

## Learning a Song Check List

- Warm up
- Understand the meaning of the text!
  - Foreign language: Get a word for word translation and write it in beneath the text
  - English: Understand all words, write synonyms for difficult words beneath the text
- Decide what your song is about
  - Do a Character Study (use Meisner Questions)
  - Write a Backstory
  - Get a Synopsys of the Play
- Learn Song Phrase by Phrase!!
  - A phrase is what is sung in one breath, (like a sentence or a line of poetry)
    - use punctuation,
    - no breathing mid word or sentence!
- Speak the text in Rhythm.
- Play/listen to the first phrase until confident it can be sung accurately.
- Buzz through the first phrase.
- Sing the phrase note by note on la or Ki etc. until completely accurate, making sure to sing
  - Legato
  - Following all dynamic markings
  - With the emotion of the phrase
- Sing the phrase on the vowels of the words (the words without the consonants)
  - Watch out for dip and trip thongs
- Sing the phrase with the words making sure to sing
  - Legato, Following all the dynamic markings, with the emotion of the phrase
- Repeat steps for the next phrase.
  - Buzz
  - La or ki, etc.
  - Vowels of the words
  - Words
- Put the two phrases together and sing through
- Move on to the next phrase, and so on
- Sing the song with words from start to finish, making sure to sing with
  - Dynamics
  - Emotion
  - Focus
  - Good Posture
- Memorize the song

### **Remember!**

Slow is Fast!! Practice doesn't make perfect ... PERFECT practice makes perfect!