



Air makes pitch.
Air makes dynamics.
Air puts your ear in gear.
Air helps you reduce mouthpiece pressure.

Practice Area No. 3

Plan your practice each day. Spend equal amounts of time in each of the four practice areas. Do not forsake nor overemphasize a practice area.

For discussion: A composer's musical device is at work in all the *Trumpet Quest* exercises. It's the musical device of *chromatic ascent. Musicologists call it "chromaticism" in Richard Wagner's music. That slow harmonic movement upward creates tension, it heightens the emotional feeling in the music. While we appreciate it in Wagner's music, you will see the word "relax" many times in the *Trumpet Quest* instructions. A relaxed playing style is very important to the concept of playing artistically, and it promotes your own personal enjoyment of performance. Resist tension! Resist being transported emotionally higher by the musical device of chromatic ascent. **RELAX!**

*Your music theory teacher will tell you that when you ascend chromatically you should write in sharps and when descending, write in flats. I have taken liberties with the ascent rule in *Trumpet Quest* by favoring B-flats to A-sharps, E-flats to D-sharps and A-flats to G-sharps.