

Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association



SIGHTREADING PROCEDURES – Updated 2-25-2019 For Hosts and Judges (Adopted 1992, Revised 2019)

INSTRUCTION PERIOD

The director of a participating organization will be allowed the following time limits to study the score and instruct the organization:
6A & 7A - 10 Minutes 4A & 5A - 8 Minutes All others - 7 Minutes

PERFORMANCE RULES

- All organizations entering the concert contest must sight-read.) Bands participating in region concert assessments that fail to participate in the sight-reading portion of the event will not receive any ratings, comments, or awards.
- All groups entered will be given a rating.
- All members of the concert organization who participate on stage will participate in the sight-reading event. EXCEPTIONS to this rule are: (1) If no part is published for the particular instrument; (2) If there are more percussion players than parts, or equipment called for is not available - the director then may select the players to play.

MUSIC REQUIREMENTS

Two sets of sight-reading, one for junior high and one for senior high. The level of difficulty is to be as follows: A-B-C for junior high, and A-B-C-D for senior high. ('A' being the easiest level.)

JUNIOR HIGH

Level A: N, DDDD, DDD, DD, 7E-7EEEE, 8E-8EEEE

Level B: 9E, 9EE

Level C: 9EEE, 9EEEE

SENIOR HIGH

Level A: Class A, 2A, D, DD, DDD, DDDD, N

Level B: Class 3A, 10-3A-10-7AA, 11-3A-11-7A

Level C: Class 4A, 5A

Level D: Class 6A, 7A

JUDGING CRITERIA

Sight-reading will be judged on accuracy of reading, adherence to style, interpretation and musicianship.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF MUSIC

The judge is required to ask each director the following question:

“Has this organization or any of its members heard, rehearsed or performed this selection at any time prior to this contest?”

If the answer is “Yes” the group will sight-read the music from the next higher grade level and the judge will allow greater flexibility to compensate for the added difficulty.

DIRECTOR LIMITATIONS

Only one director may instruct and direct an organization in sight-reading. The director in charge of the group, adjudicator, students, additional directors from that school, and the parents of students in the organization (ABA 2015) will be allowed in the sight-reading room during the instruction and performance. The other directors and monitors may assist with logistics, but the monitors must leave the room when the instruction time begins. No other audience is allowed. The director may instruct the group as they see fit, including singing phrases or illustrating rhythmic figures. The director may have the group count aloud and clap rhythms and/or finger the notes on their instruments. ***** Once the performance has begun, the director will not be allowed to give further vocal instruction other than rehearsal letters or numbers. *****

THEY MAY NOT PLAY THE MUSIC ON ANY INSTRUMENT, NOR PLAY A RECORDING OF THE MUSIC. NO ONE IS TO MAKE ANY MARKS ON THE MUSIC.

All members of the concert organization who participate on stage will participate in the sight-reading event. Exceptions to this rule are:

1. If no part is published for the particular instrument, or
2. If there are more percussion players than parts, or
3. If percussion equipment called for is not available the director may select the players to play.

ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The judge will see that the folders are distributed before each performance AND RETURNED AT ITS CONCLUSION. Members are not to leave until all folders are collected and accounted for.

The contest host must see that ample chairs and stands are available for all groups.