

VCDA

Literature Manual Rubric

Level	Vocal Considerations	Tonal/Rhythmic Considerations
1	<p>Short, simple vocal lines with limited ranges</p> <p>Conjunct vocal lines prevail</p> <p>Comfortable vocal range</p> <p>Manageable tessitura</p>	<p>Major or minor tonality with little to no chromaticism</p> <p>No modulations to other keys or tonalities</p> <p>Straightforward rhythms within simple or compound meter</p>
2	<p>Phrases of moderately challenging length</p> <p>Slightly disjunct vocal lines</p> <p>Brief, yet negotiable forays into extreme ranges</p> <p>Basic dynamic range</p> <p>Basic diction challenges in languages commonly encountered in choral music (i.e. English and Latin)</p>	<p>Major or minor tonality with brief, obvious chromaticism</p> <p>Brief modulations are obvious and move to closely related tonalities</p> <p>Modal passages</p> <p>Dissonances are approached and resolved by step</p> <p>Short passages of challenging rhythm within simple or compound metric structure</p>
3	<p>Short passages requiring advanced vocal technique</p> <p>Long phrases requiring good breath control</p> <p>Extended dynamic range including crescendos and decrescendos</p> <p>Standard range of languages encountered (English, Latin, German, Italian)</p>	<p>Major and minor modality</p> <p>Concrete or implied modulations to different tonalities or modalities</p> <p>Imitative counterpoint</p> <p>Difficult rhythms may occur but are usually repetitive</p>
4	<p>Long phrases requiring excellent breath control</p> <p>Some passages of challenging tessitura</p> <p>Vocal melismas of moderate length requiring martellato technique</p> <p>Refined diction required as stylistic vehicle</p> <p>Wide dynamic range including prolonged crescendos and decrescendos</p> <p>Wide use of Western languages and Western technique</p>	<p>Passages in non-diatonic harmony</p> <p>Some chromaticism</p> <p>Challenging rhythmic passages are non-repetitive</p> <p>Simply Constructed mixed meter</p> <p>Major/minor/modal tonality</p> <p>Dissonance approached by leaps</p> <p>Added note harmonies</p> <p>Imitative and non-imitative counterpoint</p>
5	<p>Extreme ranges</p> <p>Long vocal melismas</p> <p>Vocal lines requiring subtlety of shape, dynamics and expressivity</p> <p>Alternative vocal techniques (i.e. non-Western techniques)</p>	<p>Frequent chromaticism</p> <p>Full composition in mixed or complex meter</p> <p>Extended modal passages</p> <p>Challenging rhythmic passages may be extended and non repetitive</p>
6	<p>Vocal maturity required</p> <p>Extreme ranges and tessituras</p> <p>Repertoire at this level will provide numerous challenges for the experienced choral ensemble</p>	<p>Atonal passages or passages of extreme dissonance</p> <p>Unprepared/unresolved dissonant harmonies</p> <p>Very complex rhythmic/metric structure</p> <p>Repertoire at this level will provide numerous challenges for the experienced choral ensemble</p>