Unit Two: Assignment 3 Rusty Stern

The Coloratura examples show different dramatic uses of this high operatic type voice. Phantom it is a dramatic operatic effect. Candide it is more of a virtuosic and comedic operatic effect. Secret Garden has more of an other worldly quality from the character who has passed on and is central to the show. Rapunzel creates that magical fairy tale princess effect. Even within these examples they are used differently in a dramatic sense.

In the soprano samples, most of these are young romantic leads, and have the quality of lightness, innocence and love.

The alto samples- show a deeper color a richer sound, and dramatically older more sophisticated characters. I did not find mezzo soprano samples in the glossary. But you mentioned in your video Ado Annie whose sample is listed under belter, and Beauty and the Beast (Belle)- having of course a lower sound than sopranos, a richer timbre, but not quite as low as an alto, though often those are the same but the alto is the term used in choral writing.

The belters in these samples all have more power, humor, spoken or sometimes yelled sounds, can be aggressive, or deeply heart felt communicated songs.

Tenors- there are 2 younger sounds in Henrik and Anthony, the romantic young lead in Tony (West Side Story), a higher lighter quality to the Cabaret emcee, also humorous, and the big Phantom lead with an expressive range fitting of the opera, and the passionate use of the voice there.

Baritenors- they all have a more dramatic quality, deeper richer sound, more pathos. They also have a lightness in the upper range, more like a tenor. Evan Hansen is a nice example of that, in that case it is a young person (as mentioned tenors often have the higher voice). Michael Ball singing anthem shows the range and power of a baritenor, used with great dramatic power.

Baritone- these are older characters, a father figures (try to Remember), there is a deep sound that shows a maturity and depth. Don Quixote, the timbre is powerful depicting a hero. Sweeney todd, the baritone voice has a deep full timbre depicting the sinister character

Basses- even lower, of course, Caiphas has a scary sound in that range, fitting that character well. This also fits Judd as an outcast, and the Green Goblin as a villain.

These examples show the prinicples in this unit in a clear way, how each voice type has a timbre that fits a character type. You already mentioned how I wrote about that in assignment 2. It helps to connect the voice types to the dramatic uses.