

UIL Sight-Reading Evaluation Instruction Period Pilot Procedures

(updated for the 2023-24 school year, pilot year three)

In lieu of C&CR Sections 1111(b) and (c) the following procedures shall be followed by all bands and orchestras in the pilot regions. The vocal division is not participating in the pilot, thus, there are no updates to the vocal division procedures related to the pilot.

2024 Participating Regions: All 33 regions.

Prior to the Instruction Period: At the conclusion of completing the written evaluation for a performing ensemble and prior to the start of the next ensemble's instruction period the three judges may be introduced to the next performing ensemble by the compliance official, then will leave the sight-reading room and not return until the next ensemble's instruction period concludes. Either one of the judges or a person appointed by the contest chair shall monitor the time to ensure that the judges punctually return to the sight-reading room to adjudicate each performance.

Compliance Official: A compliance official, as selected by the region executive secretary and compensated at the same rate as a judge, shall remain in the sight-reading room during the instruction period to monitor time, ensure compliance with procedures, and read the official TMAA script to the ensemble. The compliance official should be either a TMAA member or an experienced teacher in the division to be judged. At the discretion of the director of the group to be judged the compliance official may provide feedback to the director on the use of the instruction period.

Score Study Period:

- Prior to the instruction period the director will be given three minutes to study the sight-reading music full score during which time the director may take notes or utilize removable notes in the score, but may not mark directly on the score.
- During the score study period music will be distributed to the students, but the students may not view or study the music until the instruction period begins.

Instruction Period:

- Only one director may instruct and direct the ensemble.
- There shall be one instruction period as follows:
Conference 5A and 6A Varsity: 10 minutes
Conference 3C, 3B, 4A Varsity and 6A Non-Varsity: 8 minutes
All other conferences: 7 minutes
Sub Non-Varsity: may extend the explanation period for their conference by one minute.
- The director may not play an instrument – string, wind, keyboard or otherwise.
- The director may not utilize technology devices. Exception: the director may utilize an audible metronome that provides the downbeat pulse.
- The students may play the sight-reading evaluation music individually, in small groups, or with the full ensemble, at the discretion of the director.
- The students and/or the director may sing the music and/or count, clap, and tap rhythms during the instruction period.
- Neither the director nor the students may mark on the music unless instructed to do so by a judge.

After the Instruction Period and Prior to the Performance:

- The students will be instructed to turn the music face down at the end of the instruction period.
- The judges will enter the sight-reading room.
- Immediately following the instruction period, while the music is face down and prior to the performance, the ensemble may play a sustained note – unison or chord. No further warm-up or musical instruction of any kind is permitted by the director.

Performance:

- When the judges are ready, the ensemble shall turn the music face up and perform the piece.
- In the event the director chooses to stop the performance, it should be for the sole purpose of designating a starting point. No further instructions may be given.
- An ensemble whose director makes an obvious contribution to the performance either by singing with or speaking to the students while they are performing shall be disqualified. An obvious 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.
- The ensemble's performance shall be evaluated by the adjudicators in accordance with the Texas Music Adjudicators Association sight-reading adjudication rubric and the performance shall be the sole criteria for assigning a rating.