



**Chamber Choir Virtual Learning**

# **High School Active Listening**

**May 6, 2020**



# High School Chamber Choir

## Lesson: May 6, 2020

**Objective/Learning Target: students will be able to evaluate three choirs and give specific feedback and critique using our choral vocabulary**

# BELL WORK

- What are some of your favorite or most memorable choir moments?
  - What songs? And why?
- If you were to pick your next choir concert pieces, how would you choose?
  - Your favorites?
  - Difficulty?
  - Language?
  - Tempo?



# LESSON: GLOSSARY

- **Tone Quality:** a unified sound throughout the choir (bright, dark, warm, light, etc)
- **Blending:** when all the sections are listening to each other and no individual voices are heard
- **Intonation:** singing in tune together
- **Diction:** enunciating the words so the audience can understand the text
- **Vocal Technique:** using the voice in a healthy way
- **Accuracy:** the correct pitches and rhythms
- **Dynamics:** the volume of the ensemble

A word cloud featuring various musical terms in different colors and orientations. The words are arranged in a roughly circular pattern. The most prominent word is "Listening" in large green letters. Other large words include "Teamwork" in pink, "Balance" in teal, and "Tone" in green. Smaller words include "Phrasing" (orange), "Breathing" (orange), "Blend" (orange), "Preparation" (purple), "Diction" (orange), "Intonation" (teal), "Tuning" (orange), "Accuracy" (teal), "Technique" (blue), "Dynamics" (orange), "Musicianship" (purple), and "Theory" (teal).

Blend  
Breathing  
Balance  
Tone  
Phrasing  
Listening  
Teamwork  
Diction  
Intonation  
Tuning  
Accuracy  
Technique  
Dynamics  
Musicianship  
Theory  
Preparation

# LESSON

- You will be comparing and contrasting the following recordings.
- Write about what each group does well and what they would need to work on.
- What do you hear that is the same? What is different? Why?
- Did you hear a difference in the music between the two groups singing SSAA and the one SATB group?

These high school choirs that you will listen to are all **singing the same song**.

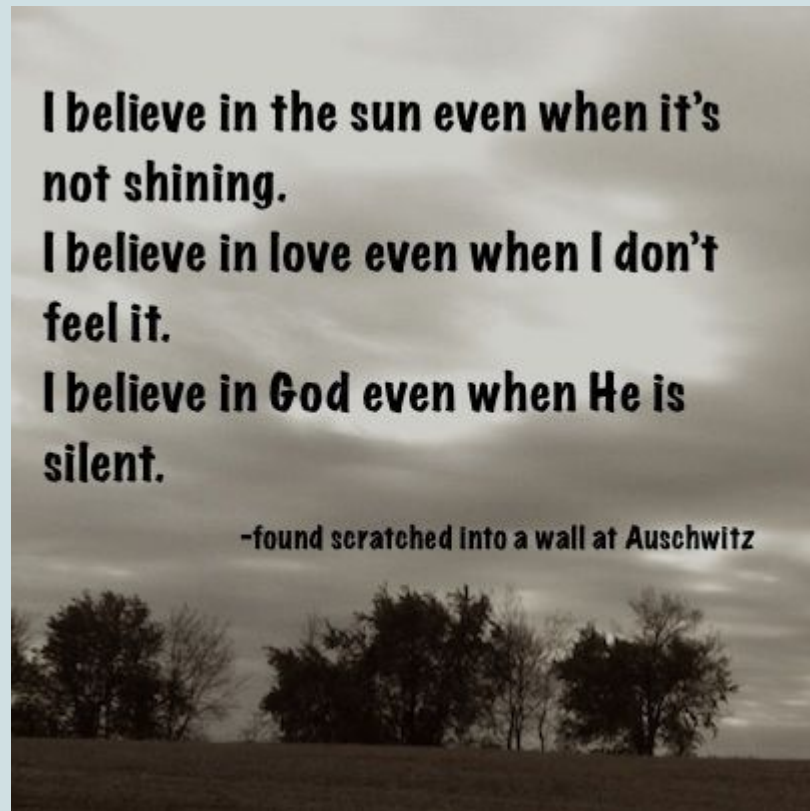
However, one choir is SATB and the other two are SSAA.

Keep that in mind when listening!

\* Notice the difference between their tone, tempo, artistic choices, expression, and diction.

# ABOUT THE SONG

1. Title: Even When He is Silent
2. Composer: Kim Andre Arnesen
  - a. Born in 1980
  - b. He is a Norwegian composer
3. The text was found written on a wall in a concentration camp.
4. Other works:
  - a. [Magnificat](#)
  - b. [Flight Song](#)
  - c. [Cradle Song](#)



# CHOIR #1-SATB

Listen for:

-Balance

\*Can you hear lower parts?

-Diction

-Tone quality

\*Is it warm? Is it unified?





# CHOIR #2 - SSAA

Listen for:

-Balance

\*Can you hear individual voices?

-Diction

-Musicality



# CHOIR #3 - SSAA

In this recording listen for:

-Balance

\*Can you hear individual voices?

-Blending

\*Are all sections heard?

-Tuning/Intonation

\*Do the chords sound like they are in tune?



# MORE PRACTICE

Prayer

Il Bianco

Listen to these songs and focus on their tone quality, blending, and tuning.

Think about what specifically makes this song and choir successful.



# REFLECTION

- Find 4 choir pieces you would want to do in choir.
  - Why did you pick them?
  - What can they teach your choir?
  - What will be the challenges?

