Vocal Production & Articulation

Chapter 7: Drama Projects

To build and use proper breathing and articulation and produce quality vocal tone
Theatre I examples

- Look At Me Now
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khCokQt--l4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khCokQt--l4)
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0U4aDOjr_M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0U4aDOjr_M)

- FIND AN EXAMPLE OF GOOD ARTICULATION AND BAD ARTICULATION
Theatre II-IV examples

- Man of 1,000 voices
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2krVT5R9PQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2krVT5R9PQ)
In the Biz...

- Sally Vahle: Voiceover actor: http://www.marycollins.com/sally-vahle
- Cartoon voice Actor’s: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_MOQnJ-SLHI
- Man of 1,000 voices http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTtT5CCR-XA&feature=related
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYQbxxAEzec&feature=related
Voice

- The actor’s instrument
- The basic element of the acting craft
- Must be flexible
  - Character
  - Emotional texture
  - Meaning
Brain: Ideas, Motivation, Language, Regulation

Upper Vocal Tract: Articulation, Resonance

Vocal Folds: Vibration

Respiratory System: Activation
- **Diction:**
  the accent, inflection, intonation, and speech sound quality manifested by an individual speaker, usually judged in terms of prevailing standards of acceptability; enunciation
Voice: Characteristics

- **Volume**: the relative loudness of a voice
- **Pitch**: the relative highness or lowness of a voice
- **Articulation**: clearly pronouncing words
- **Resonance**: a rich, warm vocal tone
- **Inflection**: variety of vocal pitch
- **Enunciate**: to pronounce words or parts of words clearly
- **Rate**: the speed at which one speaks
- **Project**: increase voice or actions so they will carry to the audience
Voice Production

- **Diaphragm**: a flat muscle that separates the chest from the abdominal cavity, below the rib cage
- **Larynx**: where vocal cords are located and vibrated by exhaled air to produce sound
- **Resonators**: throat, nose, mouth, and sinuses
- **Articulators** (tongue, jaw, teeth, cheeks, lips, and hard and soft palates)
Breathing

Breathing in:
- Chest expands
- Ribs
- Diaphragm expands

Breathing out:
- Chest contracts
- Lung
- Diaphragm relaxes
Vocal Exercises

- **Breathing:**

- **Resonance:**
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBoOyCLICcU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBoOyCLICcU)

- **Opening up the voice:**
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_MvIGKwLh0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_MvIGKwLh0)

- **Articulation:**
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRdFtrv2yGA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRdFtrv2yGA)
How to achieve resonance

- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsyy3tvmsUS4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsyy3tvmsUS4)

- What are some qualities of the sound?
- How do you achieve it?
Resonance

- Take 5 minutes and find w/a partner a youtube video example of someone with great resonance
- You will share with the class when finished.
Articulation

1) Which witch watched which watch?

2) A big black bug bit a big black bear and the big black bear bled blue black blood.

4) When does the wrist watch strap shop shut?


6) She sells sea shells by the sea shore.

7) Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers; a peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked.

8) A cup of proper coffee in a copper coffee cup.

9) Few free fruit flies fly from flames.

10) Lesser leather never weathered lesser wetter weather.

11) Rubber baby- buggy bumpers.

12) Theopholus Thistle, the successful thistle sifter, successfully sifted some thistles.
What are some other jobs and situations where vocal production and articulation are crucial?
Do Work

- Exercise: One Word Communication
  - Stand up and find a partner
  - Stand facing one another
  - Wait for instructions

Emotions
- Sad
- Happy
- Choked up
- Shocked
- Painful
What did you discover about the power of your vocal production?

How did you use volume to communicate?

How did the tones vary depending on what emotion you portrayed?
Do WorK

Instructions:
- Get a pen or pencil
- Get into groups of 3-4
- Create a tongue twister to help with articulation or an activity to help with pitch or projection
Proper Breathing

- Must breathe from the diaphragm
  - Breathe more deeply
  - Provides control you need to project long passages without running out of breath

- Chest cavity stays relatively still
- Waist expands & contracts
- Lower ribs rise and fall slightly
Richer Tone

- Depends on your vocal mechanism, you can not change
- Tone is the vocal element you use to create different emotional colors

Exercise 1:
- Say these words – *Oh, yes, well, really, possibly*
- With these emotions/states of being – happiness, pride, fatigue, fright, anger, suspicion, innocence, pleading, and sorrow

Exercise 2:
- Reproduce tone color of these words by making your voice sound like the word’s meanings:
  - *bang, crackle, swish, tinkle, roar, wheeze, bubble, splash, clang, gurgle*
Project: Monologue or Story

- Choose a Monologue or Story from one of the monologue books.
  
  - Read Monologue or Story using the following:
    - Distinct character voice, unlike your own
    - Vocal Production & Articulation
    - Projection
  
  - No blocking and minimal movement - just voice

- 1-2 minutes of monologue
- 2-3 minutes of story read w/at least 3 character voices used

- 1st pass – Nov 13th or 14th (daily grade)
- Final Pass – Nov 19th or 20th (Test grade)
Grading Criteria

- **Objective:** To perform a monologue applying vocal production elements and articulation.
  
- **30pts – Voice** – emotion, tone, clarity, projection
  
- **30pts – Preparation/memorization** – prepared & has monologue
  
- **30pts – Character Development** – vocal choice made & physical choices made
  
- **10pts – Costume and/or props**
  
- **Total: 100pts**