

DEAN'S AWARD marking criteria (RSCM Bronze standard)

A			B1	
These two areas are to be weighted 50/50 throughout Section A performances:		<i>Parallel marking guidelines in A2 (if chanted) psalmody</i>	Singing at first & second sight	
<i>Accuracy & musical intention</i>	<i>Technique</i>			
A1 Hymn: (14-15)	A3 Anthem/song: (19-20)	A2 Psalm: (14-15)	(10)	Very good
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text clearly, evenly, sympathetically sung • Mood communicated vividly • Assured sense of style 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impeccable tonal confidence and control • Assured use of dynamic opportunities • Breathing meticulously planned and executed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faultless pointing • Very clear, expressive text • Sensitive phrasing/shaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faultless first attempt at each item, including expressive detail where marked 	
(12-13)	(17-18)	(12-13)	(8-9)	Good
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confident, engaging performance • Quite persuasive sense of phrasing • Secure posture and effective communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently reliable intonation, including in unaccompanied singing • Clear diction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confident style/pointing • Precise text & diction • Reliable intonation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confident attempts, not totally accurate • Slips largely corrected at second attempts • Some expressive details noticed 	
(10-11)	(14-16)	(10-11)	(6-7)	Some hesitation or mistakes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainly secure, despite small lapses in tonal control, breathing or diction • One error in notes or pulse, with prompt recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intonation mostly secure, with infrequent lapses and/or a little drift in pitch when singing unaccompanied • Mainly consistent tonal projection, if weaker at extremes of range 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One text/pointing error, with prompt recovery • Mainly secure, even progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainly keeping going • Some rhythmic security despite slips • Pitch outline evident, but significant slips • Tone and intonation generally reliable • Improvement at some second attempts 	
(9)	(12-13)	(9)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cautious connection with the meaning • Style and phrasing tentatively developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate, but without expressive interest • Text audible, but not always very clear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cautious approach • Tentative phrasing/shaping 		
(7-8)	(9-11)	(5-8)	(3-5)	More significant concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of confidence or security at times • Insufficient connection with the meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of technical consistency • Breathing control very insecure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some text/pointing errors, and sometimes poor recovery • Lack of momentum/shape in chanting • Text often unclear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many errors in notes and rhythms • Severe lack of technical consistency • Little or no improvement at second attempts 	
(5-6)	(6-8)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of security, with poor recovery • Lack of a sense of phrasing • Poor posture and communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A severe technical problem marring the quality of sound • Intonation very unreliable 			
(3-4)	(4-5)	(3-4)	(2)	Much more preparation needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of any musical shape or expression • Major breakdown in continuity • Incomplete performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than one severe technical difficulty (tone/diction/breathing/intonation) • Extreme lack of confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent inaccuracies in notes/text/pointing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable breakdown in progress • Extreme lack of confidence • Incomplete attempts 	
(0)	This item was not attempted			(0)
			(0)	Not attempted

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B2: Aural	B3: Technical	C	E
<i>These will be shown as an incorporated comment & mark</i>		Repertoire	Choir in context
(5) Very good (5)	(5) Very good (5)	(10) Very good (10)	(19-20) Very good (19-20)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faultless, prompt response in each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive and fully accurate technical answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cogent answers to each question Convincing background knowledge Alert, with no prompting, in discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very convincing, in plain language, in all 5 items No prompting or notes needed in discussion
(4) Good (4)	(4) Good (4)	(8-9) Good (8-9)	(17-18) Good (17-18)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All responses reasonably secure, rhythmic and in tune No undue delay in answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alert, mainly precise answers Able to apply technical knowledge beyond set piece No undue delay in answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some understanding evident in each answer Mainly detailed responses in discussion Well prepared and presented answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some understanding evident in all 5 items, with mainly detailed responses in discussion Well prepared and presented answers Minimal use of notes to prompt the memory
(3) Some hesitation or mistakes (3)	(3) Some hesitation or mistakes (3)	(6-7) Mainly responsive (6-7)	(14-16) Mainly responsive (14-16)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least half the items accurate Some slips corrected when prompted or at second attempt Only one item significantly weak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic accuracy, but a few slips Some slips corrected when prompted Only one technical aspect significantly weak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic accuracy, but rather superficial or lacking in some detail Knowledge unearthed with prompting, or several references to notes Answers limited by simple language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly accurate answers, but lacking in some detail Answers limited by simple language Only one item significantly weak
			(12-13)
(2) More significant concern (2)	(2) More significant concern (2)	(3-5) Gaps in knowledge & understanding (3-5)	(9-11) Gaps in knowledge & understanding (9-11)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most items incorrect Sung responses considerably out of tune Lack of aural awareness Persistent tendency to guess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccuracies in most items Lack of technical familiarity Persistent tendency to guess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant inaccuracies in answers to both questions Persistent tendency to guess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate, incomplete or confused answers in response to E2 service/season/festival Considerable inaccuracy in another item
			(6-8)
(1) Much more preparation needed (1)	(1) Much more preparation needed (1)	(2) Much more preparation needed (2)	(4-5) Much more preparation needed (4-5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and hesitant response in each item Some questions unanswered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and hesitant response in each item Some questions unanswered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and hesitant response throughout Some questions unanswered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and sketchy response to all questions At least 2 items appeared totally unprepared Some questions received no answer at all
(0) Not attempted (0)	(0) Not attempted (0)	(0) Section C was not attempted (0)	(0) Section E was not attempted (0)

BISHOP'S AWARD marking criteria (RSCM Silver standard)

A			B1	
These two areas are to be weighted 50/50 throughout Section A performances:		<i>Parallel marking guidelines in A2 chanted psalmody</i>	Singing at first & second sight	
<i>Accuracy & musical intention</i>	<i>Technique</i>			
A1 Hymn: (10)	all other Silver items: (14-15)	<i>Very good</i>	A2 Psalm: (14-15)	(10) <i>Very good</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text clearly, evenly, sympathetically sung Mood communicated vividly Assured sense of style 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impeccable tonal confidence and control Assured use of dynamic opportunities Breathing meticulously planned and executed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faultless pointing Very clear, expressive text Sensitive phrasing/shaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faultless first attempt, including convincing expressive detail, and clear, sensitive treatment of text 	
(8-9)	(12-13)	<i>Good</i>	(12-13)	(8-9) <i>Good</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confident, engaging performance Persuasive phrasing, and quite sensitive vocal articulation Secure posture and effective communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently reliable intonation, including precision in unaccompanied passages Clear diction Mainly secure breathing technique Some effective dynamic interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confident style/pointing Precise text & diction Reliable intonation, including chanting notes and in unaccompanied verses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confident attempts, not totally accurate Slips largely corrected at second attempt Some expressive details noticed Accurate text, at one attempt if not both 	
(7)	(10-11)	<i>Satisfactory but some technical lapses</i>		(10-11)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly secure, despite small lapses in tonal control, breathing or diction One error in notes or pulse, with prompt recovery Consistent sense of style and phrasing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intonation mostly secure, with infrequent lapses and/or a little drift in pitch when singing unaccompanied Consistent tonal projection, if a little weaker at extremes of range 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One text/pointing error, with prompt recovery Mainly evenly shaped text & phrases, with some sensitivity to the meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly keeping going Some rhythmic security despite slips Pitch outline evident, but significant slips Tone and intonation generally secure Improvement at second attempt 	(6-7) <i>Some hesitation or mistakes</i>
(6)	(9)			(9)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cautious connection with the meaning Style and phrasing tentatively developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurate, but without much dynamic interest Text audible, but not always very clear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cautious approach Tentative phrasing/shaping 		
(5)	(7-8)	<i>More significant technical concern</i>		(5-8)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of confidence or security at times Insufficient connection with the meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of technical consistency Noticeably weak breathing control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some text/pointing errors Lack of momentum/shape in chanting Text sometimes unclear Unmusically phrased, or stilted in musical effect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many errors in notes and rhythms Severe lack of technical consistency Little or no improvement at second attempt Significant difficulty with text or underlay 	(3-5) <i>More significant concern</i>
(3-4)	(5-6)			(9)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of security, with poor recovery Lack of sensitivity in phrasing Poor posture and communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A severe technical problem marring the quality of sound Intonation a frequent anxiety 			
(2)	(3-4)	<i>Much more preparation needed</i>		(3-4)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of any musical shape or expression Major breakdown in continuity Incomplete performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than one severe technical difficulty (tone/diction/breathing/intonation) Extreme lack of confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent inaccuracies in notes/text/pointing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considerable breakdown in progress Extreme lack of confidence Incomplete attempts 	(2) <i>Much more preparation needed</i>
(0)	<i>This item was not attempted</i>			(0) <i>Not attempted</i>

BISHOP'S AWARD marking criteria (RSCM Silver standard)

B2: Aural	B3: Technical	C Repertoire	E Choir in context
(5) Very good	(5)	(10) Very good	Very good (14-15)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faultless, prompt response in each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive and fully accurate technical answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cogent answers to each question, and musical details securely recalled Convincing background knowledge Alert, with no prompting, in discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very convincing, in plain language, in all 5 items Cogent detail, without discursion/excursion No prompting or notes needed in discussion
(4) Good	(4)	(8-9) Good	Good (12-13)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All responses reasonably secure, rhythmic and in tune No undue delay in answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alert, mainly precise answers Able to apply technical knowledge beyond set piece No undue delay in answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some understanding evident in each answer Mainly detailed responses in discussion Well prepared and presented answers Evidence of some background knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some understanding evident in all 5 items, with mainly detailed responses in discussion Well prepared and presented answers Minimal use of notes to prompt the memory E3 presented convincingly
(3) Some hesitation or mistakes	(3)	(6-7) Mainly responsive	Mainly responsive (10-11)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least half the items accurate Some slips corrected when prompted or at second attempt Only one item significantly weak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic accuracy, but a few slips Some slips corrected when prompted Only one technical aspect significantly weak Other clef known in outline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic accuracy, but rather superficial or lacking in some detail Knowledge unearthed with prompting, or several references to notes Answers limited by simple language C2 presented accurately, if a little briefly or hesitantly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly accurate answers, but lacking in some detail Answers limited by simple language Only one item significantly weak
			(9)
(2) More significant concern	(2)	(3-5) Gaps in knowledge & understanding	Gaps in knowledge & understanding (7-8)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most items incorrect Sung responses out of tune Lack of aural awareness Persistent tendency to guess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccuracies in most items Lack of technical familiarity Persistent tendency to guess Little or no knowledge of other clef 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate replies to 2 or more questions Musical periods or dates very confused Persistent tendency to guess C2 presented unconvincingly, with lack of accurate contrasting features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate, incomplete or confused answers, in response to E2 service/holy days, or elsewhere E2 Bible passage not contextually understood
			(5-6)
(1) Much more preparation needed	(1)	(2) Much more preparation needed	Much more preparation needed (3-4)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and hesitant response in each item Some questions unanswered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and hesitant response in each item Some questions unanswered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and hesitant response throughout Some questions unanswered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate and sketchy response to all questions At least 2 items appeared totally unprepared Some questions received no answer at all
(0) Not attempted	(0) Not attempted	(0) Section C was not attempted	(0) Section E was not attempted