



## UIL REGION 3 MUSIC

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### Choir Sightreading Judges:

Please review among yourselves the attached “*script*” that we are using in the sightreading room. The choir directors in Region 3 have chosen to have the Sightreading Rules read to their groups prior to entering the Contest Sightreading Room.

At most contests the judges elect to pass the welcoming and conference verification duty around which is certainly acceptable. Just be sure to be consistent in your procedures for each group.

The Region Executive Committee has named me as the Contest Chair for all Region 3 Music Contests. I am sure you are aware that UIL Judges cannot disqualify an organization. Should a concern or possible rules violation occur, if I am not on site, the Contest Host or Contest Administrator will be able to contact me. In any case, you should go ahead and write a comment sheet and give a rating to the group in question. Please write an explanation of the concern or possible rules violation so I can appropriately address the situation.

Thank you for being with us today in Region 3!

Bonnie

## **Sightreading Procedures for Choirs – reprinted from the C&CR**

- (1) Time. The director of a choir will be given six minutes to study the score and instruct the organization. Exception: Sub-non varsity choirs may extend the study and instruction period by one minute.
- (2) Use of Instruction Period. At any time during the instruction period the tonic chord may be played once, in broken chord style, and 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 the choir 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. After the choir has sung its starting pitches no further warm-up or musical instruction of any kind is permitted by the director, including the use of verbal counting to initiate the reading. The music 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. In the event the director elects to halt the performance, it should be for the sole purpose of designating a starting point. No further instructions may be given.
- (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 choir 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 shall be disqualified. An obvious and deliberate attempt by a director to be disqualified may result in the assignment of a rating by the adjudication panel. A judge's decision of what is obvious and deliberate is final.
- (8) SAB Music Selection. Choirs performing a majority of SATB music in their concert performance will be required to sight-read SATB music designated for that conference. However, choirs in all conferences 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 B and 2B conferences, choirs performing a majority of SA or TB music in their concert performance may elect to sight-read SA or TB music designated for that conference.

# ADMITTANCE TO THE SIGHT-READING ROOM WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- DIRECTOR(S) OF THE GROUP BEING EVALUATED
  1. **Exception:** Any Directors who will be performing the same music later in the contest are not permitted in the Sightreading Room prior to their group's sightreading time.
- ADMINISTRATORS OF THE SCHOOL BEING EVALUATED
- MONITORS WORKING THE CONTEST
- JUDGES
- PARENTS OF THE STUDENTS IN THE GROUP BEING EVALUATED WITH DIRECTOR'S PERMISSION
- PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW VISITORS OR OTHER DIRECTORS TO SIT AT THE JUDGE'S TABLES DURING THE SIGHTREADING PROCESS

\*OTHERS MUST HAVE PERMISSION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING EQUIPMENT IS NOT PERMITTED IN SIGHT-READING ROOM**