

CMSJ Geeta Chanting Yajna – Evaluation Criteria

Date: April 6, 2023 (Saturday)

Location: In-person at Chinmaya Mission San Jose

10160 Clayton Rd, San Jose, CA 95127

Chapter 4

Verses 1-42

Criteria for Evaluation

Definition of terms

Memory is the ability to chant the specified portion as required by the panel of judges without any break, hesitation or confusion.

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

Common pronunciation challenges and guidelines for correct pronunciation of Sanskrit Text can be found in the [Pronunciation Guide](#). The audio and text provided on the Chinmaya Mission San Jose website as learning-aids shall be used as the baseline for pronunciation and text.

Vocabulary Test shall be based on the word list provided in the Vocabulary List for Chapter 4. There are 25 words provided for this chapter. The participants will be asked to give the meaning of the 10 vocabulary words in English.

Presentation refers to clarity and loudness of chanting, or, enunciation, consistency in speed, posture, confidence, sincerity of effort, and devotional attitude.

Note: Tune shall not be a criterion for judgment.

Each participant shall be given a score by the panel of judges, based on how the participant chants. Every participant is required to chant the assigned number of verses as specified in the table below.

Verse Assignments for groups

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

Group	Grade	Verses
Keshava	Toddler Group (Will not be judged)	1-7 (All verses)
Anagha	PreK-KG (Memory)	1-7 (All verses)
Arjuna	Grades 1-2 (Memory)	1-14
Bhārata	Grades 3-4 (Memory)	1-21
Pārtha	Grades 5-6 (Memory)	1-28
Gudakesha	Grades 7-9 (Memory)	1-35
Dhananjaya	Grades 10-12 (Memory)	1-42
Kaunteya*	Grades 10-12 (Reading)	1-42
Parantapa	Adults (Memory)	1-42
Mahābaho**	Adults (Reading and Shloka Explanation)	1-42
Medhavi	Grades 1 to 6 (optional; will not be judged)	1-42

* Kaunteya group will have to memorize the meanings of vocabulary words.

** Mahābāho group participants shall be required to speak for 3 minutes on a randomly assigned verse from the list below. Please be prepared to speak on all 3 verses. Judges will select one from the below verses:

- 4.7
- 4.24
- 4.39

Points breakdown

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

Memory	Pronunciation	Presentation	Total
40 Points	50 Points	10 Points	100 Points

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

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

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

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

- 1) Participants will be asked to chant the beginning portion (3 points for pronunciation):

ॐ श्रीपरमात्मनेनमः। अथ चतुर्थोऽध्यायः। ज्ञानकर्मसंन्यास योगः।

om śrīparamātmāne namaḥ | atha atha caturtho'dhyāyaḥ. |

jñāna-karma-sannyāsa yogaḥ. |

- 2) Participants in the **Keshava and Anagha** will chant **ALL** the verses in their categories. They will end their chanting with the colophon mentioned in #4.
- 3) Judges (except Anagha group) will then select the next randomly selected verse (which may or may not be continuous). Judges will prompt the participant with the **last quarter** of the previous verse. For example: A lead judge will chant the following portion of the verse:

न त्वं वैत्थ परन्तप ॥ ४ ॥

na tvam vettha parantapall4ll

Participants will be required to chant the **next verse** (i.e., in the above example, verse 5). Then the judge will give another prompt and the participant will chant the next verse. This will continue till the participant has chanted 5 rounds. There will be a 6th round for tie-breaker as explained #6 below.

- 4) Each verse chanted will be worth 11 points for pronunciation (totaling 55 points for 5 verses and 5 points for beginning and ending colophon). All groups will chant the following colophon (worth 2 points for pronunciation):

ॐ तत् सत् ।

इति श्रीमद्भगवद्गीतासु उपनिषत्सु ब्रह्मविद्यायाम् योगशास्त्रे

श्रीकृष्णार्जुन संवादे ज्ञानकर्मसंन्यास योगो नाम चतुर्थोऽध्यायः ॥

श्री कृष्णार्पणमस्तु ।

om tat sat |

iti śrīmadbhagavadgītāsu upaniṣatsu brahmavidyāyām yogaśāstre

Śrīkṛṣṇārjunasaṁvāde jñānakarmasannyāsayogo nāma caturtho'dhyāyaḥ ॥

śrī kṛṣṇārpaṇamastu ।

- 5) Chapter opening and closing has to be chanted by all participants. Verse prompts shall start after the participant chants the opening. Closing should be chanted after all 5 rounds are completed. Verses prompted shall be randomly selected for each participant, within the assigned verses.
- 6) There will be a tie-breaker challenge for chanters of Grade 1 to 12 - Memory, where the chanter will have to chant 3 verses followed by the prompt. This is to identify the winner to go to State Level. Tie breaker score shall be used in case of tie-s.
- 7) For **Kaunteya** participants, judges will ask the meaning of 10 vocabulary words (could be either way, English-to-Sanskrit and Sanskrit-to-English meanings). Each vocabulary word will be worth 3 points. **Mahabaho** participants will explain the meaning of one of the above mentioned verses in 3-5 minutes.