

Criteria for evaluation of participants' performance in Chinmaya Geeta Chanting Yajna

Definition of terms

Memory is the ability to chant the specified verses without any break, long pause or hesitation. *Note:* If a participant is unable to recollect the next quarter or word, he or she can request for a prompt from the judge panel. This however shall be considered as a memory lapse. Every participant has to chant an opening and closing as specified in the [appendix](#).

Pronunciation is the ability to chant the verses correctly according to the pronunciation rules of Sanskrit.

Correctness of Text is to evaluate if the text of the verses being chanted matches the reference hand-out provided by Chinmaya Mission for this event.

Note: The hand-out published in [Chinmaya Mission West webpage](#) shall be used as the baseline for validating text and pronunciation. Common pronunciation challenges and guidelines for correct pronunciation of Sanskrit Text can be found in the Chanting Guide provided in the Reference Documents section of this webpage.

Vocabulary Test shall be based on the word list provided in the Vocabulary List for Chapter 2, verses 39 - 72. There are 25 words provided for this chapter. The test shall include multiple choice questions, word puzzles, and free response questions to test the understanding of the meaning of the chapter. This test is applicable only to the High school reading group. This document is published as a Reference document in [Chinmaya Mission West webpage](#).

Presentation refers to clarity and loudness of chanting, or, enunciation, consistency in speed, confidence, posture and devotional attitude during chanting. Adhering to the meter (Chandas/vRttam) shall also be one of the criteria. The handout provided for the chapter has the verse broken down based on the meter in to four quarters. Please refer to the reference audio provided to understand the correct chanting.

Note: Tune shall not be a criterion for judgment.

Every participant is required to chant the assigned number of verses as specified in the [verse assignment table](#). Please refer to the [Appendix](#) for expected opening and closing.

Scoring criteria for Preliminary Rounds, also referred to as Regionals are as follows:

Scoring applicable to groups chanting from memory in Regionals (Preliminary Round)

Breakdown of points for all groups chanting from memory is listed in the table below.

Memory	Pronunciation	Presentation	Total
50 Points	45 Points	5 Points	100 Marks

Scoring Applicable to groups reading from hand-out in the Regionals (Preliminary Round)

Breakdown of points for **Kaunteya**, the high school kids group reading the verses, is listed in the table below:

Pronunciation	Vocabulary Test	Presentation	Total
70 Points	25 Points	5 Points	100 Marks

Breakdown of points for **Mahābāho**, the adult group reading the verses is listed in the table below. Participants in this group are expected to explain the meaning of selected verses in 3 - 5 minutes. Recommended books are 1) "The Holy Geeta," and 2) Shrimad Bhagavad Gita Chapter 1&2, authored by Swami Chinmayananda.

Pronunciation	Explanation of Verse Meaning	Presentation	Total
70 Points	25 Points	5 Points	100 Points

Each participant in the Regionals Event shall be awarded a final score out of 100 points by the panel of judges, solely based on their performance. **The score awarded by the Judge Panel shall be final.** The actual score will not be shared with the participants. Centers may report a Grade: Excellent Performance, Great Job, Good Effort, Needs Improvement, etc., based on the score.

Chapter 2 - Verse Assignments for Grades/Groups

Please note that the participants must chant the assigned number of verses, based on the group, in order to be evaluated and scored by the Judge panel.

GROUP	GRADE	VERSES ASSIGNED
Kiriti ☸	Toddlers, Pre-K	39 - 48
Anagha	KG	39 - 48
Arjuna	Grades 1 - 2	39 - 53
Bhārata	Grades 3 - 4	39 - 58
Pārtha	Grades 5 - 6	39 - 63
Medhāvi ❖	Grades 1 - 6	39 - 72
Guḍākesha	Grades 7 - 8	39 - 72
Dhanañjaya	Grades 9 - 12	39 - 72
Kaunteya ★	Grades 9 - 12	39 - 72 (READING)
Parantapa	-- (Adults)	39 - 72 (MEMORY)
Mahābāho ★	-- (Adults)	39 - 72 (READING)
★ Groups reading the Verses All other groups are required to memorize the verses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kaunteya group participants shall be required to take a Vocabulary Test. The questions in this test shall be based on the Vocabulary List published. Mahābāho group participants shall be required to speak for 3-5 minutes on any one of the following set of verses: 2.47-2.48, 2.62-2.63, 2.69-2.70 		
❖ Medhāvi participants will be evaluated as a separate group within their Grade-group.		
☸ Participants registered in the Kiriti group, shall chant from memory, <u>as a group</u> . They will not be evaluated individually.		

Appendix:

- Before chanting the thirty-ninth verse, every participant is required to chant the following **opening**:

ॐ श्रीपरमात्मने नमः । अथ द्वितीयोऽध्यायः । साङ्ख्ययोगः । श्रीभगवानुवाच ।

om śrīparamātmāne namaḥ. atha dvitīyo'dhyāyaḥ. sāṅkhyayogaḥ. śrībhagavānuvāca

- All participants not chanting until the end of the chapter 2, must conclude with the partial **closing**:

ॐ तत् सत् । श्रीकृष्णार्पणमस्तु ॥

om tat sat. śrī kṛṣṇārpaṇamastu

- All participants chanting until the end of the chapter 2 (Verse 72), must conclude with the full **closing**:

ॐ तत् सत् । इति श्रीमद्भगवद्गीतासु उपनिषत्सु ब्रह्मविद्यायां योगशास्त्रे श्रीकृष्णार्जुनसंवादे साङ्ख्ययोगो नाम

द्वितीयोऽध्यायः ॥ श्रीकृष्णार्पणमस्तु ॥

om tat sat. iti śrīmadbhagavadgītāsu upaniṣatsu brahmavidyāyāṁ yogaśāstre śrīkṛṣṇārjunasaṁvāde sāṅkhyayogo nāma dvitīyo'dhyāyaḥ. śrī kṛṣṇārpaṇamastu