



You Be The Judge

A Self Guided Test for Candidates for Director Certification

Fill in the blank, supply the answers requested, or circle True or False, as appropriate. Source C&J Manual.

Part I: Definition of the Barbershop Style

1. Barbershop harmony is a style of unaccompanied vocal music characterized by _____

2. The melody is not sung by the tenor except for _____

3. List four characteristics that artistic singing in the barbershop style exhibits.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
4. The presentation of barbershop music uses appropriate musical and visual methods to _____

Part II: Official SPEBSQSA Contest Rules

5. True or False: A chapter may enter more than one chorus in any Society-sponsored contest.
6. A competing chorus must be composed of _____ or more members on stage, with or without the director.
7. True or False: A dual or transfer member may participate, either as director or singer, with more than one chorus in any contest.
8. Completed entries for the contest must be received by the district vice president for contest and judging at least _____ days prior to the contest date.
9. The Music judge evaluates the song and arrangement, as _____
10. The Presentation judge evaluates everything about the performance that _____

11. The Singing judge evaluates the degree to which the performer achieves _____

12. True or False: In chorus contests, selected use of a soloist or small singing unit, such as a duet or trio – or a select quartet - is acceptable as long as it is brief.
13. True or False: Persons who are not members of the competing chorus or quartet may not appear on stage during the performance.
14. True or False: Non-singing comment or dialogue during a song is permitted only to the limited extent where it is brief and used to contribute to the theme of the song performance.

15. True or False: Once the contest begins, and until the contest results are determined, the District Vice Present – Contest and Judging of the district wherein the contest is held is completely in charge of the operation of the contest.

Part III: The Judging System

16. All judges are responsible for preserving the barbershop style from the standpoint of _____

17. All judges will evaluate the suitability of the music – the song and the arrangement as performed – to the performer, though the orientation of judges will _____

18. True or False: In the Music Category, melodies that are easily sung by the performer are recommended over those that are extremely disjunctive or rangy, as the latter may lead to performance difficulties
19. True or False: In the Music Category, melodic alterations that are made for the purpose of satisfying the standards of acceptable harmonic progressions and harmonic rhythm stated in II.C.6 are permitted.
20. True or False: A high Music score requires the presence, however brief, of barbershop sevenths and major triads in a predominantly homophonic texture.
21. In the Music Category, delivery refers to _____

22. According to the writers of the Presentation Category, the first rule of any art form is to _____

23. True or False: The Presentation judge is principally responsible for evaluating entertainment value in a barbershop performance.
24. _____ is one of the strongest and most important tools with which a performance’s entertainment value may be created.
25. Performances that are perceived to come “_____” are more entertaining because the audience is moved to emotionally “buy in” to what the performer is communicating to them.
26. According to the writers of the Singing Category, the “_____” of a barbershop chord will always be the hallmark of the style.
27. Melodic intonation refers to _____
28. True or False: Good ear singers will naturally tune a harmonic interval to be free of phonemes – that is, in just intonation.
29. The three descriptors of good vocal production are:
a) _____
b) _____
c) _____
30. True or False: Expanded sound, sometimes called “lock and ring,” creates the impression that the composite ensemble sound contains more than the total harmonic energy the individual voices produce.