

At Max Power!

By Amy Webb



PROGRAM NOTES

Anyone who has ever run track can tell you that, in a race, runners try to save a little bit of energy for the end of the race, so they can push forward and win the championship! Their persistence, determination, and work ethic rewards them in the end. Today you're going to hear the culmination of many long weeks of hard work in the band room. Be prepared to be proud of your kids; they're operating At Max Power!

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Staccatos, accents, slurs, crescendos, and articulations are the name of the game with At Max Power! Particular attention to these musical cues will set your performance of this piece above the rest.

It's my experience that band students, especially younger ones, have a mental picture of a staccato note as "short" or "stabbed." While staccato notes are short, there are other articulations that are even shorter, and most of your young band kids won't know this, yet!

One way I enforce staccato is by using a metronome at a slow speed. Have the students play a measure or two using regular guarter notes. There should be little separation. Then have them play the measures again, but this time, play each note only half as long as they did before. When they're successful with this, have them try one more time, playing those notes half as long. You will find that you get a good separation between notes without them sounding like the marcato feel you can sometimes get with beginning "staccato-ists."

You can use a variation on the exercise above to work on accents. Have the students play as they did before, but this time put a little more force behind beats one and three and gently play beats two and four.

I hope your group loves playing this piece as much as I did writing it!





At Max Power!

FULL SCORE By Amy Webb Duration - 2:00 Powerfully! $\downarrow = 128$ Flute Oboe 1 2 **B**^b Clarinets 6 **B**^b Bass Clarinet E♭ Alto Saxophones 1 2 **B**^b Tenor Saxophone Eb Baritone Saxophone (9 Powerfully! $\bullet = 128$ а2 1 2 **B**^b Trumpets **F** Horn Trombone/Baritone/ **9:** Bassoon Tuba Bells 6 Snare Drum Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum) Bass Drum Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals) _ -Crash $\overset{\diamond}{f}$ Cymbals $\overset{\diamond}{f}$ ℈⅌ Timpani Tune: G, C **f** 3 2 1 4 © 2023 ALFRED MUSIC

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