

The Elements of Voice

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**
Length: **15**
Status: **Published**

Summary/Introduction

The focus of this unit is for students to learn a variety of techniques to strengthen and improve their vocal quality on stage.

Revised: August 2019

Essential Questions/Enduring Understandings

- How does the use of the actor's voice affect performance and character?
- Taking care of one's voice, exercising it, and warming it up is part of an actor's craft.
- What are techniques to producing correct sound?
- How can one take care of the vocal system?
- How do you speak on stage?
- What are methods of making sounds distinct?

Objectives

- Students will be skilled at breathing correctly without running out of air.
- Students will know how to produce all types of sound using the larynx.
- Students will know how to produce sounds that resonate.
- Students will know how to shape sounds through articulation and use of the tongue.
- Students will know how to use their whole body to project and support their voice.
- Students will be skilled at using a stage whisper.
- Students will know how to warm up the voice before performing.
- Students will be skilled at a variety of relaxation and concentration techniques.
- Students will be skilled at changing their voices to fit different characters.

Learning Plan

- Use breathing exercises to improve and make students aware of how they breathe.
- Provide various vocal exercises to be included as a daily regimen in class and at home.
- Demonstrate ways of improving respiration, phonation, resonance and articulation through various games.

- Practice diaphragmatic breathing and encourage a breath seated low in the body to build support for projecting speech and maintaining stamina.
- Provide examples of how to breathe properly and what it does to voice and sounds.
- Have students record their voices throughout the process to reflect upon their personal growth of projection, breathing, and diction.
- Have students pick an actor or famous character and attempt to change their vocal qualities to match their subject.

Assessments

- Students will brainstorm about the essential questions through regular written reflections in the Actor's Journal.
- Students will locate the diaphragm and larynx on an anatomical chart and define their roles in the breathing process.
- Students will perform a daily routine of vocal exercises before class begins.
- Students will prepare and perform short tongue twisters using proper pronunciation and enunciation.
- Students will perform impersonations of famous actors in order to practice changing vocal quality.
- Students will monitor individual progress through recordings and reflect upon performances.

Materials

- Journals

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

[Elements of Acting Accommodations](#)