

Stems without noteheads may be used for speech notation, either to represent voiced or unvoiced sounds, as, for instance, where a crossed notehead represents another technique such as *Sprechstimme* (see following example). However, rhythms of stems alone can be hard to read unless they appear as beamed groups (see *Stems without noteheads*, p. 640).

### Styles between speech and singing

Styles of delivery between speech and singing may be defined verbally above each respective entry. *Quasi parlando* ('as if speaking') or *quasi recitando* ('as if reciting') indicates a singing style of speech-like quality. Relative terms may also be used, such as *increasingly sung* / *full-voiced*, *close to speech*, etc.

Schoenberg experimented with various symbols to express styles of delivery between speech and singing. The symbol ♯ (as used in *Pierrot Lunaire* and originally defined as *Sprehton*, 'speech-tone') is now used universally to define a style between speech and singing and identified with Schoenberg's use of the term *Sprechgesang*.

In later pieces, Schoenberg defined the crossed notehead ✕ as *Sprechstimme* ('speech-voice'), to indicate a style closer to speech than to song. Since the crossed notehead has been widely adopted to represent speech as well, its role should be clearly defined in either context, as shown below. The following notation is recommended:

♯ = closer to singing than speaking  
 ✕ = closer to speaking than singing

Oh! how is it? where is it? Here it is! O— what luck!

### Voiced and unvoiced sounds

When spoken ('voiced', Italian: *parlando*) and whispered ('unvoiced', Italian: *sussurando*) sounds occur in the same piece, it is helpful to have contrasting notehead shapes. This avoids the necessity for repeated definitions. Give a definition for each notehead type at the outset and at its first appearance, as a reminder (see first example on p. 460).

The norm is to choose notehead shapes that graphically 'reduce' the notehead as pitch is reduced out of the voice. Ligeti uses the following noteheads in *Aventures*: