

**West Potomac Choral Department**  
**Make up project for an Excused Absence**  
**(illness, death in family, family emergency)**

**Concerts are unique, one time experiences, in which many aspects cannot be replicated.**

However in rare occasions, it may be necessary for a singer to miss the concert for one of the reasons outlined above. The following requirement gives the singer a concert experience – the preparation, the performance, and listening to the other ensembles. The experience will be video or audio taped, on stage if it is available during the singer's performance time.

**The makeup project must be completed within one week of the missed concert, or as scheduled by the director. *It is the student's responsibility to schedule this makeup time.***

**To the singer:**

If you complete this singing assignment and paper you will receive full credit for the missed event. Your grade will depend on the accuracy of singing the concert music and the quality of your paper

**1. Perform:**

- **Schedule a performance time** after school with the director. Arrange to have other singers attend who will sing the other voice parts with you. You may also have someone else sing with you on your own part, but it is important that your voice be heard. Be sure that they can adjust their schedules to attend the after school session on your make-up day.
- **Wear your concert attire:** You must perform the make up concert in your concert attire. Bring the outfit to school on your makeup day, and then change prior to your performance time.
- **Sing the selections performed by your ensemble, along with any combined numbers performed with the other choirs.** Selections must be performed from memory, unless music was held by singers in the concert

See other side for the Critique Paper assignment

2. **Listen and Write a Critique:** Write a at least a 6-page typed, double spaced, font 12, paper, reviewing the concert, including the information outlined below. You must use complete sentences. Write it as though you were writing the review for a newspaper. Spelling and proper use of grammar will count.

Include in your review

**I. Overall evaluation of each ensemble** – comment on aspects of their performance Describe in detail what you liked about each piece, and what you liked about the group’s performance of each song. Also share what you believe were problems, if any, with the performance. Point out any aspects that you felt could have been improved. Be specific. Use the following as a guideline.

- *Tone quality* – comment on their sound – is it beautiful? Use your own descriptions and give feedback on the overall tone of the ensemble
- *Intonation*- Are the singers in tune with those in their *section*? Are they in tune with the other parts? Are the chords in tune? (The harmonic elements)
- *Balance* – Are all sections heard, or are sections or individuals overpowering the other singers?
- *Diction* – Are you able to understand the words to each song? Strong consonants and Tall vowels?
- *Musical expression and Interpretation of the song* – are they making it musical by using dynamics, singing with a good sense of the music line or phrase ( a musical “arch”) and communicating the text. What is the mood of the piece, and do the singers reflect that in their sound?
- *Ensemble precision* – are they rhythmically together? Entrances and cut-offs together?
- *Music selection* – Do you think the piece they are singing is too difficult for them, too easy, or just right? Why or why not?

*Finally, sum up each ensemble’s performance in your own words. What did you like, what didn’t you like. If you were to give them a grade for their performance, what would it be?*

**II. Specific review of your ensemble** Give detailed review of each piece, comment on the rehearsal process, the development of each piece, and if we achieved our goals. – was the performance consistent with our rehearsals? Could it have been better? If so, describe what could have been done to make the performance better than it was. What could be done in our daily rehearsals to improve your choir so that the next concert is even better?