How to Conduct a PVI

Chapter Leaders Workshop

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How to Conduct a PVI

- Discussion: "What is a PVI?"

- Follow the guidance in Betty Clipman's videos on "How to Do a PVI". It's excellent!!

- Observe another PVI instructor (if possible) giving one or more PVI's; observe how she evaluates and provides feedback.

- Ensure that you, as a PVI instructor, understand the need for consistency:

  - Basic guidance to be given

  - Skill areas to be observed

  - Terminology to be used

  - Use of an assessment form (vocal profile)

Getting Ready…

- Be prepared with a pitchpipe, piano, sheet music, etc. – whatever works for **you**!

- Be able to demonstrate proper technique.

- Help the student relax with small talk, casual observations, and so on.

- Encourage her to record the PVI session.

- Work with student until understanding is achieved.

- Give the student praise, praise, praise!!

- Be prepared to give the student an assignment.

- Complete a vocal profile.

Guidelines:

- Put the singer at ease before asking her to sing.

- Ask her to sing a few phrases of something; follow up with a positive comment.

- Use your eyes **and** your ears to evaluate.

- Keep your body language positive.

- Ask for permission to touch the singer if you need to use that as a teaching tool.

- Provide the singer with exercises, if appropriate.

- Keep the vocal exercises as simple as possible.

- Give the singer no more than two or three areas to work on.

- Use the last few minutes for wrap up, and ….

- Provide closure with a summary of the points covered and instructions for improvement.

What to listen for/look for:

- **Body alignment:** weight balanced, body flexible, feet apart, spine elongated, etc.

- **Breathing** (inhalation, exhalation)

- **Breath Management:** effectively using the breath for complete phrase.

- **Tone Production** -- freely produced and resonant; freedom from tension in jaw, tongue

  - Head/chest mix -- singing too high in chest? Too low in head?

  - Negotiating register change successfully?

  - Interval accuracy -- tension; listening skills

  - Clarity and focus-- Clear? Breathy? Nasal? Dark? Swallowed?

  - Vibrato-- natural, wobble or tremolo? Can she take it out?

  - Dynamics-- freely produced, breath-supported delivery?

Vocal Profile - PVI

Name: _____   Part: _____

PVI Instructor: _____   Date: _____

The following indicates areas that are good as well as areas that need improvement:

AREA	NEEDS TO IMPROVE	GOOD	COMMENTS
Breath support:			
Expanded	_____	_____	_____
Head flexible	_____	_____	_____
Posture	_____	_____	_____
Resonance:			
Palate Lifted	_____	_____	_____
Vocal Production	_____	_____	_____
Miscellaneous:			
Lift phrases	_____	_____	_____
Sing open vowels	_____	_____	_____
Vowels too soon	_____	_____	_____
Consonants-flow	_____	_____	_____
Dynamics	_____	_____	_____
Over singing	_____	_____	_____
Energy in voice	_____	_____	_____
Lyrical	_____	_____	_____

Additional comments: _____

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The Results of a Successful PVI Program

- Develops vocal consistency among chorus members.

- Deepens the knowledge and skills of PVI instructors (strong contributors to chorus success)

- Builds confidence in singers based on enhancing their skills and understanding.