

## Decoding the Spots

Analyzing Arrangements for Instruction and Interpretation



### Need a Strategy?

#### Analyze

- Use a list of common issues in our music as a guide.

#### Teach

- Use a variety of modalities to help singers understand and identify the concepts used to analyze the music.

#### Rehearse

- Isolate and practice the necessary skills to deal with the details in the music.

## One Song At A Time

Let's take a look at this regional song to see what we can discover!

### Analyze:

#### Key

- Check the range of each part and match to your singers' abilities. Adjust if needed.

#### Meter/Tempo

- Did the arranger provide metronome markings? Is it swing feel or straight time? Listen to original and BBS performances for reference.

### Analyze

#### Song Structure/Form

- AABA? ABAC? Medley?

#### Key Changes

- How many? Placed where? Voice leading? Easy or difficult?

**Analyze and Label:****Octaves**

- Mark wherever they occur making note of any that are tonal center

**Major 2nds (Phnerts) ☺**

- These require equal balance regardless of voice part

**Analyze and Label:****Accidentals**

- Are there clusters? Any recurring patterns?

**Enharmonics**

- How does the chord change around the “repeated” pitch?

**Analyze and Label:****X above the staff**

- Duet to balance. Add singers if needed.

**Melody transfers**

- Which parts? Duet parts to work for seamless delivery.

**Analyze****Patterns in vocal lines**

- Movement by step? Large intervals? Outlining triads?

**Movement of vocal lines at page turns**

- look for possible pitfalls

**Analyze****Jumpy part lines**

- consecutive intervals more than thirds apart?

**Rhythmic interest**

- Syncopation? Triplets? Stomp time?

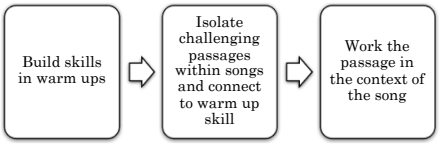
**Analyze****Embellishments**

- How do they move? Duets, trios? Any octaves to lock? Is the purpose movement or thrills? Posts?

**Wordy passages**

- Look for pulse points. Can it be simplified?

### Teaching process



### Teach to all learners

- Visual**
  - show the music on a doc cam and highlight the focus skill
- Auditory**
  - play learning media at rehearsal then sing along
- Kinesthetic**
  - use body percussion to reinforce rhythms