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## **Tongue-Tied?: A Guide to the Flute Articulation for the Music Educator** **Worksheet for Students**

### Step 1: Correct Breathing on the flute

- a. “Ha-wa-ii breath” (Breathe in on “HA” in the front, “WA” in the back, and “II” up through the clavicles)

### Step 2: Tone Production on the Flute

- b. Three pillars of sound production...
  - a. **Air Direction**  
Placement of air column changes for range (down for low, across for middle, high for high, all supported by the “wet part” of the lip, the bottom especially)
  - b. **“Air Reed”**  
The vibrative column that spins into the flute cannot be too short
  - c. **Contact**  
Three points of contact on the flute (RH thumb, LH lower pointer phalange, and chin)

### Step 3: Body Mapping the Face/Tongue

- a. Practice the “neutral” tongue with “AH”
- b. No tension in jaw
- c. Mouth shape
- d. Jaw does NOT move! (Watch in the mirror)



### Step 4: Isolating the Air Attack

“Hah” Air Attacks to “Tah”

- a. Where does the tongue strike? (alveolar ridge, where teeth touch upper gum)
- b. How does the tongue strike? (One tastebud!)

Say first, then play...

hah hah hah hah tah tah tah tah

c. Step 4B: Now listen to the quality of air and tone and breathing!

hah hah hah hah hah hah hah hah hah

tah tah tah tah tah tah tah tah tah

Step 5: Advancement

a. Double Tonguing - Combination of oral stop and velar stop consonants  
("T" and "K" or "D" and "G")

tah tah tah kah kah kah kah tah kah tah kah tah tah kah tah |