

INTRO TO CHORAL COMPOSING

LESSON 3

RHYTHM

1. CREATING RHYTHMS THAT COMPLIMENT THE TEXT

What is the overall style of the text? What types of tempos and rhythms will match this style?

2. CREATING RHYTHMS THAT ARE NATURAL TO SPEECH

What rhythms work naturally for singing? Consider metric and agogic accents.

3. CREATING RHYTHMS IN THE ACCOMPANIMENT

What rhythms could imitate the rhythms of the voices?
What rhythms can I use in the accompaniment to set the style of the piece.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Print your text and speak it over and over. Ask a friend to speak it and notice which syllables and words are most important. Then underline or highlight the accented syllables and words.
2. Start sketching rhythmic options for your composition by adding eight notes, quarter notes, whole notes, dotted rhythms, triplets, etc. and even rests.
3. Sketch possible bar lines and time signatures for your composition.