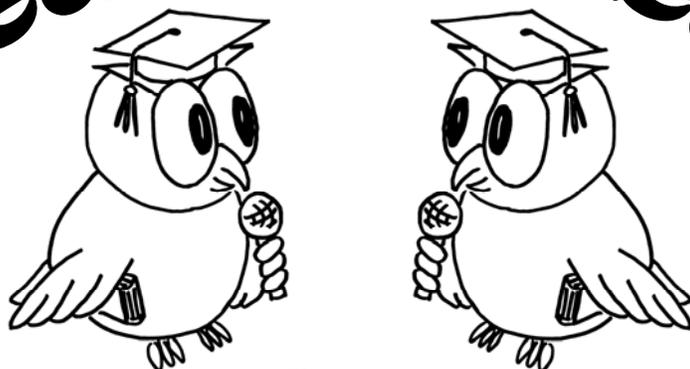


Head to Head



Let's Go!

Coach's Guide

Vocal Music Performance

Personal Note to Coaches:

Thank you for your time and energy. Both are scarce, and you are very much appreciated. The *Head to Head* program is a chance for every young person to shine in his or her area of interest. It opens up whole new arenas for competition and success for ALL kids. Whether it's on the field, on the court, on the stage, on the easel, or in the classroom, it is vitally important to encourage the pursuit of excellence...but you already knew that, didn't you? I welcome feedback on any aspect of this program.

feedback@HeadtoHeadTesting.com

Thanks Again!

Vocal Music Performance Events:

- The evaluation form the judges will use is on the last page. Feel free to copy for your team.
- Insure that your team members understand the criteria the judge's will be using. Most are criteria used by MSVMA solo and ensemble judges, while the fifth allows for style, creativity, theatricality and entertainment value.

NOTE: Some boom boxes/karaoke machines have an adjustable pitch control which will speed up or slow down a recorded instrumental track. It is advisable to time your track on the machine to be used during the warm-up period before the stage performance events begin. Also, be aware of the file type of the pre-recorded music. Some machines will only play certain formats.

Event Coach:

- Coaches may coach more than one event and/or more than one act per performance event.
- Familiarize yourself with the Coach's Guide for your event(s).
- Emphasize courtesy and good sportsmanship.
- Schedule practice sessions.
- Make copies of the Student Study Guide, Practice Test, and/or Judge's Evaluation form.
- Insure that team members have appropriate study materials, music, manuscripts, etc.
- Insure that team members understand all rules pertaining to their event.
- Work with your coordinator to establish which team members compete at which meet and in what order the performers will compete.
- Vocal performance event coaches - if your student is using a recorded instrumental track:
 - ◊ one copy of the CD must be given to your coordinator before each meet
 - ◊ be aware of the file format used on the CD (compatibility varies)
 - ◊ clearly label the CD with performer's name, song title, and track number
- Performance event coaches - be aware of performance minimum and maximum time limits.
- Performance event coaches - your act may notify the timekeeper if they do NOT want time signs to be displayed.
- Performance event coaches - be aware of how many and what type of microphones are available at the host school. (Ask your coordinator.)
- Performance event coaches - you are responsible for props. Bring your own or communicate your needs with your host school BEFORE the meet.
- If your act leaves water, food, confetti - any type of debris - on the stage, have your kids come prepared with paper towel, broom, dustpan, etc. to clean up afterward.

- Musical and speaking performers MAY use original material.
- Performances that go over or under the expressed time limits will be penalized 2 points for every 5 second increment or portion of a 5 second increment .
- Timekeeper will unobtrusively display signs: “1 minute” and “30 seconds” remaining as time progresses during each act.
- Acts causing a delay of 1 minute or more will be penalized 5 pts. for “Delay of Game.” (This rule is intended to discourage students from over commitment and unpreparedness. The penalty should not be applied for acts needing a reasonable period of time to set up equipment or in the event of technical difficulties.)
- If an act wins by default (no competition), the act will receive judges’ evaluation forms and a raw score, but the team points added will be 20% of the act’s average score. (i.e. if the act receives a score of 50, 10 points will be added to the team’s total; if the act receives a score of 40, 5 points will be added, etc.)

Order of Stage Performance Events:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Vocal Solos | 4. Vocal Ensembles |
| 2. Interpretive Speaking Ensembles | 5. Interpretive Speaking Solos |
| 3. Instrumental Solos | 6. Instrumental Ensembles |

Vocal Solo Performance Rules:

- 1-3 acts from each school
- minimum time per act: 1 minute
- maximum time per act: 3 minutes
- soloists may have up to 2 live accompanists **or** a recorded instrumental track (may or may not include background vocals on the recorded track)
- accompanists will provide their own instruments (not including piano)
- accompanists may be themselves, students, parents, teachers or other adults
- length of piece, genre, costumes, props, choreography are up to the individual schools, coaches, performers and coordinators
- judges evaluate performances on 5 criteria: tone, pitch, rhythm, technique, and interpretation/style
- performances will begin with the home team and alternate thereafter
- coordinators will receive judge’s evaluation forms to share with the performers and coaches
- the 3 judges’ scores will be averaged, and the top score from each school will be applied to the team point total

Vocal Ensemble Performance Rules:

- 1-2 acts from each school
- 2-8 performers per ensemble (any combination of males and females)
- minimum time per act: 1 minute
- maximum time per act: 3 minutes
- ensembles may have up to 2 live accompanists (who **ARE NOT** part of the ensemble) **or** a recorded instrumental track (may NOT include background vocals on the recorded track)
- ensembles may have up to 8 live accompanists (who **ARE** part of the ensemble)
- accompanists will provide their own instruments (not including piano)
- accompanists may be themselves, students, parents, teachers or other adults
- length of piece, genre, costumes, props, choreography are up to the individual schools, coaches, performers and coordinators
- judges evaluate performances on 5 criteria: tone, pitch, rhythm, technique and interpretation/style
- performances will begin with the visiting team and alternate thereafter
- coordinators will receive judge’s evaluation forms to share with the performers and coaches
- the 3 judges’ scores will be averaged, and the top score from each school will be applied to the team point total

Vocal Music Evaluation Solo / Ens.

(circle one)

School: _____ Piece: _____ Date: _____

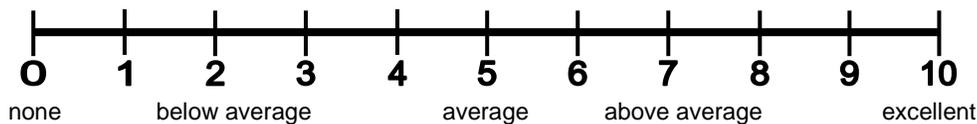
Singer(s): _____

Tone (vowel purity; resonance; vitality; focus; (blend for ensembles))

Score:



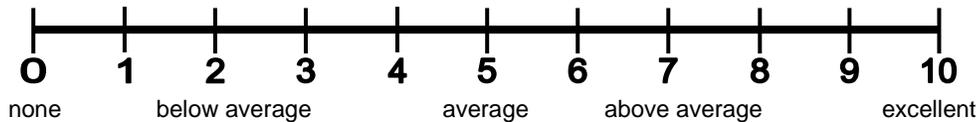
Pitch (correct pitches; overall intonation)



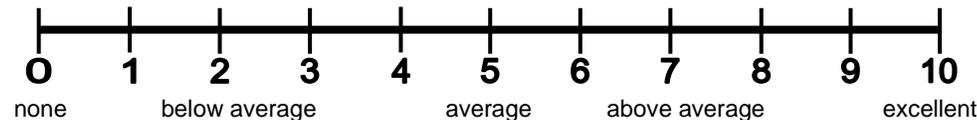
Rhythm (correct note and rest values; rhythmic energy; steadiness of tempo; tempo changes)



Vocal Technique (diction; breath management; attacks and releases; flexibility)



Interpretation/Style (entertainment value)



Comments: _____

Judge's Initials: _____

Total Score: _____