

TMAA Adjudicator Sight-Reading Procedure for Orchestra

When the Conductor Enters the Room:

- Approach the conductor with a professional greeting. It is suggested that this be done by a TMAA active or provisional member judge.
 - Allow the conductor to help the group get situated in their proper ensemble set up.
 - For Full Orchestras, remind the conductor of the wind instrumentation, percussion requirements, and timpani pitches (have them on the board if possible). Also remind the conductor that the timpani need to be tuned prior to the beginning of the general explanation period. An assistant conductor may assist with tympani tuning, if necessary. Once the explanation begins no one other than the primary conductor explaining the selection will be allowed to assist the timpanist with tuning or any other form of instruction.
 - Allow the conductor to check tuning with the group before everything starts.
 - **Ask the conductor if he/she wants the rules read to their organization.**
 - Show the conductor the selection to be performed and ask the following question verbatim: **"This organization will be reading (title of selection) which has been chosen for conference _____ (varsity or non-varsity groups). Is this the correct conference for your organization?"**
 - Have the conductor provide the time keeper with any "Warnings" (ex. One minute then 30 seconds, etc.).
 - **At this point, excuse the conductor to a predetermined place in the room for the 3 minute review of the score.**

Instruction Period:

- After a brief professional greeting to the ensemble, have the students open their folder and remove the parts for the correct selection they are to read for their conference. Then ask the following:
"Does everyone have the correct part for your instrument?"
Have the students turn the music over so it is not available for viewing. The judge should then solve any problems that might exist.
- Ask the conductor and group the following question verbatim:
"Has this organization or any of its student members heard, read, rehearsed or performed this selection (indicating the music) at any time prior to this evaluation?"
If the answer is "yes", refer to Section 1111, (A) and (B) of the "UIL Constitution and Contest Rules".
- **No rules read option**, then say
"Your timing will begin when your conductor asks you to turn over the music or when he/she opens his/her score."
- **Rules read option**, proceed below:

Read the following without embellishment for orchestra:

"Your conductor will have, (10 minutes/8 minutes/7 minutes) to explain this piece of music. He/She may use the time as he/she sees fit, including singing phrases, demonstrating rhythmic figures or reviewing ritards and fermatas with singing and/or counting. However, your conductor may not perform the music on any instrument or allow you to tap rhythms or perform any part of the music in any fashion. You may shadow bow passages at any time during the explanation period, but again you may not reproduce any portion of the music in any way.

After the instruction period and if your conductor chooses to do a warm up, the sight-reading music must be turned face down. The performing group may then play or sing a brief warm-up consisting of one of the following:

- A. long tones;
- B. a whole note scale; or
- C. eight measures of a warm-up chorale.

No further warm-up or musical instruction of any kind is permitted by your conductor, including the use of verbal counting to initiate the reading. Are there any questions regarding the procedure? Your timing will begin when your conductor asks you to turn the music over or when he/she opens his/her score. Good luck."

At The Conclusion of the Performance:

- Thank the students and ask them to be sure and leave the music on the music stand.
- Remind them to be sure that they take all their personal items with them as they leave the room.