

Week Two Homework Assignments

Exercise - Straw

- Sing any single tone using 'oooo'
- Sing through the straw with one end into a glass of water,
 - Keep the bubbles at a constant height.
- We are developing a consistent, controlled breath for vocalization.

Exercise - Straw

- Voice "sirens" through straw in liquid
 - Imitate a police siren going from the lowest of your vocal range to the highest and back down again
 - Keep the bubbles at a constant height.
- Continue the exercise by starting your ups and downs on different pitches without changing bubbles.
- This helps warm up your voice without strain

Exercise - Pitch

- Using Chromatic Tuner app and digital (or real) keyboard,
 - pick a single note,
 - sing 'ah'
 - try to match the pitch using the tuner to check your accuracy.
- While holding the note with your voice,
 - discontinue playing the note on the keyboard.
 - After a couple of seconds of singing the note, play the note again to see how closely you match.
 - If necessary, adjust your pitch and play the note again.
 - Continue until you match
- Pick another note and repeat the exercise.

Exercise - Straw

- Pick any note that is comfortable
- Project sound through the straw on an 'oo'
- Place hand at end of straw to ensure air is being pushed through
- Pinch nose. If sound stops or alters, you need to direct air through straw
- Feel the straw vibrate
- Feel the vibration in lips, nose and around your eyes.
 - We will now attempt to recreate this feeling when we sing without the straw

Exercise - Pitch

- Play a note on the digital keyboard, attempt to match the note.
- On that note, sing the word "*sung*", holding the 'ng' then resolve to 'ah'.
 - You are singing a slow "sung-ah"
- Feel the buzz and tingle around your nose and eyes when singing 'ng'
 - Similar to that felt when singing through the straw
- Try to keep that feeling when you transition to 'ah'.

Exercise - Vocal Placement

- Place your straw across your mouth
- Gently bite on straw. (or pencil)
 - Insure there is no tension in your jaw or cheeks.
- Sing 'ah' on any note
 - Imagining singing the 'ah' over the straw
 - Then under the straw.
 - Notice the constricting feel of imagining singing under the straw and the free feel above.
 - It is this lack of tension created by singing with vibration in the roof of the mouth and nose / eye area (above the straw) that will free up our best singing voice.

Exercise - Voice Range

- Use digital or physical keyboard (with note names)
 - The onlinepianist.com/virtual-piano virtual keyboard will provide the greatest range.
- Pick a note in the middle of your comfortable vocal range
- Using just the white keys
 - Match the pitch of each note going down the keyboard
 - Record name of the lowest note you can comfortably sing
 - Repeat the process, again starting in the middle of your range
 - Match the pitch of each note going up the keyboard
 - Record name of the highest note you can reach.
- Bring a record of these notes to class next week

Exercise

- Begin to learn (match pitch) for *Love Me Tender Unison*
 - The song sheet with note names can be found in the "Exercises/Document" section of this site
 - Use digital keyboard and tuner to match each note.
 - If you wish, you can sing along with the audio version, called "*Love Me Tender Unison*", and found in "Exercises/Audio" portion of this site

Just For Fun

- If you feel up to it, pick a song or two from the "Sing Alongs" song list and try to match the pitch
 - Listen very carefully to the notes being sung several times without singing.
 - Then try your best to match those notes with your voice