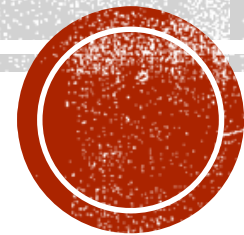


**WHAT THE HECK IS THE
MUSIC CATEGORY, ANYWAYS?**



IN A NUTSHELL...

- The Music Category judges the **song *and* arrangement**, *as performed*.
 - Is it Barbershop?
 - How successfully do you breathe life into the notes and words to make the music fly off the page?



SONG AND ARRANGEMENT, AS PERFORMED

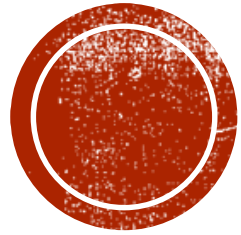
Musical Elements

- Melody
- Lyrics
- Harmony
- Range
- Rhythm and Meter
- Construction and Form
- Embellishment

Performance Elements

- Consonance
- Theme
- Embellishment
- Delivery
- Execution

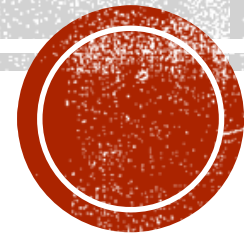




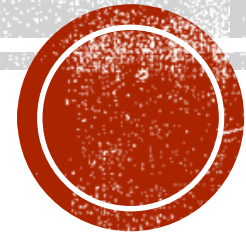
MUSICAL ELEMENTS

Associated with the song and the arrangement...

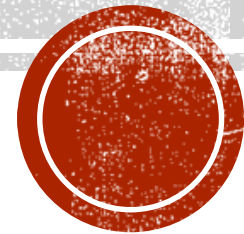
MELODY



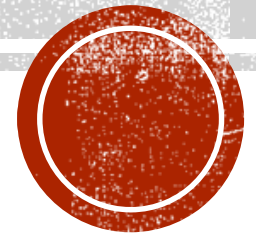
LYRICS



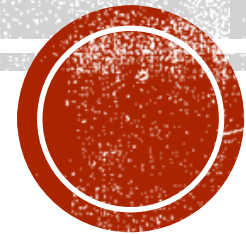
HARMONY



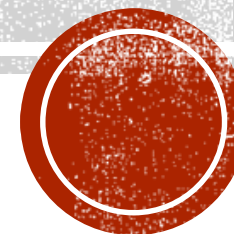
RANGE



RHYTHM AND METER



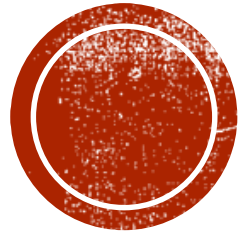
CONSTRUCTION AND FORM



EMBELLISHMENT

Unity and Contrast, in satisfying proportions





PERFORMANCE ELEMENTS

...as performed

CONSONANCE

Two factors:

- Inherent potential of the chords
- Performance / execution by the ensemble



THEME(S)

- What musical element is most important in conveying the intentions of the composer / lyricist / arranger?
 - Melodic
 - Rhythmic
 - Lyric
 - Harmonic
 - Comedic
- Yes, it can change throughout the course of the song



EMBELLISHMENT

Rhythmic Alterations

Backtime

Patter

Scissors

Melodic Alterations

Blossoms

Syncopations

Bell

Chords

Call and

Solos

*Lyric
Alterations*

Response *Posts*

Echoes

Harmonic Alterations

Swipes

Unison



DELIVERY

- The musicality with which the elements of the song and the arrangement is rendered
- How do the various elements support one another?
- When all is said and done, do you believe them?



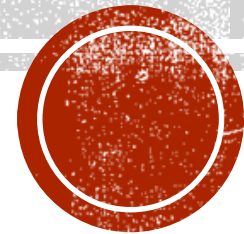
PUTTING
IT
TOGETHER

EXECUTION

- Accuracy of the various elements:
 - Chords (tuning)
 - Word sound matching and synchronization
 - Rhythms
 - Tempo(s)
 - Articulation



**YEAH, BUT WHAT IS
BARBERSHOP?**







Hallmarks of
Barbershop Harmony

1. Four-Part Consonant
Vocal Harmony

2. A Cappella

3. Harmonizing Part Above the Melody

What is one of the most important hallmarks of barbershop?

4. **HOMOPHONY** (or, Unity and Contrast)

WHAT ABOUT THOSE “BARBERSHOP CHORDS”?

The image displays a musical score for a barbershop quartet in C major, common time. The score is written for four voices: Soprano (top staff), Alto (second staff), Tenor (third staff), and Bass (bottom staff). The lyrics are "Loo loo etc." and the score is divided into four measures, numbered 1 through 4. The Soprano part consists of quarter notes: C4 (measure 1), D4 (measure 2), E4 (measure 3), and F4 (measure 4). The Alto part consists of quarter notes: C4 (measure 1), B3 (measure 2), A3 (measure 3), and G3 (measure 4). The Tenor part consists of quarter notes: C4 (measure 1), B3 (measure 2), A3 (measure 3), and G3 (measure 4). The Bass part consists of quarter notes: C3 (measure 1), B2 (measure 2), A2 (measure 3), and G2 (measure 4). The notes are marked with red stems and red dots. The Soprano part is marked with a '1' above the first measure and a '2' above the second measure. The Alto part is marked with a '3' above the third measure and a '4' above the fourth measure. The lyrics "Loo loo etc." are written below the Soprano part. The number '8' is written below the Soprano part in the first measure. The number '8' is written below the Bass part in the first measure.





Mid-Term Exam

Which performances best demonstrate the hallmarks of barbershop?

1. Four-Part Consonant Vocal Harmony
2. A Cappella
3. Harmonizing Part Above the Melody
4. Homophony (Unity and Contrast)

Barbershop as a Genre?

ERAS OF MUSIC EXAMPLES

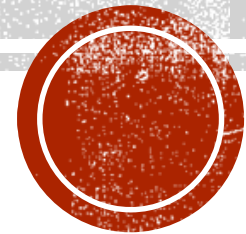
Medieval Music ----- 500-1400
Renaissance Music ---- 1400-1600
Baroque Music ----- 1600-1750
Classical Music ----- 1750-1800
Romantic Music ----- 1800-1900
Early Jazz/Dixieland --- 1900-1930
Swing/Big Band ----- 1930-1945



Songs from almost any genre
can be arranged in the barbershop style!



**WHAT KIND OF STUFF
CAN BE 'SHOPPED?'**



LET'S LISTEN...

50's Pop: A Handful of Stars – Johnny Mathis/Tim Waurick

Classic Rock: Love Me - Elvis/Showcase

Broadway: Popular - Wicked/Showcase

Ragtime: Entertainer - Joplin/Keepsake

Classical: Rhapsody in Blue - Gershwin/Ambiance

60's Rock: Surfer Girl – Beach Boys / OC Times

Beatles: Here, There and Everywhere – Beatles / Matt Curtis

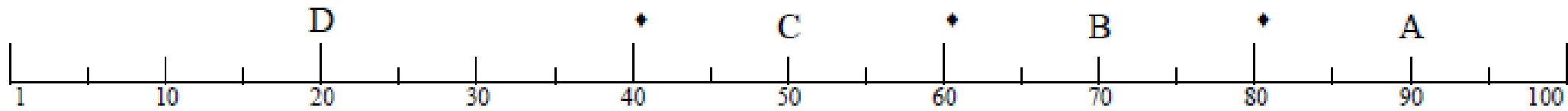
Rat Pack: The Tender Trap – Frank Sinatra/Reckless



SCORING LEVELS AND AREAS OF FOCUS

MUSIC

Song 1: _____



Not consonant Indiscernible theme(s) Inadequate embellishment Meaningless delivery Unskillful execution	Rarely consonant Ambiguous theme(s) Weak embellishment Awkward delivery Poor execution	Sometimes consonant Inconsistent theme(s) Adequate embellishment Mechanical delivery Ordinary execution	Primarily consonant Effective theme(s) Tasteful embellishment Sensitive delivery Good execution	Consistently consonant Continuous theme(s) Artistic embellishment Artistic delivery Excellent execution
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OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Melody

distinguishable
tonal center
alteration

Lyrics

quality
phrasing

Harmony

barbershop 7ths
major/minor triads
voicings / voice-leading
progressions
balance

Tempo, Rhythm, Meter

forward motion
rubato / ad lib.
swing / steady

Construction and Form

overall concept/contour
added material
transitions / medley

Embellishment

stylistic
appropriate
degree

Theme (global)

purpose
mood / story
unity and contrast
flow / peak

Suitable to Performer?

song choice
difficulty

From the Heart? ♥♥♥♥



RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER CATEGORIES

SINGING

- Technical and qualitative aspects of the performer's sound
- Related to:
 - CONSONANCE level
 - Synchronization, intonation or vocal quality issues can impact Music judge's EXECUTION and DELIVERY levels

PRESENTATION

- How well the performer brings the song to life through interaction of vocal and visual aspects
- Judge entertainment value, emotional impact (vocally and visually)
- Maps to:
 - Theme(s)
 - Delivery and overall musicianship

