

Florida Bandmasters Association

Marching Band Adjudicator's Comment Sheet

MUSIC PERFORMANCE

School: _____

Classification: _____ Performance Time: _____ Date: _____

BALANCE AND TIMING

- ____ Balance of Winds and Percussion
- ____ Balance and Blend of Ensemble
- ____ Beginnings of Notes
- ____ Releases of Notes
- ____ Rhythmic Interpretation
- ____ Clarity/Uniformity of Articulation
- ____ Note Accuracy
- ____ Consistency of Tempo

(Circle One)

A B C D E

TONE QUALITY AND INTONATION

- ____ Sonority & Characteristic tone
quality of Woodwinds
- ____ Sonority & Characteristic tone
quality of Brass
- ____ Sonority & Characteristic tone
quality of Percussion
- ____ Sonority of Ensemble
- ____ Tuning of Instruments
- ____ Melodic intonation
- ____ Harmonic intonation

(Circle One)

A B C D E

MUSICIANSHIP

- ____ Dynamic Contrast
- ____ Phrasing
- ____ Full range of expression
- ____ Style
- ____ Interpretation
- ____ Demand placed on performers
- ____ Stylistic articulation

(Circle One)

A B C D E

Officials will include a + or - by the subdivisions, which mean they are noticeably good or noticeably needing improvement as related to the letter grade assigned. The absence of any marks indicates a performance consistent with the letter assigned. After completing the previous, circle an A, B, C, D or E to indicate the level of performance in each caption.

COMMENTS

Recommended for: _____

(Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor)

Write out Final Rating

Adjudicator's Signature

MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Balance & Timing Criteria				
<p><u>“E”</u></p> <p>No attempt has been made to achieve balance, nor does the maturity level of the players allow it. There is no response to direction. There is a general inability to play together.</p>	<p><u>“D”</u></p> <p>There are obvious problems maintaining proper balance between winds and percussion. Poor tone production causes many timbre differences. Phrasing is an on-going problem throughout the performance. Tempo and pulse control is lacking causing major recovery problems in spread formations. There is a general lack of focus.</p>	<p><u>“C”</u></p> <p>There is a general weakness in proper balance between winds and percussion; however, there are occasional moments when moderate balance is achieved. Achievement of balance is limited due to timbre differences caused by poor tone production. While there is a sense of tempo and pulse control, phrasing is a concern. There are individual problems in rhythmic interpretations and rapid passages, which often lack togetherness. In spread formations, recovery from loss of pulse takes much time, and is rarely complete at phrase endings. Concentration lacks focus.</p>	<p><u>“B”</u></p> <p>Winds and percussion are moderately successful in achieving proper balance. Lapses may occasionally occur due to design problems. Individual carelessness or timbre differences are caused by poor tone production. Recovery can often be difficult. Players display a good awareness of pulse and tempo. Concentration is good, although anticipation, hesitation and over extension of phrases may occur. Spread formation causes pulse difficulties and phrasing sometimes occurs</p>	<p><u>“A”</u></p> <p>Winds and percussion consistently achieve proper balance. Lapses are infrequent and generally minor. There is an excellent control of pulse and uniform interpretation of rhythmic patterns. There may be occasional anticipation at beginnings of phrases and individual lapses at their ends, but overall there is little or no phasing. Spread formations may still challenge the musicians, but recovery is good. Concentration rarely falters, and players are confident and in excellent control of rhythm and tempo.</p>
Tone Quality & Intonation Criteria				
<p><u>“E”</u></p> <p>Players are beginning or immature with little or no training.</p>	<p><u>“D”</u></p> <p>There is a lack of tonal center. Drum heads are not tuned or balanced. Keyboards continually display lack of technique. Lack of breath support hinders characteristic tone quality of instruments. Pitch problems remain uncorrected.</p>	<p><u>“C”</u></p> <p>Players seem unaware of the tonal center. Fools is lacking some of the time. Drum heads are not carefully tuned or balanced. If timpani is used the intonation is sometimes correct, Keyboards have problems in technique. Concentration is weak. Breath support for winds is poor and air passage is often restricted causing a lack of uniformity in tone quality. Instruments are not carefully tuned. Section and individual difference in pitch are obvious.</p>	<p><u>“B”</u></p> <p>There is a proper approach to tone production, especially in sustained quiet passages. Players may be over-taxed beyond their ability to control tone quality and intonation in range and volume extremes. Drum heads may be inconsistently tuned and balanced. Keyboard tone quality achievement is moderate. Wind players are developing breath support, but some tone qualities may still be harsh or pinched. Instruments have been tuned, but some individual and section errors may be obvious.</p>	<p><u>“A”</u></p> <p>There is excellent tone production throughout. Drum heads are consistently balanced and in tune. Keyboard tone quality is quite successful. Breath support and characteristic tone quality is generally correct. Instruments are consistently in tune, tonal focus is excellent and characteristic wind or percussion tone quality is clear and without distortion. Concentration is superior.</p>
Musicianship Criteria				
<p><u>“E”</u></p> <p>There is no meaningful musical thought or expressive playing.</p>	<p><u>“D”</u></p> <p>Winds and percussion seldom achieve consistent phrasing or expressing the melodic line. The sound is often rigid and uncomfortable. There is an occasional attempt to alter dynamics. Phrasing is seldom uniform and mostly mechanical. There is little achievement of musical style.</p>	<p><u>“C”</u></p> <p>Winds and percussion demonstrate a moderate achievement of musical expression with a growing attempt at dynamic and rhythmic shading. There is some mechanical and non-uniform playing with lapses in style. Phrasing and expressive skills are developing with moderate success.</p>	<p><u>“B”</u></p> <p>Winds and percussion demonstrate achievement of quality and uniform musical expression with some dynamics. Phrasing is mostly uniform and often sensitive with an appropriate display of musical style. Musical passages are properly shaped. Tempo, rhythm, dynamics, phrasing, accents and tone quality combine most of the time to produce a sense of musical quality.</p>	<p><u>“A”</u></p> <p>Wind and percussion players achieve a clear, meaningful and expressive shaping of musical passages. There is proper and uniform stress, natural, well-defined and sensitive playing throughout. The interpretation is valid, tasteful and stylistically correct throughout. Tempo, rhythm, dynamics, phrasing, accents and tone quality all combine to display a stylistically impressive musical performance.</p>