

Study Guide: Master of Music Comprehensive Examination in Voice

The Comprehensive Examination, taken at the end of your degree work, will consist of several of the questions listed on this page. We suggest that you familiarize yourself with these questions now so that you can use them as a guide throughout your work towards the completion of your degree.

1. **List** 10 books which you believe are the most important on the subject of vocal pedagogy. Select 5 of these and give a one-paragraph synopsis of each, focusing on the features which cause you to include it on your list.
2. **Outline** the most important principles of vocal pedagogy. Give examples of exercises and songs or arias which you would use to teach certain aspects of the singing coordination.
3. **List** three songs which you would give to a beginning male singer and three songs you would give to a beginning female singer. Justify your selections by **listing** what problems each piece would address.
4. **List** the American composers who you believe have made the most significant contribution to the song repertoire. **List** their important songs and their style characteristics, and discuss their influence on the development of American song.
5. **List** the British composers who you believe have made the most significant contribution to the song repertoire. **List** their important songs and their style characteristics, and discuss their influence on the development of British song.
6. **List** the Italian composers who you believe have made the most significant contribution to the song repertoire. **List** their important songs and their style characteristics, and discuss their influence on the development of Italian song.
7. **List** the important composers of the French *mélodie*. **List** their important songs and their style characteristics, and discuss their influence on the development of the *mélodie*.
8. **List** the important composers of the German *Lied*. **List** their important songs and their style characteristics, and discuss their influence on the development of the *Lied*.
9. Transcribe the poems provided (one quatrain each of German, French, Italian and English) into IPA.
10. a) Select one of the national opera schools listed below. **List** the five most important composers in that school, **list** their approximate dates of activity, and **list** their operatic output.

-Italian -French -German
- b) Select one of the composers listed and discuss one of his operas in detail, including the following information: 1) librettist 2) a **list** of the main characters 3) a **list** of the style characteristics of the work, and 4) a brief plot outline.

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