Article Summary

*Pedagogy (1)*

**Citation**: Lewis, Nora, *Oboe Articulation*. The Instrumentalist, Winter 2011, Vol 66 Issue n9, pp 37-38.

**Article Title**: *Oboe Articulation*

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**INSTRUMENT**: Oboe

**Magazine or Journal Title**: The Instrumentalist

**Summary**:

1. Many oboe players switch to the oboe after playing other instruments.
   1. Teaching articulation on the double reed is a new and difficult task.
2. Teaching tips for learning proper oboe articulation
   1. The very tip of the tongue should make contact with the tip of reed with a slight downward motion
   2. The tongue should return to the reed only to articulate the next note
   3. The tongue should be able to move freely in the mouth without contacting the gums, the back of the teeth, or the roof of the mouth
   4. Articulation should remain consistent regardless of the style of music being played
   5. Harsher articulation will result in a squeak due to the disruption in the air stream
   6. Students who switch to the oboe from the flute tend to avoid touching the tongue to the oboe reed because the vibrations may seems harsh and uncomfortable
      1. These students will also tend to tongue by placing the tongue where the gums meet the upper teeth
         1. This will result in a lack of clarity in the sound and will create a suction like sound
   7. Students who are switching to the oboe from the clarinet and saxophone feel like the reed is too small of a target and will articulate too far back on the tongue, known as anchor tonguing.
3. Figuring out how to explain proper tonguing
   1. Use a coffee stir
   2. Have students use a coffee stir as well. Have them breathe and push air through the straw for different counts.
   3. Have students experiment with different syllables depending on what issues they are having and what instrument they are switching from.
   4. Once progress is being made, switch out the coffee stir for the actual reed itself
   5. You can have the student switch back to the coffee stir for further work on articulation and then with every new exercise, the goal is to then switch back to the reed.