



Ref: <http://www.texasorkrite.org/tarrant/GradingRules.pdf>

Each Chapter or Council begins the grading with **1000** points  
**500** for the Opening and **500** for the Closing

1. A Chapter or Council should have at least **NINE** members filling the stations.
2. All Officers, elective and appointive, should occupy their respective stations, and they will be graded. If an officer is absent, another companion may fill the station.
  - a. Excused officers absent, due to illness or other reasonable situation – no penalty.
  - b. Unexcused officers absent – at the discretion of the Grading Coordinator, the penalty for absent officers may be assessed at either **ZERO** or **FIVE** points each.
3. Grading will be administered for wording, signs, gavels, omissions, transpositions, singulars and plurals, questions and answers out of order, and opening and closing the Bible. Only the forms, positions and movements as specified in the fine print of the Monitor will be graded.
4. Any errors of these provisions will be the loss of **ONE** point each except the garbling or omission of a whole sentence, which will be the loss of a maximum number of **TEN** points each for a sentence. Prayers as prescribed in the Monitor will **NOT** be graded unless omitted, which will be the loss of **FIVE** points.
5. Prompting by any person, other than grader, with oral, motion or sign, will be the loss of a minimum of **FIVE** points. However, a prompt provided by the grader is the loss of only **ONE** point.
6. An officer who makes a mistake on any question or answer will be given a reasonable opportunity to correct it. The repeat of a question or answer for the benefit of the one due to respond will be considered a prompt for a loss of **ONE** point.
7. In the event that a Companion cannot kneel as specified in the Chapter Ritual, then every Companion should take a half step back with the left foot at the appropriate time at the Altar to demonstrate the proper time to kneel, and then bring the left foot forward at the appropriate time to indicate a return to the standing position.
8. A separate grading sheet will be used for the Chapter and Council.  
The following awards will be presented to the Chapter and Council based on the averaged “Final Grade” of the Graders.
  - A. **Gold Award (1<sup>st</sup> Place)**
  - B. **Silver Award (2<sup>nd</sup> Place)**
  - C. **Bronze Award (3<sup>rd</sup> Place)**
  - D. **Honorable Mention (4<sup>th</sup> Place)**

Note: There will be one Coordinator who serves as a prompter, and there may be other Graders on the W. A. Parry Award Committee. If there are 3 or more other Graders, the Coordinator is not necessarily required to grade. If there are fewer than 3 other Graders, the Coordinator ought to serve as a Grader. The President of the Tarrant County York Rite Association appoints the Grading Coordinator, and he should be certified in York Rite Esoteric work. The Grading Coordinator may appoint other members to the Committee.