

File

SEMINAR IN CHORAL TECHNIQUES

Homework Quiz

Week of March 12, 1956.

RESONANCE AND SOUND

1. How is a musical sound produced? _____

2. What are three most-used methods of producing sound in orchestral instruments and give examples of instruments? _____

3. What is resonance? _____

4. Describe the relationship between the size of a resonator and high and low frequencies? _____

5. Describe a "dark" tone. _____

6. Describe a "bright" tone. _____

7. Define the word "timbre". _____

8. Give two good reasons for studying and understanding the sound producing apparatus of the human voice. _____

9. What is the difference between "pitch" and "timbre"? _____

THE VOICE

1. What produces the actual sound in the human voice and where is it located? _____

2. Identify the principle resonators of the voice. _____

3. Make a simple diagram of the larynx and resonators and label: (a) the vocal folds, (b) the laryngeal pharynx, (c) the oro-pharynx, (d) the tongue, (e) the uvula or soft palate, (f) the hard palate, (g) the nasopharynx, (h) the trachae.

4. Describe the action of the tongue in the production of (a) a dark vowel (b) a bright vowel. _____

5. Define the term "phonation". _____

6. In what position should the uvula be for all open vowels. _____

7. In what position should the uvula be for the sounds "m" and "n". _____

8. What is a "breathy" tone. _____

9. Describe the difference between "resonance" and "sympathetic vibration".

VOWELS AND CONSONANTS

1. Write out the most commonly used vowels of the vowel spectrum and label the dark and the bright ends. _____

2. What is a dark bright vowel? _____

3. Describe the following terms and give examples:
 - (a) a phonated consonant _____
 - (b) an aspirant _____
 - (c) an explosive _____
 - (d) a rippling consonant _____
 - (e) a vowelized consonant _____
4. Identify the main consonant producing elements of the vocal apparatus. _____

5. Select a sentence or two from a song or choral work of interest to you and write it out with a phonetic version beneath. _____

6. Write out the same sentence as above using only the consonants. _____

7. How should a disappearing vowel be treated chorally? _____

8. What role do consonants play in choral singing? Vowels? _____

9. What would you consider to be the most important function of the text in choral composition? _____

10. Please describe your own ideas concerning the relationship between speech sounds, meaning, beauty.