



Visual Captions - Points of Emphasis

Visual Individual

- Demonstration of technique fundamentals
- Complexity and variety of skills
- Individual alignment/carriage
- Clearly defined body
- Demonstration of dynamics and changes in space, time, weight, and flow

Key components: focus is on individuals: sample across all sections, balance between color guard and instrumentalists, clear training and consistency, compatibility between training and challenge, range of skills, environmental challenges (listening and visibility)

Emphasis points: speak to overall range of challenges and achievement - demonstrated more, for longer, and in the most settings - ability to recover

Visual Ensemble

- Logical development over time
- Musical interpretation, phrasing, nuances
- Variety in design responsibilities
- Clarity of emphasis
- Use of stage, color and props in design
- Demonstration of dynamics and changes in space, time, weight, and flow

Key components: focus is on ensemble: speak to designed plan and achievement across all sections, clear training and consistency, compatibility between training and challenge, range of design choices, logical evolution from moment to moment (developments versus transitions), balance achievement comments with design choices, do I see the musical voices at the right moments?

Emphasis points: unity (do all of the pieces and parts make sense as a whole), relationship to the music (literal, nonliteral, choice of the design), members understand and show you “who they are” within the rules of the designed intention, do I see the musical voices at the right moments and emphasized locations?

Visual Effect

- Coordination
- Pacing
- Concept
- Continuity
- Interpretation of music
- Impact and Climaxes
- Aesthetic/Intellectual/Emotional Qualities
- Use of Form/Color
- Creativity/Originality - as it relates to zoom out effect

Key components: focus is on ensemble: overall experience and intention of the show, emotional effect, engaging journey through the show, concept, and the overall mood established by design and communication, do you see what you hear especially during musical contours? how effectively coordinated and communicated are all sections?

Emphasis points: react first and then analyze (but don't overanalyze), speak to concept, coordination of all of the parts, engagement and range of emotion, confidence and delivery by performers, what is unique about the show and makes you want to see it again?

Color Guard

- Integration/color guard as part of the overall show concept/plan "Big Picture"
- Equipment, body, movement vocabulary/choreography
- Variety, range, depth of skills
- Simultaneous responsibilities
- Interpretation of music and coordination with band voices
- Ensemble control/cohesiveness (precision/accuracy/demonstration of training)
- Mood, character, communication of style
- Creativity/Originality - as it relates to the whole

Key components: focus is on skills, training, achievement -- compatibility; contribution to the visual program as it relates to the music, theme, concept -- engaging journey through the show, concept, and the overall mood established by guard and communication, do you see what you hear especially during musical contours? how effectively coordinated is the guard?

Emphasis points: speak to concept and how the guard contributes to telling the story, compatibility and smart choices of choreography, confidence and delivery by performers, what can the guard instructor work on to make the biggest impact to improving the overall show?