

Development of Oral Resonance

Objectives:

- The careful adjustment of the articulators to insure proper molding and shaping of tone.
- Openness and freedom of the oral and pharyngeal passageways to provide for amplification.

Instructions:

Try to spend fifteen minutes a day, two or three days before your next speech, doing these exercises to practice achieving good oral resonance. This will help to build awareness of vocal quality and flexibility.

Exercises:

1. The lips play a very important part in the modulation of tone into speech sounds. Study the shape and position of the lips in the production of the vowels *u*, *v*, and *i*.
2. Repeat the phrase, "we are, too," a number of times, noting the position of the lips in the careful formation of the three different vowels. Repeat it rapidly as a drill, exaggerating the action of the lips.
3. Repeat we-we-we-we rapidly a number of times to facilitate agility of lip movement.
4. Sing (ho) several times in a comfortable pitch, prolonging the vowel. Observe that (o) is a round vowel; note the position of the lips. Think of shaping the tone into the vowel sound. Work to project the tone out of the mouth, keeping the throat open. Try the same technique with the words *home* and *who*.
5. The following sentences and selections contain no nasal sounds. Check carefully to guard against excessive nasal resonance on any of the sounds. Open your mouth and work for oral resonance.
 - a. Who are you? (vary the emphasis on each word)
 - b. How are you? (vary the emphasis on each word)
 - c. How do you do? (vary the emphasis on each word)
 - d. This is the house that Jack built.
 - e. This is a beautiful day.
 - f. Hard by the shores of far Brazil,
We rode for pleasure, years ago;
Led forward ever by the will
To brave each risk, to fight each foe.