

## Helpful Hints for ACM Majors taking the Language Exams

- You have one hour for the exam.
- You may use a dictionary.
- Stop looking up words after 35 minutes and work on the sentence structure.
- If you cannot finish translating the entire text, focus on the part that you can do and make sure it reflects the original's content.
- Not finishing the entire text does not necessarily mean that you have failed the exam.
- If you encounter an unfamiliar word that is not in your dictionary, leave a blank space and continue. The context of the sentence may help you decipher (figure out) the term later.
- Be sure to write your final translation on a separate sheet of paper. Please write legibly. At this point your translation should reflect the sense of the song in easily understood idiomatic English. ***Do not submit a word for word translation!***
- Reserve the final 5 minutes to review your translation and correct potential mistakes. Remember, the goal is an approximate English version that reflects the meaning of the original.

If you will be taking the oral part of the exam (instead of registering for the appropriate lyric diction class):

- You will be asked to read the original text out loud to show lyric diction ability. The oral part of the exam must take place within a week of the written part. It will take less than 1/2 hour to complete this part of the exam.
- In the case of French diction, natural inflection (i.e. stressed syllables) and flow (i.e. vowel legato) will also be considered in addition to sound accuracy, as these elements are integral to the nature of the language.