

**VOWELS:** Greatest voice projection comes from singing on open vowels, so we need to sing them properly. The most dangerous, as far as projecting a beautiful sound, are the three diphthongs (sliding vowels) that are listed below:

**eI** ~ paid, face, wait, taste ... **eh not ay-ee**

**aI** ~ tide, I, eye, kite, buy ... **ah not eye-ee**

**oI** ~ void, oil, Roy ... **orh not oy-ee**

The **ee** sound will come out automatically as you close your mouth for the consonant or just ending the sound.

Exercises (Remember the shape of your mouth and the direction of your thought)

Strength Staccato

1. Arpeggio up the scale C-E-G-CCCCCCCC- run down the complete scale, up and down again.  
Begin on low note and gradually, semitone at a time, increase your range ... up and down. Begin on Nee, then Naw, then Nah
2. Arpeggio up and down the scale - oh, ah, oh, ah, oh, ah, oh.  
Begin on a low note and gradually, semitone at a time, increase your range ... up and down.

- Flexibility
1. Octave Jump ee-aw with thought connection between bottom and top notes. Think of falling over a waterfall, then climbing up the ladder beside it. Begin on low note and gradually, semitone at a time, increase your range ... up and down.
  3. Octave Jump Triplets - same as above, except descending using triplets. C1 -C2 -Bcb-AgA-Gfg-Fef-Dcd-C  
Use any vowels you like.

By trying to sing a little higher and/or lower, you will extend your range and strengthen the part of your voice you use most often.

### SONG PREPARATION:

1. Know what the song is about. Think about how you would speak the words.
2. Look at the words. Mark the tricky bits ... the diphthongs, the letters s,t,d
3. Take note of note values. You may have to sustain some and you must be prepared for them. Look at note connections, especially in legato passages.
4. Note difficult passages; practise them slowly; gradually increase the speed to correct time.
5. Take note of musical instructions such as expression, dynamics, etc.