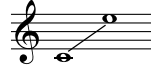
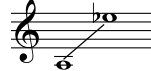
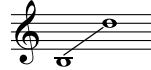
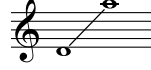
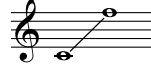
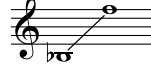
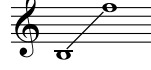
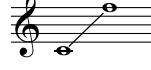
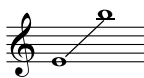
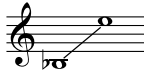
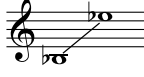
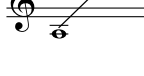
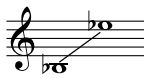
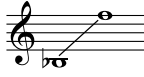
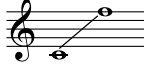
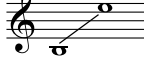
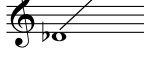


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Notes

Warning: the paragraphs about the shows may contain plot spoilers.

Any actor mentioned as having originally played a role is from the opening-night cast, unless otherwise indicated.

Some of the suggested 16-bar cuts are slightly longer or shorter than exactly 16 bars in order to create complete sections. Most often, these cuttings will still be accepted at auditions asking for 16 bars. You might choose to use a bar or two preceding the cut as an introduction, or simply ask the audition pianist for a “bell tone” to use as your starting pitch; the latter is more customary and time saving. Bar numbers are indicated as m. #, e. g. bar 16 is indicated as m. 16.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

The Show

Centering on a fictional spelling bee somewhere in Putnam County, USA, this show follows the inner and outer travails of six eccentric young adolescents as they fiercely compete against each other—with valuable and (and often not-so-valuable) help from parents and other grown-ups around them. The bee’s hostess, Rona Lisa Peretti, is a former spelling champion, and the proceedings include a “comfort counselor” for losers, audience volunteers for early rounds of spelling, and a boy contestant who spells out the letters to words with his “magic foot” before speaking them aloud. The musical is based on “C-R-E-P-U-S-C-L-E,” a play by Rebecca Feldman.

The Authors

Music and Lyrics by William Finn; Book by Rachel Sheinkin.

New York Run

May 2, 2005–Present, at the Circle in the Square Theatre. Deborah S. Craig originated the role of Marcy Park.

The Song

“I Speak Six Languages” CD 1 / TRACK 8

When the spelling bee is down to its four surviving contestants, Catholic schoolgirl Marcy Park seems a strong contender for first place. Rona tells the audience that Marcy speaks five languages—only to be corrected by Marcy, who, tired of being touted as “the perfect student,” sings “I Speak Six Languages” in protest. In the song, she manages to simultaneously bemoan and show off her skills.

Song type

Contemporary Musical Theater Comic Uptempo (Youthful)

Suggested 16-bar Audition Cut

m. 80 through m. 95 (the accompanist would finish on the tonic chord of G major). Another option would be m. 36 through m. 51—this is the same melody as the first suggestion, but with different lyrics.

Anything Goes (1987 Revival Version)

The Show

Like the hit screwball musical comedy of 1935 on which it is based, this revival of *Anything Goes* takes place on a trans-Atlantic pleasure cruise from New York to England. Young Billy Crocker boards the ship to deliver a passport to his traveling boss, Wall Street banker Elisha Whitney; before the ship departs, Billy learns that his long lost love Hope Harcourt is a also passenger, and soon will be married to English Lord Evelyn Oakleigh. Billy stays on board for the cruise, befriends gangster Moonface Martin and his moll, and is himself mistaken for Public Enemy #1. Meanwhile, evangelist-turned-nightclub-singer Reno Sweeney—at first romantically interested in Billy—falls in love with Lord Evelyn. After many twists and turns, outlandish disguises and further mistaken identities, all find wedded bliss in the arms of the right partner.

The Authors

Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter; Original Book by Guy Bolton, P.G. Wodehouse, Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse; New Book by Timothy Crouse and John Weidman.

I SPEAK SIX LANGUAGES

(from "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee")

Words and Music by
WILLIAM FINN



Quickly (♩ = 176)

G D/F# Dm7(b5) C/E

I speak six lan - guag - es. _____

mf

5 Cm/Eb Cm/Eb A7 D7

Ev - 'ry lan - guage eas - y, eas - y as the rec - i - pe for mak - ing

9 G D/F# Dm7(b5) C/E

Jell - o. I speak six lan - guag - es, _____ and