

Grade 4 Music Assessment: The Art of Singing

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge of vocal techniques, musical terminology, and the physical process of singing.

Read each question carefully. Use musical vocabulary where appropriate. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Max the monkey is preparing for the annual forest choir performance. He knows that to sing beautifully, he must stand tall to help his lungs fill with air. He begins his session with gentle humming to prepare his vocal cords. Nova the owl watches from above, noting how Max carefully adjusts his pitch to hit the high notes, and uses his diaphragm to ensure his voice carries clearly to the back of the clearing.

Word bank: Posture · Diaphragm · Pitch · Dynamics · Articulation · Tempo · Projection · Warm-up

1. Why is it important to maintain good posture when singing? Explain the effect it has on your breathing. (2 marks)

2. Max uses his diaphragm while singing. Describe the role of the diaphragm in supporting a singer's breath. (2 marks)

3. Define the term 'pitch'. If a singer is 'apartment', what does this mean in musical terms? (3 marks)

4. Explain the difference between 'piano' (soft) and 'forte' (loud) dynamics. How might a choir use these to make a song more expressive? (4 marks)

5. Why do singers perform a 'warm-up' before they begin singing a challenging piece of music? (2 marks)

6. What is 'articulation' in singing, and why is it important for the audience to understand the lyrics of a song? (3 marks)

7. Imagine you are teaching a younger student how to sing a song. Write a short guide (4-5 sentences) explaining the key steps they should take to give a successful performance. Include references to posture, breathing, and performance confidence. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram showing the correct standing posture for a singer. Label the position of the feet, the spine, and the head to show how they help the singer create a clear sound.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Imagine you are composing a song for the forest choir. If you wanted the song to sound mysterious and quiet at the beginning, but loud and joyful at the end, what musical terms would you write on your sheet music to tell the singers how to perform it?