When I Was a Lad
From Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS Pinafore

Section 1
When I was a lad I served a term
As office boy to an Attorney's firm.
I cleaned the windows and I swept the floor,
And I polished up the handle of the big front door.
I polished up that handle so carefully
That now I am the Ruler of the Queen's Navy!

As office boy I made such a mark
That they gave me the post of a junior clerk.
I served the writs with a smile so bland,
And I copied all the letters in a big round hand.
I copied all the letters in a hand so free,
That now I am the Ruler of the Queen's Navy!

Section 2
In serving writs I made such a name
That an articled clerk I soon became;
I wore clean collars and a brand-new suit
For the pass examination at the Institute.
That pass examination did so well for me,
That now I am the Ruler of the Queen's Navy!

Of legal knowledge I acquired such a grip
That they took me into the partnership.
And that junior partnership, I ween,
Was the only ship that I ever had seen.
But that kind of ship so suited me,
That now I am the ruler of the Queen's Navy!

Section 3
I grew so rich that I was sent
By a pocket borough into Parliament.
I always voted at my party's call,
And I never thought of thinking for myself at all.
I thought so little, they rewarded me
By making me the Ruler of the Queen's Navy!

Now landsmen all, whoever you may be,
If you want to rise to the top of the tree,
If your soul isn't fettered to an office stool,
Be careful to be guided by this golden rule.
Stick close to your desks and never go to sea,
And you all may be rulers of the Queen's Navy!

Ultimate Objective
The ultimate goal of this exercise is to be able to say an entire piece in 3 breaths (one per section).
It can be done, but it takes practice!

Assignment Objective
Learn all 3 sections, focusing on pronunciation, articulation, projection and inflection. You need to be able to say the entire section rhythmically, breathing only before/between stanzas. Do not breathe in the middle of a stanza! Listen to the song to practice the rhythm of it.

Extra Credit Options
Extra credit will be given if you choose to memorize a section (or more) or breathe only once per section.
"When I Was a Lad"
From Gilbert & Sullivan’s *HMS Pinafore*

**ASSESSMENT / FEEDBACK**

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**FORMATIVE (See feedback below!)**

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*To prepare for your summative grade, you need to:*

1. Review the words highlighted above.

2. Overall, you need to work on your:

   - Pronunciation (1%)
   - Articulation (1%)
   - Inflection (5%)
   - Breath control (5%)
   - Projection (5%)

   **Extra Credit**

   - _______ Memorized (1pt per section)
   - _______ 1 breath vs. 2 (1pt per section)