

# Trumpet Solo Class Lecture #34

## “Sight-Reading”

### Dr. Mark Ponzo

#### **Assess the basics** (what is on the page)

- Time Signature (are there any changes)
- Key Signature (are there any changes)
- Page layout – the roadmap – (repeats, D. C., D. S. etc.)
- Form (do sections repeat, are there contrasting elements)
- Printed indications (tempo, style)

#### **Identify any difficult passages** (break down these elements)

- Rapid or unfamiliar rhythms
- Rapid or unfamiliar scale/interval patterns

#### **Identify patterns** (look for things that you already know)

- Rhythms (subdivide/count and clap)
- Scales

#### **Prioritize** (remember that reading is all about accuracy)

- Rhythm
- Pitch
- Articulations
- Style (musicianship)

#### **When you play** (do so with confidence)

- Identify opportunities to breath
- Support your sound
- Play (finger) through the material
- Establish a conservative tempo (consider the most difficult section)
- Give yourself at least one full measure (pulse) before you begin
- Keep your tempo steady
- Do not stop

#### **Discover your habits** (work to improve each time you read)

- Do you speed up or transpose rhythms?
- Do you forget elements of the key signature?
- Do you skip over rests?
- Do you forget to breath?
- Do you stop (attempt to correct errors)?

#### **Improve your skills** (sight-read everyday)

- Start with reasonable material
- Use a metronome
- Record your playing
- Evaluate your habits
- Identify your weaknesses
- Plan to improve