

**DCP SAMPLE TEST
SKILL AREA 8
COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

HOW TO PREPARE FOR SKILL AREA 8 EVALUATION

The following questions are listed for your consideration to help you focus on requirements for effective communication between a director and chorus. Although no answers are provided for these, if they raise unresolved questions in your mind you may wish to consider discussing them with your ED or a certified or master director in your region. You may also refer to DCP Resource Module 8 for more information.

1. Describe some ways that a director can project confident energy when standing before his or her chorus.

2. List a variety of communication techniques that a chorus director can use to foster close and trusting relationships between the members of a chorus.

3. What are some qualities of an effective listener?

4. A member of your chorus is not performance-ready. How might you use *feedback* to communicate to her that an anticipated result has not been met and that a behavior needs to change?

5. When communicating through email, what are some guidelines to follow to ensure that your message is successful?

If you are a director or assistant director, some of your chorus members will be asked for an evaluation of your communication skills in the following areas:

1. Handles input from chorus members in a positive manner.
2. Gives clear instructions and communicates expectations.
3. Communicates in a positive manner.
4. Exhibits enthusiasm.
5. Demonstrates ability to work with a coach or other outside assistance, to accept suggestions, and to work effectively with the chorus in such a situation.
6. Has consistent communication signals (i.e., eye contact, body language and voice).
7. Offers positive reinforcement.
8. Exhibits security and confidence in the position of director/codirector or associate/assistant director (whichever is applicable).
9. Accepts constructive criticism well.
10. Communicates positive expectation that the chorus can reach its goals.