

VBODA Assessment Sight Reading Script

Once the group is seated in the sight reading room, review with the director the instrumentation and percussion needed for the sight-reading selection. Remind the directors that no electronic devices may be used except for timpani tuning. Once the sight-reading folders are distributed, continue with the following dialogue:

"I am _____ and will be evaluating you on your sight reading performance today. You will be performing the sight reading selection for the grade _____ stage performance level."

Continue with the following directions:

"At this time please take out (title of selection) and make sure that you have the correct part for your instrument. Once you have done this, please turn the music face down until you are instructed to turn it over."

Give them time to do the above, then continue:

"Does everyone have the correct part? _____ Once you are told to begin, you and your director will have seven minutes to study the music. The director may use this seven-minute period as he/she chooses, however, all studying of the scores and parts and discussion with the players must take place during these seven minutes. Your director may point out key and time signatures, repeat signs, special rhythmic or technical problems and other peculiarities of the music. The director and students may count and clap rhythms, vocalize, "air band/bow," finger sections of the music or describe the music in any way other than playing on an instrument. Fingering and the audible sounds of fingering including "air band/bow" will not be considered as playing on an instrument. Timpanists may tune their drums to the appropriate pitches. Students may ask questions during the study period. At the end of six minutes, you will be given a one-minute warning. At the end of seven minutes, you may do a short warm-up and then be told to begin your performance. Once the group starts playing the selection, the director may call out instructions as needed. Are there any questions?"

You may now turn the music over and begin the study period.”

At the end of six minutes, give the director a one-minute warning.

At the end of seven minutes, signal to the director to stop the study period.

At the end of seven minutes, or optional brief warm-up, continue:

“You may begin your performance.”

End of performance. Give students and director brief feedback and the following directions:

“At this time please return your sight-reading music to the folders to be collected by the student helpers. Thank you.”

Students and director may now leave the sight-reading room.