

Voices for Texas

Prepare to sing or recite the Texas state song with care.

4.14.B “sing or recite “Texas, Our Texas”;

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three actions that would help you sing or recite the state song clearly and respectfully. Circle the names of the person who wrote the music and the person who wrote the words.

A Respectful State Song Performance

- ① Texas has an official state song called “Texas, Our Texas.” The Texas Legislature adopted the song in 1929. William J. Marsh wrote its music, and Gladys Yoakum Wright wrote its words. When Texans sing or recite the song, they share a tradition that honors the state. A class performance can help students learn the song’s words and meaning together.
- ② Before a recitation, read the title and every line carefully. Notice punctuation, because a comma or period can signal a short pause. Speak each word clearly enough for listeners to understand. If a class sings, students should listen for the starting pitch and keep a steady beat. Practice helps the group begin and end together with calm voices.
- ③ During a school program, stand still, face the audience, and use a respectful voice. Hold the song sheet at a height that lets you look up sometimes. Do not rush through the words. A singer or speaker may take a breath at a planned pause, then continue with the group. Afterward, reflect on whether the performance was clear, steady, and respectful.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What official state song is named in the passage?

2 What should you notice to find places for short pauses during a recitation?

3 When a class sings, what should students listen for, and what should they keep?

4 List two actions a performer can take during a school program to show respect.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences for a class performance plan for "Texas, Our Texas." In order, tell how your class will start, make the words clear, and show respect.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three actions that would help you sing or recite the state song clearly and respectfully. Circle the names of the person who wrote the music and the person who wrote the words. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What official state song is named in the passage?	"Texas, Our Texas."
2	What should you notice to find places for short pauses during a recitation?	Punctuation, such as commas and periods.
3	When a class sings, what should students listen for, and what should they keep?	They should listen for the starting pitch and keep a steady beat.
4	List two actions a performer can take during a school program to show respect.	Answers may include stand still, face the audience, use a respectful voice, hold the song sheet so the performer can look up, do not rush, or take a breath at a planned pause.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our class will listen for the starting pitch before we sing. We will speak or sing each word clearly and pause at punctuation. We will stand still, face the audience, and use respectful voices.

Accept reasonable performance plans that include a way to start together, a way to make words clear, and a respectful performance behavior. The three ideas may be written in different wording or sentence order.