

End Term 2 Hot Spots 2017

♪ Live Louder –

- 8 claps only at the start, with a groove in your body – smile ☺
- Don't let your choir sing the solo parts UNLESS they are one of the soloists!!!!
- Practise Choreography – strong and deliberate to match the Hip Hop energy of the song
- B20 strong entry to first word 'Get' of the chorus
- Bar 29 through to 32 – light bouncy 'La la la la la'
- In Verse 3, Bar 37: don't forget to sing 'One Step forward.....'
- Bridge B63, observe two rests before singing short 'go!'
- Then only 2 'go go' in Bar 68 – teach it by getting kids to sing "Go Go Stop Get up and....", Then sing 'stop' silently in head giving silence for the rest!!!
- Maintain energy all the way to the end!!

♪ It Feels Good When You Sing A Song

- Sing with energy in your face, voice and body – never without!!!
- Sopranos - Rhythms in system 5 – Bar 12 and then Bar 14 – the long word is SING
- Similar in System 11 for Altos – Bar 28, and then Bar 30 song word is IF
- Bar 16,17 and similar – lift up voice to make accurate intervals on LOUD and STRONG
- Keep memorising to lock in the correct words and rhythms of the BRIDGE section Bars 36 – 46 The phrase starts with "I".
- Then solid part work from Bar 54 to end!!
- Sopranos maintain the high Eflat in Bar 57 while altos add the descending 'blues' notes – very cool!!! Similar in Bar 74, and high note for sops at end bar 82.
- Nail the rhythms in soprano part Bar 77-78 'sing it happy sing it sad'.
- And same for Altos Bar 78-79 'sing it good, sing it bad....'
- Add AUSLAN signing to relevant words, as per songbook, as per DVD, and the student learning portal.

♪ One Voice

- VERY IMPORTANT – please explain and go through with the students WHEN they sing as the choir, and WHEN THEY DON'T SING, ie, the soloists only!!
- Listen to how the word 'sound' is being sung – if too "AUSSIE" please ask the students to imagine the QUEEN is in the audience and have them make their vowels posher / rounder so it is SOWND as in 'how now brown cow'!!, Thanks ☺
- Play the choral track for them to listen to and follow.... Get the students to highlight when they do sing.... Get them to stand when it's their turn to sing, and SIT when they don't ☺
- Rhythm of the quicker words at System 8 Bar 20 'helping each other to make....'
- Similar with Verse 4 – System 17, Bar 40 – "singin' with love and the will...."
- Bridge at System 20 – 22: sops and altos MUST know their parts!!! Link their note to the soloist 3 notes as sung at end of Bar 47.
- And practice the "Oo" notes at end Bar 51 – practise the rhythm by adding consonant 'd' to sing doo with quicker semi quavers, then making sure the 2nd note on the A^b is accurate.
- System 24 – Bars 56/57 –Lyrics: " one PEOPLE.." one voice!!!! (not spirit like at the beginning)

♪ Into a Fantasy

- The 'Heys' – the 1st two are on beat 4, the 2nd two are AFTER beat 4!! Practice, practice!! Instruct students to WATCH the conductor for the cue!!
- Pre-Chorus 1 - Sopranos MUST jump up 5 notes in Bar 27 and similar from D to the A on words "Close For" – show by the fingers on your hand that they jump up 12345 notes!!
- Altos – strong "c" on the entry word to chorus "Come fly...."
- Sops keep the 'oh woah oh woah' in chorus light like fairy floss and bubbles!!
- Verse 2 rhythms absolutely like CD – be fussy!! Have competitions to see who (sops, altos, boys, girls, front row, middle row.....) can sing it correctly! And then they model it to others
- Pre-Chorus 2 – DIFFERENT LYRICS – BELIEVE your every WORD, and WE'LL ALWAYS STAY TOGETHER
- Bar 49 upbeat is only the word "We'll" NOT "and we'll " – it's more relaxed - encourage preparing for what's coming up ahead!!!
- Interlude – part work that follows the "oohs" – sops have to think up 3 notes from their last 'ooh' note to begin on the D then sing the major triad – 1 – 3 – 5: D F# A.
- Breakdown chorus ending at Bar 77 – quicker rhythm – it's different because breakdown chorus is reducing the song back to basics – talk about this with the students.....
- And sops finish on the high D but only for a crotchet beat, no arias!!

♪ Migaloo

- Longer breath on Bar 10 'fella.....' and similar.
- Sopranos music hold the high D in Bar 12 and NOT descend in pitch like the altos do.... have them point the laser line that never wavers and is straight indefinitely!
- Keep practising the Interlude separately – have the altos sing their part to the sops, and vice versa and treat them as separate songs to improve each week, strong rhythms, long notes on words given, spirit, dangers.
- Then sopranos in Bars 47-49 maintain the same straight line of singing without changing at all like altos do.... Finger point the laser line that doesn't bend!
- Loo's with sops leading, and boys on the whale calls, wind and sea noises.
- Chorus 3 must be confident and strong at the end of the song!! – "**IF** I am asked"
- Pitch of notes in Bar 72/73 on words 'the cour-age and...' and stretch out the 'age ending of courage so the 'g' sound is just before the word 'and' and ALL TOGETHER!
- Practice staggered breathing on the last system to maintain the sound to the end.....

♪ Tengo – A Spanish Lesson

- Practice strong with "Spanish attitude", in face and body, sops turning into centre, and altos doing the same, so kind of all facing in to centre front....
- PLEASE note dynamic marking at the first verse – *mp* = *mezzo piano* = *moderately soft!!* Don't begin at *forte* / *loud* or we have nowhere to go!! Same with Bar 60 at repeat of Verse 1 Sing quietly, but still maintain your energy.
- Strong consonants all through these Spanish lyrics
- Tummy support for high notes in Bar 11 and 12, No-so-tros-te-ne-mos....
- And similar in verse 2 – Bar 23 and 24 – Rod-ri-go dar.....
- Diction and rhythm of Bridge words – especially system 13 and 14.
- CODA at Bar 82 must revert back to the Tengo 10/8 feel, note the rest in the middle of Bar 83 between 'bue-lo REST 'y-mi-a...'

- On 'HUH' at end RH in air with open hand fingers together.

♪ AAF

- Observe breathing as marked – stretch out middle words in phrases 3 & 4 in each verse
- Practice the Auslan signing at the end of both verses
- Bright faces, sing proudly, with energy! ☺

♪ Sea of Flags

- Start note of 'OOHS' Bar 5 is lower than soloist!! Choir must enter here confidently and sing with strength to support our soloist who will be in front of our potential 3000 strong audience!!!
- DARN SING – please copy CD with how to pronounce 'dancing'!! (more AH sound)
- Parts – check your altos on their own occasionally – sing to the sops!!
- Hold onto Stars in Bar 29 sops, then altos in Bar 30 so we have the layers of sounds.
- Verse 2 – diction – long note on 'love' in bar 37, then descending on 'to'
- Start System 18 at *mp=moderately soft* and build up through system 19 and 20.
- Check sops in System 25 are singing their part with not much movement NOT the alto with jumps up and down.
- Sops hold onto word 'HANDS' in bar 71 for 4 whole counts – before they sing their 'connecting', similar at Bar 95.

The Nutcracker and the Mouse King

♪ Finale

- Letter C - Practice this section slowly – focusing on the accuracy of the pitch eg. on the word 'does' students can point their thumbs down to help with this.
- Use the last note of each part to secure the first note of the next part eg. B26 – the last note in the alto part is the starting note for the sopranos – hold onto the first note – when it's secure, continue.
- Be ready to start singing your part – hear the other part in your head.
- B59 – Life ... strong 'L' tongue up behind the teeth
- B59 – strong "K" in make break before singing 'it' – sing a clear "T"
- B76/77 – a short note (quaver) for "let's"

♪ The Battle

- Letter B – choir is **giving a lecture** here!!
- B27 – be accurate with the low A
- Letter C – 'When' ... sing with energy, and use it to launch up to the C. Be really accurate with the diction in this section.
- B63 – the choir is giving a **pep talk** here!
- B55 (and throughout this section) – make sure the choir observe the rests.
- Letter E – Make sure the choir are clear with their diction on the up-beats throughout this section – encourage students to be prepared before their entry and sing with energy – particularly sopranos with their jump from note "F" to note "D".
- B88 – DON'T sing 'mind'
- B105 - hold onto the note 'e' for the full counts, but observe the rest before the final note.

🎵 Mouse World

- B7 – be really accurate with the notes A-B-low C These are the notes to really aim for -then the others should fall into place easily.
- B8, 10 etc. – make sure the choir have a full 2 beat rest.
- B9 – again, aim for the notes A-B-high C ... You could get students to point in the air on these key notes ie. In the middle for note A, up high for note B, and higher for note C. These 2 phrases come back a number of times throughout the CW, so if you can be accurate with these bars, the song should sound really great
- B10/ B30 etc. there is NO slide – remind students there is actually only 1 slide in the whole piece.
- Letter F – be certain of words in this section – learn lyrics well!!
- Letter G – lots of energy required to emphasise the syncopation.
- Letter I – use the dynamics in this section and remind students that the first phrase is a solo.

🎵 Not Like the Movies

- Letter C – lovely, long phrases, encouraging students to cut off words together.
- B27/B28 – long phrases Practice without taking a breath.
- B29 – “and we are explorers” – really relax on the triplet and emphasise the diction. Cut the ‘s’ off together.
- B38 – hold ‘know’ for 4 counts.
- B41 – “think” – make sure to add “K”
- Letter D – ‘hello’ ... hold the last note for 4 beats

🎵 A Soldier’s Life

- B 12 – **C** .. racking nuts – strong “C”.
- B14 – be exact with the low A
- B20 – keep a bright sound, so that the top note isn’t flat (students can flick their thumbs up on this note which might help to brighten the sound)
- Letter C – be precise with diction through this section, especially Bar 49-51 ‘Battle every pine-nut, peanut chest nut and cashew!’
- B70 – from here, the volume decreases with each of the last 4 phrases.
- B77 – 4 beats rest – most students are doing this now, but just be certain

🎵 Tick Tock

- Great dynamics from letter C, and don’t speed up as you get louder!
- Accurate diction throughout.

🎵 The Night Before

- Tell the story
- B5 – don’t let the high D on “Christmas” pop out, and the same again on “cooped” at B9.
- B12/13 – hold onto “gloom”
- Letter C – one long phrase from B23-26
- B27 – start quietly and crescendo through the 2 bars to build the excitement.
- B28 – “saw” ... use a head sound on this note ie. Move your chin towards the chest and encourage the sound to resonate in the mouth cavity