

Student John Doe
Text Set
October 16, 2007

Predecessors of Modern Instruments

Text Set Theme:

The theme of this text set is on the predecessor of the modern day Trombone, the Sackbut. This text set is set up to be for high school aged students. This text set could be used with any high school aged student, but would be most beneficial and familiar to students enrolled in music courses.

Text 1

Encyclopedia Britannica. (2007). Encyclopedia Britannica Inc.
<http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-9064655/sackbut>

Summary of Text:

This text is out of the Encyclopedia Britannic and it says what the Sackbut is, when it was invented, what kind of music it was used for, and what kind of sound the Sackbut makes.

Readability:

The readability of this text was fairly low and easy to understand being that is from an encyclopedia. Fry gave me a reading level of 8th grade which I feel is about right for this text.

Purpose:

I included this text as the first text because I thought it gave a nice overview of what exactly a Sackbut is for someone who might have no idea. For those who are not familiar with the instrument I believe this text quickly clears up confusion, and puts a student on the right track to learning about this instrument of past times.

Text 2

Baines, A. (1986). Instruments: Their history and development. Sydne-Barnes Incorporated.

Summary of Text:

This text is from a book written by Alfred Baines about many different instruments both of the past and present. The section on Sackbut's mainly focuses on their sound and exactly how they were constructed. The text has many good pictures of Sackbuts and also zooms in to show exactly how they were made back in the 15th century.

Readability:

This text is a bit more challenging and contains some musical vocabulary that might be difficult for lower level readers. Fry gave me a reading level of 12. This reading level was not surprising due to some of the more technical vocabulary this text contains.

Purpose:

I included this text for two reasons. This text really looks at the sound and construction of Sackbuts very deeply. The text focuses on only two main points and does

Comment [DoE1]: Is there no title for this entry? It's rare that you wouldn't have a title in the citation.

a great job discussing them in great detail. They could have covered more material, but instead decided to really make a few points clear. This text also provides some really nice pictures of Sackbuts and close up pictures of how Sackbuts were made.

Text 3

Sadie, Stanley. (2000). The history of the Trombone. Hal Leonard Incorporated.

Summary of Text:

This text is from a book by Stanley Sadie who is a trombone player. In this text I used from this book he compared and contrasted the Trombone and the Sackbut in several areas. The areas included are: tone, volume, timbre, bell size and shape, slide size and shape, and blend.

Readability:

This text is not a terribly hard or even dry read as it may appear from the title. It was actually quite helpful. Fry gave me a reading level of 11th grade for this text.

Purpose:

I feel this text does a great job at comparing and contrasting something we are already more familiar with (The Trombone) to something we are not quite as familiar with (The Sackbut). Comparing and contrasting the two instruments really gives you an idea of the qualities of the Sackbut possesses.

Text 4

McGowen, Keith. (1998). The World of the Early Sackbut Player. *Early Music Magazine*. Boston Hill Incorporated.

<http://find.galegroup.com/itx/start.do?prodId=EAIM>

Summary of Text:

This text is from a magazine called Early Music and really does a great job of describing what types of music a Sackbut player would be used in. This text also gives several examples of musical selections that used Sackbut players, and allows you to listen to some modern day recordings that have been performed in an accurate historical manner.

Readability:

This text is quite readable by the average high school student. This text uses vocabulary that is easy to understand which is why I believe Fry gave me a readability of 10th grade.

Purpose:

I included this text for several reasons. This text does a great job at describing what kind of music a Sackbut player would have been playing at the time. Being that this text is found online there are also recordings available to download which the original magazine would not have.

Text 5

Webb, John. (1997). The Flat Trumpet in Perspective. *The Galpin Society Journal*.

<http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.morris.umn.edu>

Summary of Text:

This text is from a scholarly journal which is available to view online. This text mainly talks about the Sackbut in relation to the Slide Trumpet. The Slide Trumpet is

actually the predecessor of the Sackbut. In this article they compare and contrast the two instruments. Also in this article they discuss why the Sackbut was originally created. The Sackbut was created originally to play along with the slide trumpet so that their would be harmony. The Slide Trumpet of course would be playing the top or soprano line, and the Sackbut would be playing the bottom or alto line. Thus as the title suggests the Sackbut is really a flat (lower pitched) Slide Trumpet with some changes.

Readability:

The readability of this text is a little more advanced. This text is taken from a scholarly journal which is probably why the reading level Fry gave me was between 13 and 14. This article uses some vocabulary that would be challenging to younger students.

Purpose:

To me this text does a great job of justifying the Sackbut's existence. This article explains why the Sackbut was created, and how they came up with the idea. Also this text goes even deeper into the history of the Trombone and tells us that before the Trombone there was the Sackbut, but even before the Sackbut there was the Slide Trumpet. This text really lays out the entire history of the Trombone.

Text 6

Andrews, Dylan. (2001). Where has the Sackbut gone? *The Musical Times Journal*.

Musical Times Publications. <http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.morris.umn.edu>

Summary of Text:

This text is from the scholarly journal The Musical Times which is available online. The article discusses why the Sackbut was phased out, and why the modern day Trombone was created. This text starts out by discussing when the Sackbut was in its prime so to say and was used quite often. At time went on and keyboard music became more and more popular the Sackbut was forgotten about. From there the article discusses why the Trombone is similar to, but superior to the Sackbut.

Readability:

This text is on the more challenging side, but not out of reach for high school students. Fry gave me a reading level of 11th grade on this text. It makes sense that the readability is slightly high because the text does come from a journal and was written by an expert.

Purpose:

This text does a great job of linking the Sackbut directly to the Trombone. The text discusses many pros and some cons the Trombone has over the Sackbut, and why the switch in instruments was necessary. I think it gives a good perspective on why things such as instruments, and not even just the Sackbut, change throughout time.

Text 7

Thompson, Dan. (1998). Lindberg's Sackbut Dazzles Sydney Audiences. *The Sunday Telegraph*. Sydney, Australia.

<http://www.lexisnexis.com.ezproxy.morris.umn.edu>

Summary of Text:

This text is from a newspaper in Sydney called The Sunday Telegraph. This text a review of a concert put on by Christian Lindberg in Sydney. Christian Lindberg is without a doubt the most talented living trombonist. Many say he is among the all time

best trombonists. This text reviews several of his Sackbut pieces performed during his concert.

Readability:

This text is extremely readable. Fry gave me a readability level of 6th grade. This did not surprise me. Newspapers are often said to be written around a 5th grade reading level so that most everyone is able to read and enjoy them. The readability level of this text is fairly low, but this text is still filled with a lot of important and relevant information.

Purpose:

I really like this text especially at the end of my text set because it shows that even though the Sackbut is an extremely old instrument which was invented well over 500 years ago, it is still used today even by the top scholars in the field. This text shows us that as far as instruments go we can not simply forget about instruments of the past, because they were very important in developing where we are today.