

PROCEDURES FOR CHORAL SIGHT-READING COMPETITION

1. TIME - A director of a choral group will be given six minutes to study the score and instruct the organization.

2. INSTRUCTION PERIOD - At any time during the instruction period the tonic chord may be played once in a broken style. It may not be reproduced by the students. The director may instruct the group by tapping out rhythms and talking about any passage of music but may not hum, sing any part, or allow it to be played on the piano. Students may chant rhythms and/or text and tap or clap the rhythms. But, they may not reproduce the music tonally. Students may ask questions and make comments, according to the director's wishes.

3. MARKING MUSIC - Neither the director, nor the students may mark on the sight-reading music unless instructed to do so by a judge.

4. FIRST READING - At the completion of the instruction period, choral groups will be given the tonic chord, in broken chord style. At that time, the students may reproduce the tonic chord, utilizing their preferred method of sight-reading (numbers, syllables, etc.), The accompanist will then give the starting pitches, which each section may sing, again utilizing their preferred method. The director may sing the starting pitch with each section. No further warm-up, instruction or communication of any kind is permitted by the director, including the use of verbal counting to initiate the reading. The selection will then be sung without piano accompaniment and using the group's preferred method of sight-reading. The director may choose to read the piece in the printed key or any other key suitable for the group.

5. SECOND INSTRUCTION PERIOD - Following the first reading, the director will have two minutes for instruction. The procedures described in (2) will apply.

6. SECOND READING - The procedures in (4) will apply. The selection will then be sung a cappella. All groups may continue to use their preferred method of sight-reading or may sing the words printed in the score. The director's decision to use text or not will have no bearing on the final rating. Both readings will be judged.

7. DISQUALIFICATION. A choral group whose director makes an obvious contribution to the performance by either singing with or speaking to the students or making other audible contributions while they are performing will be disqualified. An obvious attempt by a director to be disqualified may result in a rating. (A judge's decision of what is obvious is final.)

8. SAB MUSIC SELECTION. Choral groups performing a majority of SATB music in their concert competition will be required to sight-read SATB music designated for that conference. However, choirs in all conferences, except AAAAA and AAAA varsity competition, may sight-read SAB music provided that their program includes a majority of SAB music.

9. SA and TB MUSIC SELECTION. In all middle school conferences as well as junior high school C and CC conferences, choral groups performing a majority of SA or TB music in their concert competition may elect to sight-read SA or TB music designated for that conference.

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