

# Scoring Rubric (Conducting)

## Delivery of instructions

Exceptional — Instructions are given in a confident manner, they can be clearly understood, and any filler words (such as “um”) are minimal and do not detract from the presentation.

Satisfactory — Instructions can be clearly understood, but there are stops and starts that suggest uncertainty or hesitation, or filler words detract somewhat from the presentation.

Unsatisfactory — Deficiencies in the delivery of instructions due, for example, to a hesitant manner, mumbling or speech that is too soft, or excessive filler words, interfere substantially with the ensemble’s performance.

## Clarity of instructions

Exceptional — Instructions are suitably organized, concise, precise, and use musical terms correctly.

Satisfactory — Instructions suffer from some lack of organization, conciseness, or precision; and musical terms, though understandable, may not be quite correct.

Unsatisfactory — Instructions are poorly organized, long-winded, or ambiguous, and they may use musical terms incorrectly.

## Nonverbal communication

Exceptional — The conductor’s posture reinforces the ideas in the music, the conductor makes eye contact with the ensemble, and the energy communicated is appropriate to the music.

Satisfactory — Minor deficiencies in the conductor’s posture, eye contact, or energy cause the ensemble’s performance to suffer somewhat.

Unsatisfactory — The conductor’s posture, eye contact, and energy interfere substantially with the ensemble’s performance.

## Conducting gestures

Exceptional — The conducting pattern is clear, well positioned, and appropriate to the style of the music; preparatory gestures communicate the start of the music with the correct tempo and mood; releases are clear; and the opposite hand is used effectively.

Satisfactory — Minor deficiencies in conducting gestures cause the ensemble’s performance or interpretation to suffer somewhat.

Unsatisfactory — The conducting gestures interfere substantially with an appropriate performance or interpretation of the music.