

Long Tones/Pedal Tones

These studies are appropriate to include at this early stage, to familiarize you with pedal tones. If you learn how to play them from the very start, your embouchure will take better form, and as a result your sound will be full, clean, big, and clear from the very beginning. The whole-note studies at the beginning of this first book may seem tedious and also difficult because they demand a lot of concentration, effort, and a great desire to accomplish them. They are, however, *very* important. They are the very skills that will “set” the sound and actually create the embouchure that you will need for the rest of your musical life.

Do not believe those who consider pedal tones (like the pedal “E” in bars 5–6 below and pedal “C” in bars 7–8) to be impossible. Pedal tones help establish a correctly positioned embouchure. The result is a strong foundation that allows complicated passages to be played in the future. These notes *are* difficult to play at first, but don’t worry. *Try* to play them from the very start; you will become familiar with these notes and they will become a lot easier as time goes by.

In order to play pedal notes, and actually to play the instrument in general, it is necessary to keep the throat in an open position by using the syllable “ah.” The release of the air is regulated by the tongue, which should be in a flat position, at the bottom of the mouth. You must think as though you were going to sing the notes, pronouncing the open syllable “ah” all the time. *Think* as though you were going to *sing* the note.

Try to practice all these exercises, and also the warm-up first, with the mouthpiece only, then with the instrument. Remember that *the function of the trumpet is to amplify the sound that you make with the mouthpiece.*

It is important to establish this principle. As you play through this entire exercise, you will notice that your embouchure will become stronger, your perception of intonation will be more defined, and your tone quality will increase day by day.

2. **A**

2. **B**