

Mastering the Voice: A Class 4 Guide to Singing

Learning objective: To understand the fundamental techniques of singing, including posture, breathing, and musical expression.

Read each flashcard to learn about singing techniques. Use these to help Nova the Owl and Leo the Lion lead the school choir with confidence.

Posture

The way you hold your body when singing. Standing tall with feet hip-width apart helps your lungs fill with air properly.

Diaphragm

A large muscle under your lungs that helps you take deep, controlled breaths for long musical phrases.

Pitch

How high or low a musical note sounds. To sing in tune, you must match the pitch of the melody.

Dynamics

The volume of the music. This includes 'piano' (soft) and 'forte' (loud).

Articulation

How clearly you pronounce the words of a song. Good articulation helps the audience understand the lyrics.

Tone

The unique 'colour' or quality of your voice. It can be described as warm, bright, breathy, or rich.

Ensemble

A group of musicians or singers performing together. Listening to others is key to staying in harmony.

Warm-up

Gentle vocal exercises performed before singing to prepare your vocal cords and prevent strain.

Tempo

The speed at which a piece of music is played or sung.

Unison

When everyone in an ensemble sings the exact same melody at the same time.

Explain why good posture is essential for a singer.

Good posture ensures the airways are open and the diaphragm has enough space to expand, allowing for better breath control and a stronger, clearer sound.

Justify your answer: Does a singer need to change their dynamics during a song?

Yes, changing dynamics is necessary to convey emotion and interest. If a song remained at the same volume, it would lack expression and might become monotonous.