Article Summary

*Pedagogy (2)*

**Citation**: George, Patricia, *A Picture is Worth 10,000 Words*. The Instrumentalist, Nov 2011, Vol 66, Issue n4, pp 33-35.

**Article Title**: *A Picture is Worth 10,000 Words*

**Author**: Patricia George

**INSTRUMENT**: Flute

**Magazine or Journal Title**: The Instrumentalist

**Summary**:

1. The most common problem flutists have is how to balance the flute.
2. Where to balance the flute
   1. The flute should touch the side of the left index finger
   2. A detailed description of
3. The left thumb
   1. The left thumb should be straight when playing
   2. If the thumb is bent, it might cause tension in the arm.
4. The right thumb
   1. A good test to develop good thumb and hand position of the right hand is to pick up a soda can. Look at how the fingers arch. The index finger should be directly over the thumb. This also works well in violin pedagogy.
5. Wrists
   1. Turn the hands over and lay them flat. This is the position the wrists should be in while playing.
6. Testing new flutes
   1. There is a spot on the flute often referred to as the sweet spot, this is where the flute sounds the best. There are tips on how to find that spot on different flutes.
7. There are many pictures provided for all of the descriptions. The visuals are quite helpful, as the article explains in detail many hand and finger positions.