Entrance Examination Study Guide: Oral Exams

VII. Sight Singing
Applicants will be provided music to sing at the discretion of the proctor.

VIII. T’Amim
Applicants should be prepared to chant selections from the following sets of t’amim:
1. Torah (including special melodies for Shirat Hayam, Ends of Books, etc.)
2. Haftarah (including special melodies for Shabbat Hazon, etc.)
3. Torah for Yamim Nora-im
4. Eicha (including unique melody for the third chapter)
5. Esther (including identifying passages that are chanted in advance by the congregation and which are chanted in Eicha Trop).

Suggested Reading:

IX. Nusach
Applicants should be prepared to chant any selection from any service in the annual cycle, in the correct nusach. Special attention should be paid to “misinai” melodies for the specific texts. A siddur and Machzor will be provided. Selections will be drawn from any of the following services:

1. Weekday: Arvit, Birkot Hashachar, P’sukei D’zimra, Shacharit, Torah Service, Hallel, Musaf (for Chol Hamoed and Rosh Chodesh) and Mincha.

2. Shabbat: Kabbalat Shabbat, Arvit, Birkot Hashachar, P’Sukei D’zimra, Shacharit, Torah Service, Birkat Hachodesh, Musaf, Mincha (including variations for Chol Hamoed, Aseret Y’mei T’shuva, Rosh Chodesh, etc.)


4. S’lichot

5. Rosh Hashanah: Arvit, Birkot Hashachar, P’sukei D’zimra, Shacharit, Torah Service, Musaf, Mincha

6. Yom Kippur: Kol Nidre (Arvit), Birkot Hashachar, P’sukei D’zimra, Shacharit, Musaf (including Avoda), Mincha, Neila.
X. Pedagogy
Prepare a 1-2 page lesson plan for one of the subjects listed below. Be sure to include the objective, the core concepts, step-by-step procedure, and methods for assessment of your lesson, as well as how many sessions, in your estimation, it will take to achieve your goal. At the time of the oral part of your examination, you will be asked to explain your lesson plan.

- Teaching Trope
- Navigating the Siddur for Shabbat morning
- Create a family Havdallah program

- You will also be asked to demonstrate teaching a new congregational melody. No Lesson Plan will be required.