Exercises for the 2024 AMEA All-State Band Audition Etude - Trombone

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Etude #2 - Andante expressivo

2a. Working on natural slurs.

Each of these ascending figures can be played mostly with natural slurs if your embouchure control is good enough. If you struggle to execute the slurs, just use a light legato tongue. The only spot where you need to legato tongue (to avoid a gliss) is marked with "dah."



2b. Playing the grace notes.

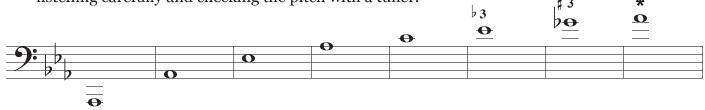
Usually, grace notes like this are light, quick notes played just before the beat. Avoid playing them too aggressively. For articulation, I would use something like "ta-dah." I suggest playing the D in lowered 4th position even though a natural slur to first is possible. The closeness of 4th is a bigger advantage.

The rhythm of the first measure is pretty much how the second measure should sound.



Remember that some partials of the overtone series are a bit out of tune. Here's a chart for third position. The little sharp and flat symbols show the small correction needed on most trombones to bring that note in tune.

Remember: not every trombone or person is the same. Don't just move your slide without listening carefully and checking the pitch with a tuner.



* Technically, the high A-flat is in tune but many players tend to play it sharp.

