

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE OBSERVATION

Outline

School: _____ Teacher: _____

Date: _____ Beginning/Ending time: _____

Please answer the following questions:

Warm-up (if applicable)

1. Choose one aspect of the warm-up that you felt was particularly effective.
 - a. Describe or write out the exercise pattern.
 - b. What do you think the purpose of the exercise was?
 - c. Describe in detail how it was presented to the students (e.g. conducted, w/piano, etc.)
 - d. How often did the teacher comment on the students' sound? What did he/she say?

Literature

2. Consider the music the teacher chose for this ensemble.
 - a. What pieces were rehearsed during this class? Who composed or arranged them?
 - b. In what ways did the literature match the strengths and/or weaknesses of the ensemble?
 - c. Do any of these pieces offer unique opportunities to explore specific musical concepts?

Music Fundamentals

3. Identify one aspect of the rehearsal that dealt with some GENERAL ASPECT of musicianship such as music reading, rhythmic accuracy, musicality, etc.
 - a. Describe in detail what skill or concept was being taught and how.
 - b. What technique(s) or materials were used to achieve the objectives? Describe.
 - c. Were all of the students successful? How could you tell?

Rehearsal

4. Identify one piece or one section of a piece to which the teacher gave significant attention (i.e. time).
 - a. For choral pieces, what were the ranges, number of parts, form etc. of the piece?
 - b. For instrumental pieces, what was the texture, instrumentation, range, tempo, etc. of the piece?
 - c. What SPECIFIC aspects of the piece were identified for rehearsal?
 - d. What did the teacher say and/or do to remediate the problems? In which cases was the remediation successful?

Final

5. Describe one event that stood out during this observation. What happened and why did you remember it?