seer called Narada.
- KING 1: Daughter, have you found a man you wish to marry?
- SAVITRI: Yes, father. His name is Satyavan.
- NARADA: *(gasps)* Not Satyavan! Princess, no man could be more worthy, but you must not marry him! I know the future. Satyavan will die, one year from today!
- KING 1: Do you hear daughter? Choose a different husband!
- NARRATOR 2: Savitri trembled but said,
- SAVITRI: I have chosen Satyavan, and I will not choose another. However long or short his life, I wish to share it.
- NARRATOR 3: Soon the king went with Savitri to arrange the marriage.

NARRATOR 1: Satyavan was overjoyed to be offered such a bride. But his father, the blind king, asked Savitri,

KING 2: Can you bear the hard life of the hermitage? Will you wear our simple robe, and our coat of matted bark? Will you eat only fruit and plants of the wild?

SAVITRI: I care nothing about comfort or hardship. In palace or in hermitage, I am content.

NARRATOR 2: That very day, Savitri and Satyavan walked hand in hand around the sacred fire in the hall of worship.

NARRATOR 3: In front of all the priests and hermits, they became husband and wife.

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NARRATOR 1: For a year, they lived happily. But Savitri could never forget that Satyavan's death drew closer.

NARRATOR 2: Finally, only three days remained. Savitri entered the hall of worship and faced the sacred fire. There she prayed for three days and nights, not eating or sleeping.

SATYAVAN: My love, prayer and fasting are good. But why be this hard on yourself?

NARRATOR 3: Savitri gave no answer.

NARRATOR 1: The sun was just rising when Savitri at last left the hall. She saw Satyavan heading for the forest, an ax on his shoulder.

NARRATOR 2: Savitri rushed to his side.

SAVITRI: I will come with you.

SATYAVAN: Stay here, my love. You should eat and rest.

SAVITRI: My heart is set on going.

NARRATOR 3: Hand in hand, Savitri and Satyavan walked over wooded hills. They smelled and blossoms on flowering trees, and paused beside clear streams. The cries of peacocks echoed through the woods.

NARRATOR 1: While Savitri rested, Satyavan chopped firewood from a fallen tree. Suddenly, he dropped his ax.

SATYAVAN: My head aches.

NARRATOR 2: Savitri rushed to him. She set him down in the shade of a tree.

SATYAVAN: My body is burning! What is wrong with me?

NARRATOR 3: Satyavan's eyes closed. His breathing slowed.

NARRATOR 1: Savitri looked up.

NARRATOR 2: Coming through the woods to meet them was a princely man. He shone, though his skin was darker than the darkest night. His eyes and his robe were the red of blood.

NARRATOR 3: Trembling, Savitri asked,

SAVITRI: Who are you?

YAMA: (*gently*) Princess, you see me only by the power of your prayer and fasting. I am Yama, god of death. Now is the time I must take the spirit of Satyavan.

NARRATOR 1: Yama took a small noose and passed it through Satyavan's breast, as if through air. He drew out a tiny likeness of Satyavan, no bigger than a thumb. Satyavan's breathing stopped.

YAMA: Happiness awaits your husband in my kingdom. Satyavan is a man of great virtue.

NARRATOR 2: Yama placed the likeness inside his robe. Then he turned and headed south, back to his domain.

NARRATOR 3: Savitri rose and started after him.

NARRATOR 1: Yama strode smoothly and swiftly through the woods, while Savitri struggled to keep up. Finally, Yama turned to face her.

YAMA: Savitri! You cannot follow to the land of the dead!

SAVITRI: Lord Yama, I know your duty is to take my husband. But my duty as his wife is to stay beside him!

YAMA: Princess, that duty is at an end! Still, I admire your loyalty. I will grant you a favor – anything but the life of your husband.

SAVITRI: Please restore my father-in-law's kingdom and his sight.

YAMA: His sight and his kingdom shall be restored.

NARRATOR 2: Yama again headed south.

NARRATOR 3: Savitri followed.

NARRATOR 1: Along a riverbank, thorns and tall sharp grass let Yama pass untouched. But they tore at Savitri's clothes and skin.

YAMA: Savitri! You have come far enough!

SAVITRI: Lord Yama, I know my husband will find happiness in your kingdom. But you carry away the happiness that is mine!

YAMA: Princess, even love must bend to fate! Still, I admire your devotion. I will grant you another favor – anything but the life of your husband.

SAVITRI: Grant many more children to my father.

YAMA: Your father shall have many more children.

NARRATOR 2: Yama once more turned south.

NARRATOR 3: Again, Savitri followed.

NARRATOR 1: Up a steep hill Yama glided, while Savitri clambered after. At the top, Yama halted.

YAMA: Savitri! I forbid you to come farther!

SAVITRI: Lord Yama, you are respected and revered by all. Yet no matter what may come, I will remain by Satyavan!

YAMA: Princess, I tell you for the last time, you will not! Still, I can only admire your courage and your firmness. I will grant you one last favor – *anything* but the life of your husband!

SAVITRI: Then grant many children to *me*. And let them be children of Satyavan!

NARRATOR 2: Yama's eyes grew wide as he stared at Savitri.

YAMA: You did not ask for your husband's life, yet I cannot grant your wish without releasing him. Princess! Your wit is as strong as your will.

NARRATOR 3: Yama took out the spirit of Satyavan and removed the noose. The spirit flew north, quickly vanishing from sight.

YAMA: Return, Savitri. You have won your husband's life. *(leaves)*

NARRATOR 1: The sun was just setting when Savitri made her way back to Satyavan.

NARRATOR 2: His chest rose and fell.

NARRATOR 3: His eyes opened.

SATYAVAN: Is the day already gone? I have slept long. But what is wrong, my love? You smile and cry at the same time!

SAVITRI: My love, let us return home.

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NARRATOR 1: Yama was true to all he had promised.

NARRATOR 2: Savitri's father became father to many more.

NARRATOR 3: Satyavan's father regained both sight and kingdom.

NARRATOR 1: In time, Satyavan became king, and Savitri his queen.

NARRATOR 2: They lived long and happily, blessed with many children.

NARRATOR 3: So they had no fear or tears when Yama came again to carry them to his kingdom.

## **JAZZ CHANTS**

### **THE KEY TO SUCCESS**

Sofi Martinez

Education is relevant for a person to be successful.  
Education empowers a person to become a leader.  
Great opportunities are presented to professionals.  
The future of a Person can be unpredictable if she lacks education;  
an uneducated person does not have the knowledge  
of what the future has to offer for her.  
Education is an essential tool to make a pleasant and stable living  
out of a simple quotidian life.

High Education contributes to the increase of the graduate  
in her social economic level.  
Education is the main Factor for one to become wealthy,  
Millionaire, or even  
Multimillionaire.

Education offers the opportunity for a person  
to become the owner of a mansion.  
Education brings one the opportunity to please herself.  
Perhaps, getting to travel often to interesting countries/places, or  
to be the owner of the latest new brand sport car.

Education enables one to reach success.  
Education makes one become influential.  
Education gives one the opportunity to be  
at the top with the highest wage.  
Education gives one self-fulfillment.

A thief can take away money, a car, a property from a person.  
but is definitely impossible to take education away from someone.  
Education is worth \$10,000 \$50,000 \$1,000,000  
One puts it value!  
Education is certainly the main Element to become successful  
and overall to reach one's goals and dreams.

## SPEECH CHOIR

### THE RESILIENCY OF A FILIPINO

by William G. Bacani

Filipino is resilient  
Since time immemorial, we are tested by countless calamities; volcanic eruption, devastating earthquakes and lahar flows, super typhoons, flash floods and landslides.  
Victoriously, we surmounted these ordeals and pains, beyond imagination of the human race  
Instant death of our loved ones, claimed by transportation mishaps and natural disasters. Thousands also die in hunger and malnutrition. Including ambushes and endless wars in Mindanao. They trampled our basic human rights, such as the right to live  
I lost my loving husband, who didn't want to join Abu Sayyaf.  
I lost my only son, who opted to become a military man.  
We lost our innocent children and women; we lost our homes and properties.  
Survivors are Filipinos. The wrath of nature and cruel destiny may steal everything from us.  
Wealth, properties and family  
But the Filipinos never give up  
For us we are continuously scourged by the test of time. The spirit to survive and to bounce back remains undefeated  
I'm as pliant as a bamboo for I'm a man of Earth  
My hair may all be blown away by the winds  
And my legs may be crippled by the smash of waves  
But I will stand and pick up the shattered pieces of myself and continue to live  
Resolute to survive, clothed with an inspiration to live, not only for my family but also for my beloved country  
Filipinos unite in the midst of crisis, regardless of socio-economic status, tradition and creed  
The world has seen the magnanimous spirit of the Filipinos in crucial times  
The gap between the rich and the poor was narrowed  
Envy was replaced by sympathy  
Hatred was conquered by love  
Selfishness was set aside  
And saving one's life is the ultimate desire  
History tells us that the Filipinos have captured innumerable foes, natural and not. And shall always strive to champion in all odds. Because innate in the Filipino is the will to survive  
We may be daunted by the horrible scenes around us. But certainly, we will be strengthened by our unwavering faith in God.  
We have been lotted by many nations in the world, for our resiliency during disasters others die in saving lives.  
But only few realize that we are able to survive, because our spirit to fight is deeply anchored from faith, that God Almighty will never forsake us.  
I believe that Filipinos, divided by varied doctrines and cultures, are capable to be on top of any situation, if united  
Together, we can face any challenge ahead of us.  
We may stumble and fall  
But we will bounce back, arms stronger with vision and faith, that after darkness, after pains and sufferings, the Filipino survives, the Filipino is resilient.