

Name:

Grade:

Class period:

Directions: Watch and listen to these performances and answer the questions about each song. You can answer your questions on a google doc and print it, or just on a piece of notebook paper. Keep track of the song name and question # when you're writing your answers.

There is a link to each performance. Watch the first video, then answer the questions about the first video before moving on to the next. Use what you see in these performances to grow and learn so you can continue to improve and inspire when you sing choral music.

7 Criteria for a great choir are the following:

Tone, Pitch, Rhythm, Diction, Ensemble, Interpretation, Other Factors

Here is a brief description of each category-

1. Tone-Beauty and Energy in the sound
2. Pitch- Are they singing in the bullseye? No sharp singing? No flat singing? Always in tune.
3. Rhythm- Are they precise? Do they move together as "one" as a choir?
4. Diction- Do you hear the consonants sounds clearly? Are the vowels "tall"?
5. Ensemble- You don't hear any individual singers. They blend. The sections are balanced. Sopranos are not louder than alto for example.
6. Interpretation- Do you hear differences between "loud" and "soft" singing? Crescendos? Is there contrast? Do they seem to understand what they are singing about?
7. Other factors- Do they watch the conductor? Do they stand with their hands by their sides without crossing arms in front/back of their body? No hands in pockets? If there is choreography, is it cleanly executed as "one"?

Video #1: "I Am" by Christian Grases

https://youtu.be/1I_I_VE8628

Song #1- I am

- 1) Which of the seven criteria was this choir the strongest in?
- 2) How did this performance make you feel?
- 3) In your opinion, did the singers look like they understand what they were singing about and were they invested in the performance?

Video #2: "Paper Crane" by J. Reese Norris

<https://youtu.be/0feMQUnCv0U>

Song Two- Paper Crane

- 1) Which of the seven criteria was this choir the strongest in?
- 2) How did this performance make you feel?
- 3) In your opinion, what is the thing that stands out the most about this performance in a positive way?

Video #3: "Lineage" by Andrea Ramsey

https://youtu.be/ChB_0teECxo

Song Three- Lineage

- 1) Which of the seven criteria was this choir the strongest in?
- 2) How did this performance make you feel?
- 3) This choir moves in this song in random ways. In your opinion, is the movement appropriate? If so, why or why not?

Video #4: "Sisters" by Gweneth Walker

<https://youtu.be/SDtFUvtLRuo>

Song Four- Sisters

- 1) Which of the seven criteria was this choir the strongest in?
- 2) How did this performance make you feel?
- 3) In your opinion, did this choir sing with energy and were they committed to the choreography and movement?

Video #5: "Lift Up Your Voice" by Kwa Maneno Nguvu

<https://www.jwpepper.com/Lift-Up-Your-Voice/11197760.item>

Song Five- Lift up your Voice

- 1) Which of the seven criteria was this choir the strongest in?
- 2) How did this performance make you feel?
- 3) In your opinion, did this choir sing with enough dynamic contrast? (Louds were loud, softs were soft and you could definitely hear the difference). Yes or no?

Video #6- "Children Will Listen" by Jacob Narverud
https://youtu.be/S-8-8xFg_LA?si=YZ1yTxWJltHgri9o

Song Six- Children will Listen

- 1) Which of the seven criteria was this choir the strongest in?
- 2) How did this performance make you feel?
- 3) In your opinion, did this choir do a good job with crescendos and decrescendos (gradually getting louder/gradually getting softer)?
- 4) Which song/performance was your favorite?
- 5) Why?
- 6) In your opinion, do you think the song order that was chosen for this program flowed well or not?
- 7) Why or why not?