

Singing Musicals – Knowledge Organiser

Singing

To produce sounds in musical pitches

Vocal Range

The span from the lowest note you can sing to the highest

Intonation

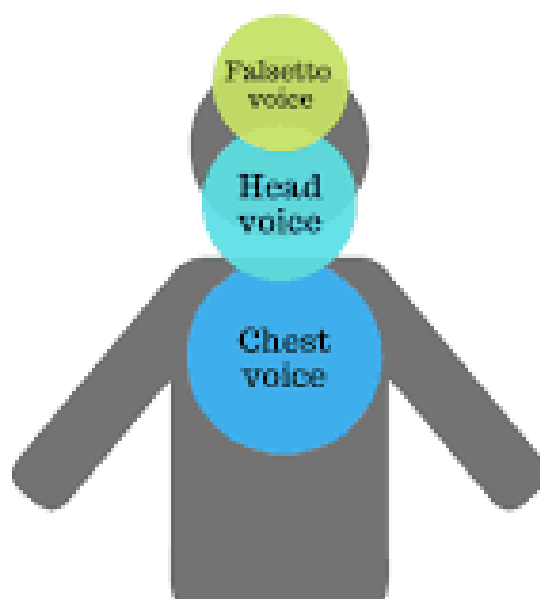
Accuracy of pitch
(are you in tune?)

Diction

Saying your words so that the audience can understand them clearly.

Breath Control

Managing your breath so you can sing long phrases or reach high notes



Musicals set out to **entertain** through a combination of:

- catchy music in a popular style
- solo songs, duets, choruses and ensembles
- orchestra or band accompaniment
- spoken dialogue
- dance sequences, stage spectacles and magnificent costumes

These are all held together by the **plot**.

Every musical has a:

- **libretto** - the overall text including the spoken and sung parts
- **lyrics** - the words to the songs

Most songs fit into these categories:

- **action songs** which move the plot forward
- **character songs** which enable a character to express their feelings



Within these two formats, different song types can be found, including:

- **ballads** which are usually slow, romantic and reflective
- **comedy songs** which are funny, so the lyrics are very important
- **production numbers** which involve the full company and are used to show major changes in location or plot, and often open and close acts
- **rhythm songs** which are driven by energetic rhythm patterns