Tongue-Twisters: Developing Vocal Mechanics for Speaking, Singing, and Acting

Tongue-twisters are great exercises for singers, actors, and speakers. With each tongue-twister, speak clearly and slowly, and then repeat a little faster while retaining clarity, then a bit faster yet, for a total of four to six times. Make sure the beginning and end of each word is clear, and do not try to speak so quickly that you start to slur words. Any time you make a mistake, repeat that tongue-twister an additional time. Go through all twelve as explained. Each subsequent time you go through them, try to speed up a little more while still retaining clarity in every word.

- 1. Rory the warrior and Roger the worrier were reared wrongly in a rural brewery.
- 2. Imagine an imaginary menagerie manager managing an imaginary menagerie.
- 3. Were a wise witch and a wary witch to watch two watches, we wonder which witch would watch which watch.
- 4. Nosy Norman knocks and knocks but Norman's knock is not unique and neighbor Nancy never knows it's nosy Norman knocking.
- 5. Imagine an amiable amoeba with amorous ambition ambling upon an amply-armored enemy amoeba.
- 6. Lesser leather never weathered wetter weather better.
- 7. See the six sleek swift slimy squids swim silently southward.
- 8. Behold the brisk, bold brave brigadiers brandished bright broad blades, badly-balanced blunderbusses and big blue bludgeons.
- 9. The rude, ragged rascals risked wrath running rings round and round the rough and rugged rocks.
- 10. Imagine ingenious iguanas improvising impossibly-intricate impromptu arrangements on improbably-impractical instruments.
- 11. You may think you know you need New York and you may think you know New York's unique.
- 12. Mellifluous Meriwether managing marginal marigolds and mums and missing magnificent mimosas and magnolias.