

Children's Challenge*

Spelling

Read the program notes carefully and find all the words whose spelling differs from that given in *Eaton's True Blue Speller*. Discuss why.

Punctuation

Find all the errors of punctuation in the program notes. You may refer to the copy of Jensen's *Punctuation* you brought with you.

Foreign Languages

1. **German.** Retranslate the English text of "Jesus bleibet meine Freude" given in the program notes back into the original German.

2. **Hungarian.** Find two Hungarian words in the program with diacritics. Explain how the Hungarian vowels would be pronounced differently if the diacritics were absent.

3. **Latin.** Explain why Jacobus Gallus is *not* Latin for George Handel.

Drama

The plays of John Fletcher were as popular as those of Shakespeare in the early 17th century. Write a doctoral thesis on why they are much less popular now. For extra credit, rewrite Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* to give it a happy ending.

Astronomy

Calculate the time from the start of the concert to the winter solstice.

Statistics

Plot a histogram of the distribution of word lengths in the program notes and show that it approximates a log-normal distribution.

Computer Programming

The incorrect underlay of the text in the alto part of the "Hallelujah" chorus in measure 79 is caused by the *FINALE* music notation program. Write a patch to solve this problem and e-mail it to the *FINALE* software developers.

Musical Performance

1. Take any contemporary worship song from your church and rearrange it for two violins, violoncello, and harpsichord. Be sure to replace the guitar chord symbols with figured bass. Explain to your church music director or worship leader why this is all an improvement.

2. The Senior Orchestra is performing the "Hallelujah" chorus with exactly the same number of violinists Handel used for one of his performances. However, Handel used two double basses. Count how many double basses there are in the Senior Orchestra. Learn to play the double bass so that you can help rectify this dreadful historical inaccuracy in our performance by next December. You may start in the Junior Orchestra.

M.G.

*with apologies to the Meadowlark Music Festival!