

## PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES ANCHOR ASSIGNMENT: EXAMPLE

PLEASE REFLECT ON THESE STATEMENTS. YOUR ANSWER MUST BE IN PARAGRAPH FORM.

1. Which song do you feel was the most challenging to learn and why? Use your music to cite specific measures and sections.

*The most challenging song to learn was "Legend of the Ancient Hero". There were new things I had never seen in music, new key signatures, switching time signatures, and new rhythms. Measures 20 through 27 were difficult because of the runs and measures 93 to 107 were pretty difficult also because of the switching time signatures from 4/4 to 7/8 to 6/8 back to 7/8 then finally back to 4/4. The rhythm was also a little tricky to learn at 179 to 202, but after some practice it got much easier. Overall in that song the flutes did pretty well learning and playing. Personally, I worked on Legend the most because it was my favorite and I knew it would be hard to learn. In "Soaring" the beginning triplets were tough to get down and I can hear even in the final recording the flutes didn't get it right in the beginning, although as the song progressed to the second time those triplets came around, we could play it pretty all right. Otherwise in that song, as a group the flutes sounded pretty great. In "Portrait of an Old Country Town" there wasn't anything too difficult; it was definitely the easiest out of the three. It was a really fun song to play and I didn't have much trouble with it.*

2. What area of music performance do you feel is your weakest? Why?

*In music performance, I know my weak points, and I admit them. Personally, I hate the entire process of learning new music--the beginning stages where no one knows when to play, what to play, how to play it. But once it gets going and I learn it, I just have to get working on it. I also know I have trouble playing unfamiliar rhythms and rhythms that are difficult for me. Runs are another thing I always have to work on when I play music. I also noticed sometimes I don't acknowledge the notes that I play as I play them. It's difficult to explain, but I can play the notes and go along playing, but not actually in my head say what the note is as it goes by, and that definitely messes me up and I have just recently noticed this.*

3. Compliment yourself – What have you accomplished on your instrument since September?

*My sound has developed IMMENSELY since September and I am extremely proud of that. My practice habits have greatly improved, also and I practice almost every day. I've learned all my "WAIT HOW DO I PLAY THIS!?" notes from September. I was also fortunate enough to play a solo this past concert and I didn't even mess up horribly! And since the beginning of the year I have moved up about 3 spots in my section.*

*I seriously cannot put into words how much I have improved and how pleased I am with myself. I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to play with the Symphonic Band next year. This isn't something I'm doing for an easy grade, this is something I truly have a passion for.*