

What's in it for Me? (Nothing but fun...)

(curated especially for Reg. 9 to follow the ZOOM session on 9/23/20)

rhythmic variations

contrast effectiveness

***More info: The measures of even beats set up the interest provided by the syncopated measures. Too many even or syncopated beats can become uninteresting. In this particular arrangement, the arranger has skillfully positioned the even beat measures, making the syncopated measures more rhythmically effective overall. (In this context...even = no pushed beats.)

***Benefits: Your music becomes more interesting; your tempo and synchronization may improve as well.

dynamic variety

***the melody line: look at lead (actually, the melody line) first for clues; frequently, the higher the melody line, the louder the volume...descending vocal lines often reflect a decrescendo

****melody with in the melody* (a "gift" from the composer) to be found across several measures...leading to an overall elevation of the melody line; look for the *high points* in the vocal line and essentially sing across those with vocal intent...enhances the organic dynamics of the vocal line; you'll find many of these interesting elements on the main stress beats in the measures, e.g., 4/4 time signature: points of interest are often found on the 1st and 3rd beats

***the composer and arranger working together include:
elevation of melody line combined with a shift from open to
closed voicings; look for both the elevation of the line and the
release of the vocal line, overall descending

***open and closed voicing behave differently for singers
depending on where they sit on the staff ...all of which will
also alter the skills needed to execute them successfully

***strive to work in cooperation and collaboration with both
the composer and arranger (and hopefully, your director)
for increased success and enhancement of your emotional
delivery

word art

shift meaning: and, but, though, because, etc.

these give you possibilities for dynamic variety and use
of vocal textures (advanced resonance skills)

they can connect, contrast, propel, shift to an opposite, etc.

singing the punctuation: pacing and breath timing

no punctuation (may have to add your own)

comma, quotation marks, exclamation point, question mark

***begin by looking for the *complete thought*

***effective phrase delivery and storytelling is dependent on
how you use breath timing and phrase pacing to reflect the
punctuation

embellishments

- ***all of them should add or enhance meaning/emotion
- ***look for which part sings the lyric first...making the second one – even if it's the melody – the echo
- ***observe the location of embellishments to help you determine how to use it: near a key change? part of the ramp up to the climax? a shift of intent or emotion in the storyline?