Bel Canto/Can Belto
Musical Theatre Singing for Women
Vocalises For The Flexible Vocal Tract

Objective #1 The "Hoot" Space--Finding The Head Register

The Owl

The Owl

Onsets--try 1st with "h" then without.

Staccato / Legato

Legato / Staccato

Slow-sustained on one breath.

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Objective #2--Finding The Speech Level Mix

Soft palate awareness and control.

Isolations
1. Panting (like a dog) tongue extended.
2. Incipient sneeze: (AH...AHHH) No choo!
3. Incipient yawn: mouth closed.
4. Incipient swallow: no gulp.

Mixed voice--is the red carpet to the belt.
"Lay the track--THEN run the train."

Spoken phrases to capture mix.
(To be repeated in middle voice pitch range--middle C to E5.)

Oh, no you don't!
May I come in? (try with British inflection)
No way!
Never, never, no!
Where are you going? (accusatory)
Holy cow!
Yikes!
Wowee!
Hey guys!
Damn cat!
How dare you!
Let me go!
Hello-o! (duh)
Hello, boys and girls! (a la Mickey Mouse then in speaking mix)

Make up some of your own. Attitude helps! Be playful!

Use as much range as possible when speaking these phrases.
Integration of Objective #2

C. Vocalizing the mixed voice in the middle speaking range

With energy and attitude! Speak the phrase then sing it.

Oh no you don't! Oh no you don't! Oh no you don't!
May I come in? May I come in? May I come in?
I yearn for you! I yearn for you! I yearn for you!

No way no way! No way no way! May Oh may I
Never no never no! Never no never no!

May-oh may-oh may-oh may-oh my
Ne-Ver ne-ver ne-ver ne-ver no!

I - I see, I see! I - I see I see!

Damn cat! Damn cat! Damn cat!

Nasalisation for focus (mwanh as in a "smooch") Whining child

Mwanh mwanh mwanh mwanh mwanh Wanh wanh wanh wanh wanh!
Vocalizing the speaking mix (continued)

Closed vowels--maintain legato speaking quality

Diphthongs--sing through to point of release with consistent vibrato

Nasalising/denasalising--soft palate awareness (pronounce hard-g)

Coordinating closed and open vowels

Back and forths--mix to head/head to mix (the ladder goes both ways).
The following exercises are to help coordinate head and mixed qualities.
As you do these exercises, make the contrast as great as you can.

Head     Speech     Head     Speech     Speech     Head     Speech     Head
Oo - ooh why - not? Oo - ooh no way! Oo - ooh oh no! Oo - ooh you know.

Head     Speech     Speech     Head     Head     Speech
Oo - oo - ooh my my my my__ Yah hoo! Yah hoo!

Speech
May oh may oh may oh may oh may oh my oh my.

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Vocalizing the Belt

The Call—optimum speech at high intensity. Palate raised on inhalation.

Hey, Taxi! Use pitches in mixed speaking range. Although calling in a speaking voice, extend duration of vowels to approach a sung tone.

Call

Sing

Taxi! Hey taxi!

Taxi! Hey taxi!

Ee yah — ah!

Eh yoh — ah!

Yah yah yah yah yah yah.

Ee ee ee yah — ah

Hey hey hey gang!

hey hah hey hah hey — ah Taxi!

Legato—very sustained

Eh ch ch ch eh eh eh eh

Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah

Ec ee ee yoh ob ob ob ob

Nee ee ee yah ah ah ah ah

messa di voce: (the apex of the crescendo is a belt)

oooAHHooo eeeEHHooo aaAAAAAaah ehhAHHehh

messa di voce (practice between G4 and C5)

ooo you ah you oo (head) (speech) (belt) (speech) (head)

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