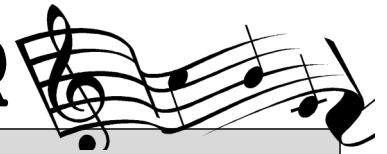


YEAR 7 UNIT 1: WHO'S CALLING?

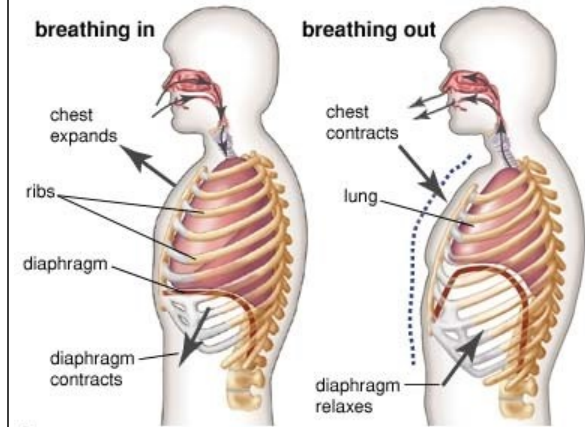
KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



SINGING SKILLS & TECHNIQUES

BREATHING

POSTURE



WHAT MAKES A GOOD PERFORMANCE?

Know the piece(s) being performed really well
Accuracy (getting all the notes and rhythms right) and fluency (not stopping or hesitating at any point) are basic ingredients for a successful performance.

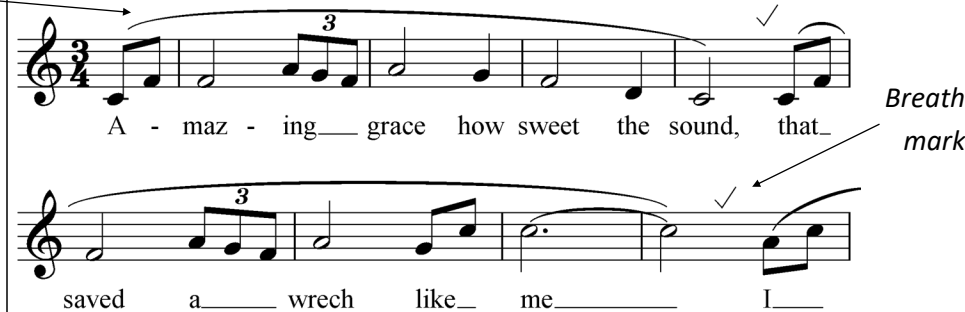
Expression and stylistic features are also really important. Where there are dynamics, articulation and phrasing marked on the music, it is really important these are observed. You also need to know and include any key stylistic features, for example swinging quaver rhythms in some jazz music, or gently bending/ornamenting some notes in some folk music styles.

Performance presence is the third key area. Stand or sit properly with good posture, don't show it if you are nervous—avoid giggling or muttering at all costs. Present yourself as a confident, well rehearsed performer.

Phrasing

The musical shaping of each individual phrase (or sentence). Often this will mean a gentle crescendo (gradually getting louder) into the middle of a phrase and a slight shading off (diminuendo) towards the end. Phrasing also dictates when the singer should breathe. Commas, or small tick symbols may be used to indicate breathing points. A phrasing mark (curved line) will indicate the phrase itself. It is important only to breath where indicated.

Phrasing mark



KEY PRACTICE TECHNIQUES

- Set goals for your practice time, what needs covering?
- Organise your space so everything is accessible
- Break up your practice time into smaller increments
- **Remember that practicing is NOT just about playing through your music. ...**
- **Repetition is key**
- Make sure you give beginnings and endings attention



Vocables

Definition: a sound that is used in a particular language, especially one that is not considered a word, for example a sound such as "la" used in music or an exclamation— "huh" There are many different uses of vocables across the various countries and regions of Africa, these include:

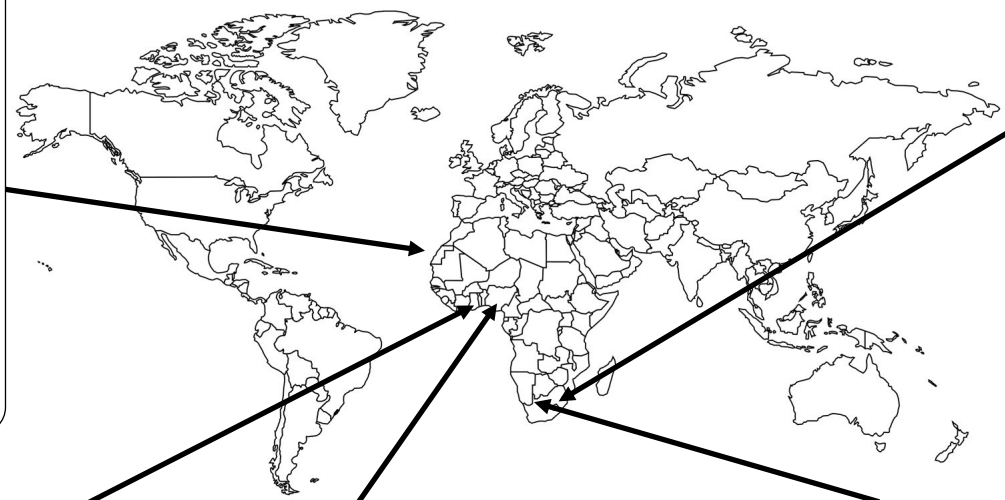
- Vocables imitating various drum sounds
- Vocables imitating animals such as specific species of monkeys
- Vocables that are used expressively in musical performance and celebration

KEY WORDS

Rhythm: syncopation, cross rhythms, polyrhythmic, ostinato, accents

Melody: pitch, diatonic, ornament, vocable, falsetto, choral, phrasing
Improvisation,

Texture: homophonic, polyphonic, monophonic, thick/thin, a cappella
call and response



South Africa: Babethandaza

- This is a South African folksong, which uses lots of syncopated rhythms and homophonic textures.

Lyrics & Translation

- Babethandaza – They were praying
- Sin nje nje nje ngemi thandazo – We are like this, like this, like this because of prayer
- Ngemi thandazo, Ngemi thandazo – Because of prayer, because of prayer
- Oo mama babudale, Babethandaza – Our ancestors would pray
- Babethandaza, Babethandaza – They were praying, they were praying.

Ghana: Allunde Aluya

- Allunde Aluya is a traditional Ghanaian Lullaby.

*"O, God of the sunrise, protect this child.
Help the infant to grow and become a
worthy member of our tribe."*

Nigeria: Gumama

- The music of Nigeria includes many kinds of folk and popular music, styles of folk music are related to the multitudes of ethnic groups in the country, each with their own techniques, instruments, and songs.
- Gumama is a church song.

South Africa: Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika

- "Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika ('Lord Bless Africa') is a Christian hymn originally composed in 1897 by Enoch Sontonga, a Xhosa clergyman at a South African Methodist mission school
- The hymn has often been considered the unofficial African "national" anthem due to its reverence of the African continent and the hymns use as liberation music. "It has come to represent the struggle for African unity and liberation in South Africa."