The song of winter

for vocal trio

Jia Chai

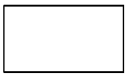
Duration c. 6 minutes

2015.10.30

PERFORMANCE NOTES

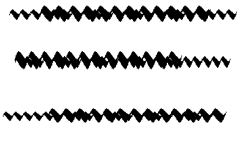
● Guttural, Mongolian-like throat sound

○ Normal sound



Pitches in the box should be repeated freely. Singers should speak the text "sh-woo" as many as they can within an acceleration of speed.

Vibrato techniques:



From less to more to less

From more to less

From less to more

★ For any long note, vibrato freely between a normal and an exaggerated tone. The thicker/narrower the black line indicate the more/less tension the performer should create by exploring micro- and macro-fluctuations of pitch and speed. The peak of a note is the strongest and most tense by being the most irregular and dense part of the note.

★ The soprano and mezzo-soprano should stand face to face, helping to make a mirror-like sound transition. The alto singer is allowed to stand in the middle, between the other two singers.

★ The grace note should be sang as fast as possible.

Pronunciation of Phonetic Symbols:

Explanations are Received Pronunciation English useless otherwise states.

[en]: as in letter 'N'

[an]: as in 'angle'

[ai]: as in letter 'I'

[ue]: as in [i]+[js]

[u]: as in 'wu'

[i]: as in letter 'E'

[ei]: as in letter 'A'

[ua]:as in '[u:]+[a]'

[a]: as in answer

Performance instruction for section D:

1. All the singers can use pitches in their pitch box only. The pitch materials in each singer's pitch box can be repeated in free rhythm.

2. Soprano I should sing from the first pitch to the last, while soprano II should sing from the last pitch to the first. Alto should sing the third and forth lines first, and then back to the first and second line.

3. Sing pitch within box to your choice of phonetics [i] and [a].

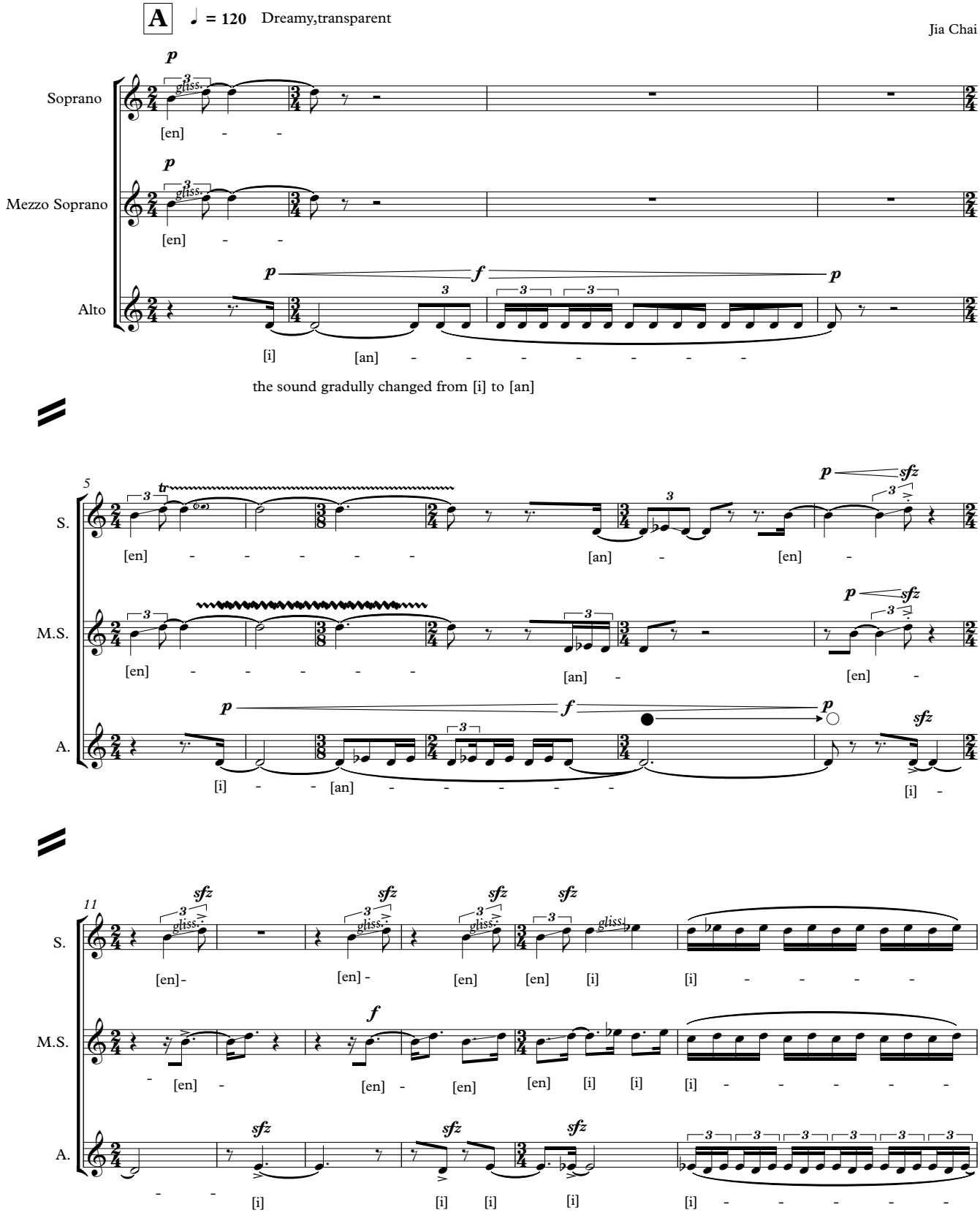
4. Singers should prolong each phrase by using the last pitch of each line.

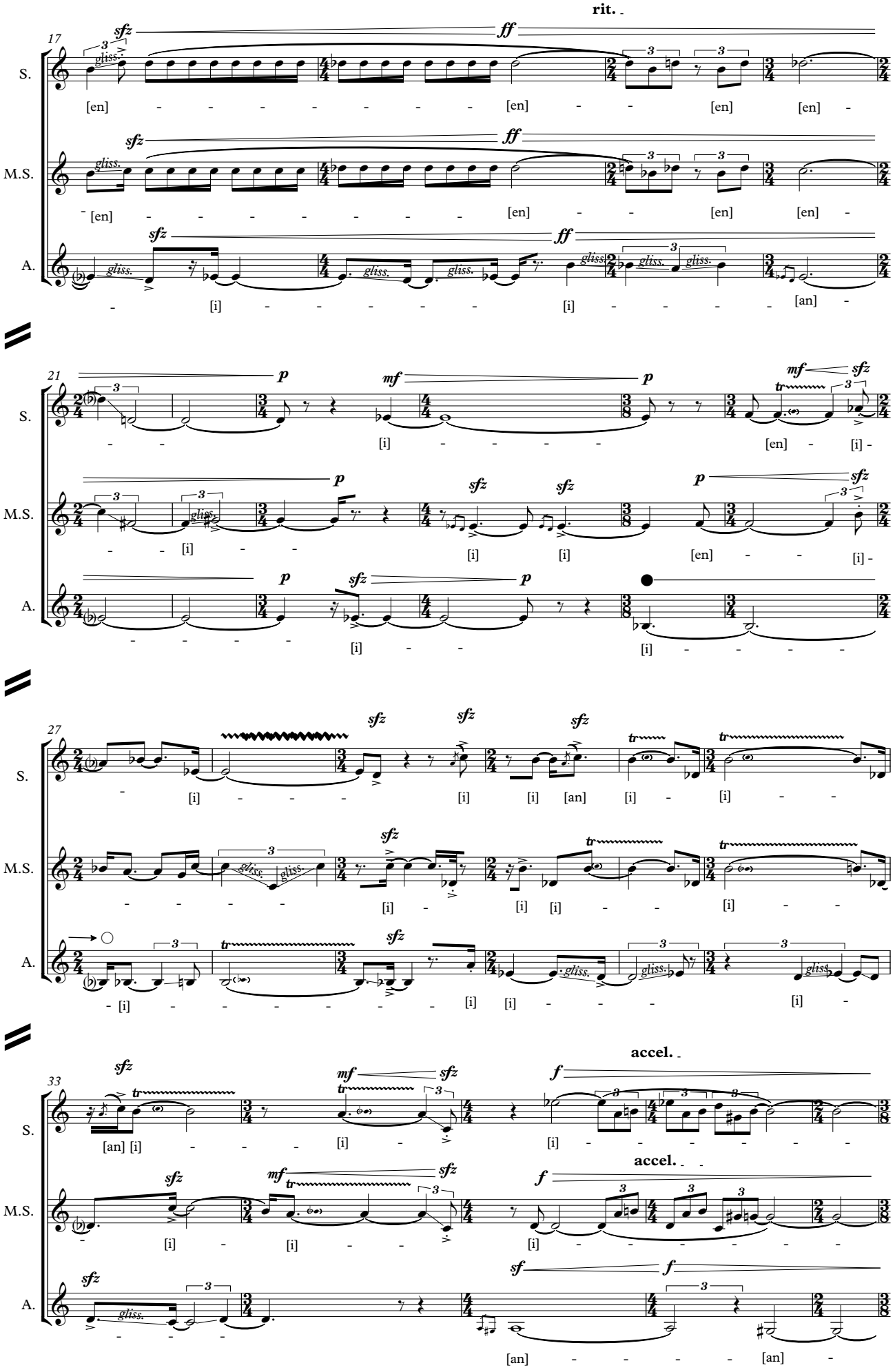
5. Any singer can sing her part first, and others join one by one. Silence can be made between pitches.

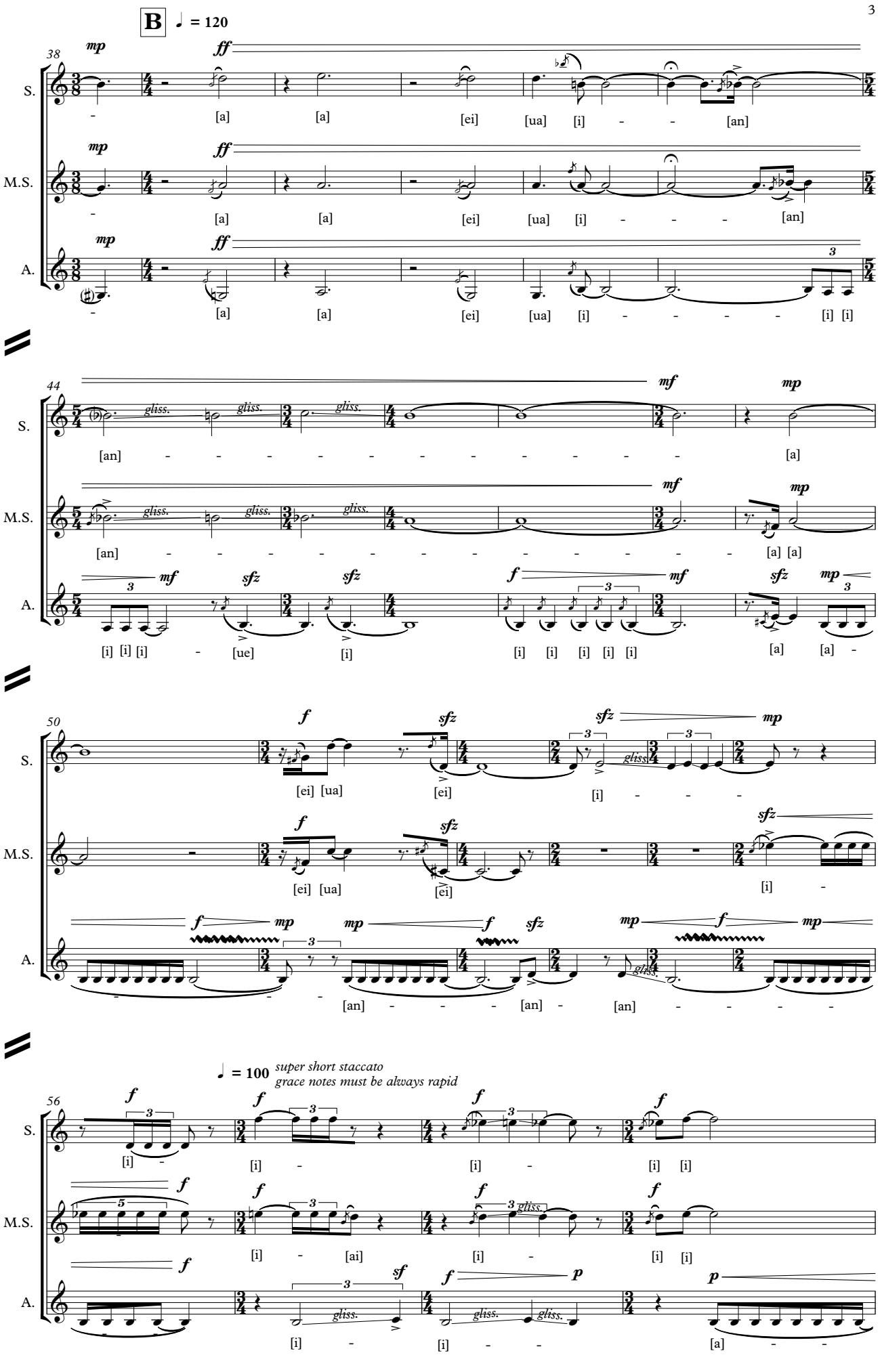
6. Singers should sing this box of pitch materials twice. The speed should be faster the second time.

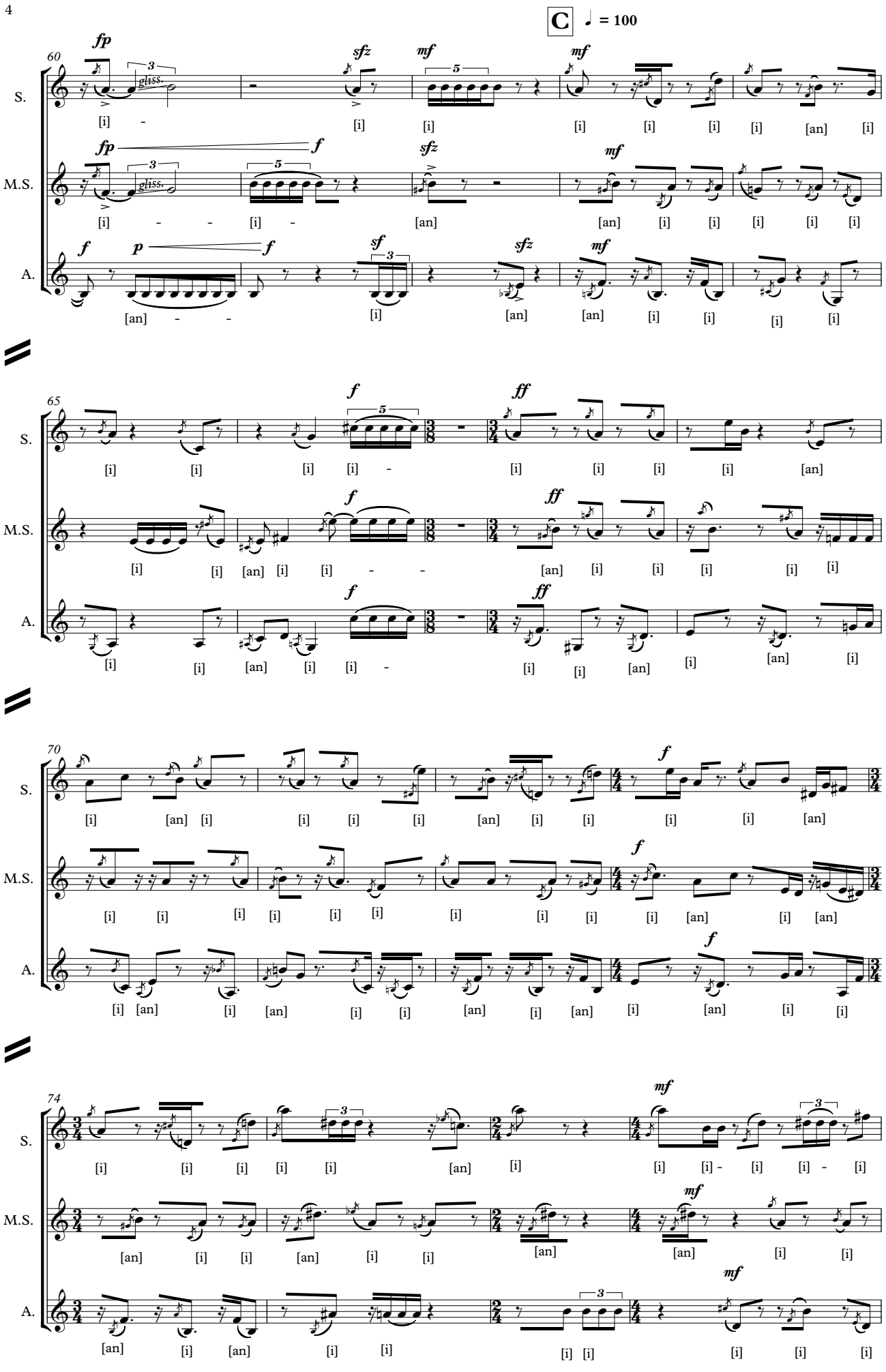
7. Singers are allowed to sing this section with theatrical performance elements, such as making eye contact with each other and pretending to be in an excited conversation.

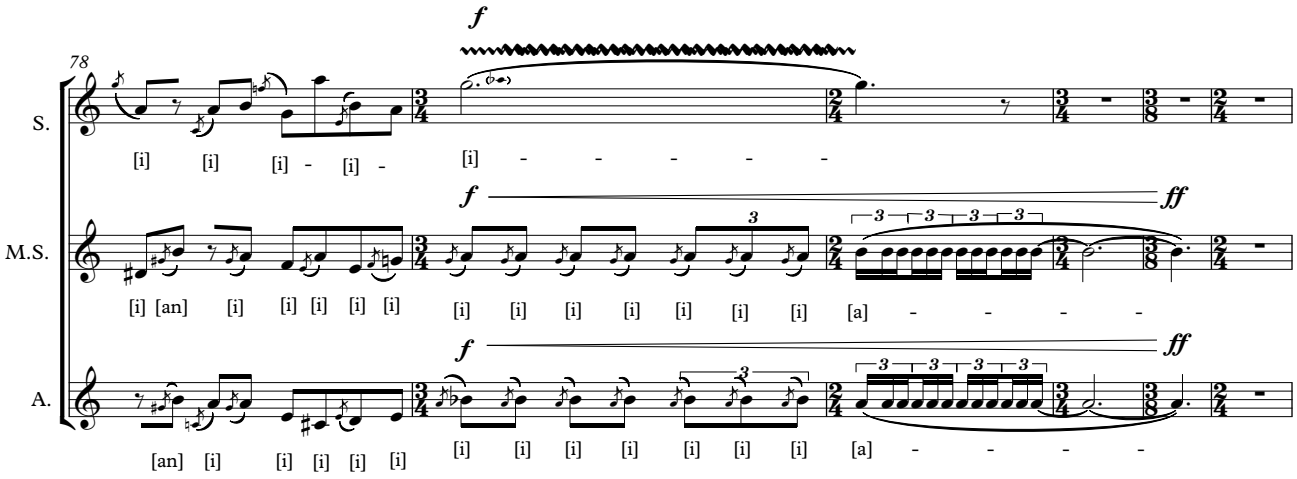
The song of winter



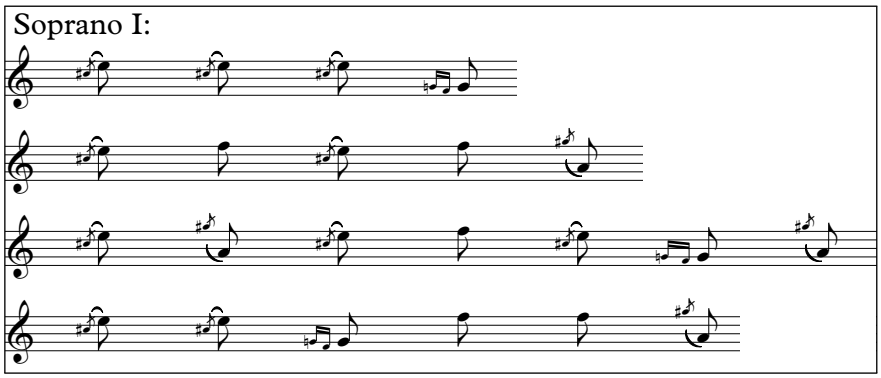

rit.
S.
M.S.
A.
gliss.
[en]
[i]
[an]
accel.

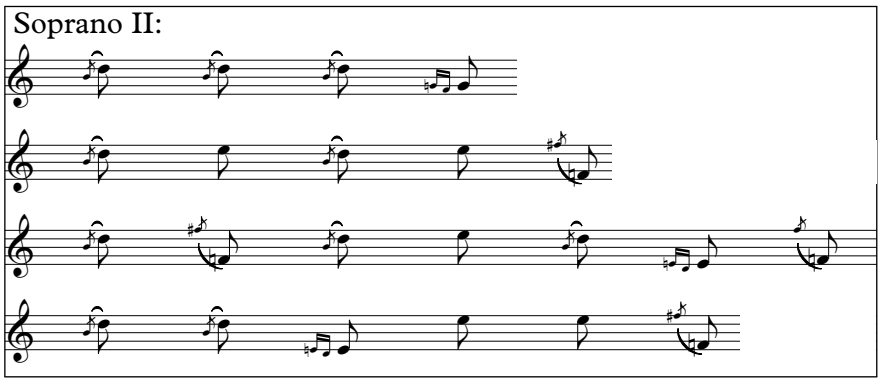

B
♩ = 120
38
S.
M.S.
A.
mp
ff
[a] [a] [ei] [ua] [i] - - [an]
[a] [a] [ei] [ua] [i] - - - [an]
[a] [a] [ei] [ua] [i] - - - - [i] [i]
44
gliss.
mf
mp
[an] - - - - - - - - - - - - [a]
[an] - - - - - - - - - - - - [a] [a]
sfz
f
[i] [i] [i] - [ue] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [a] [a] -
50
[ei] [ua] [ei] [i] - - -
[ei] [ua] [ei] [i] -
[an] - - - [an] - [an] - - - -
♩ = 100
super short staccato
grace notes must be always rapid
56
[i] - [i] - [i] - [i] [i]
[i] - [ai] [i] - [i] [i]
sf
p
[i] - [i] - - [a] - -

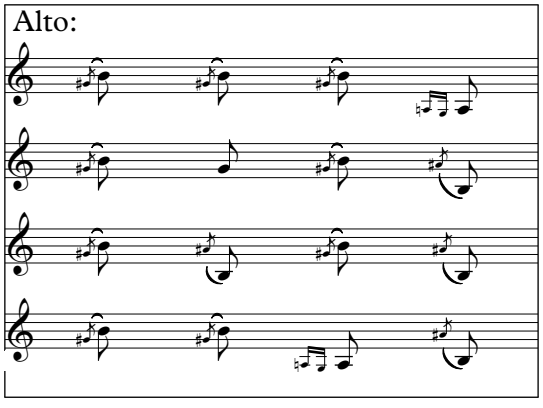

C
♩ = 100
60
S.
M.S.
A.
fp
sfz
mf
f
p
sf
ff
gliss.
[i]
[an]
65
70
74

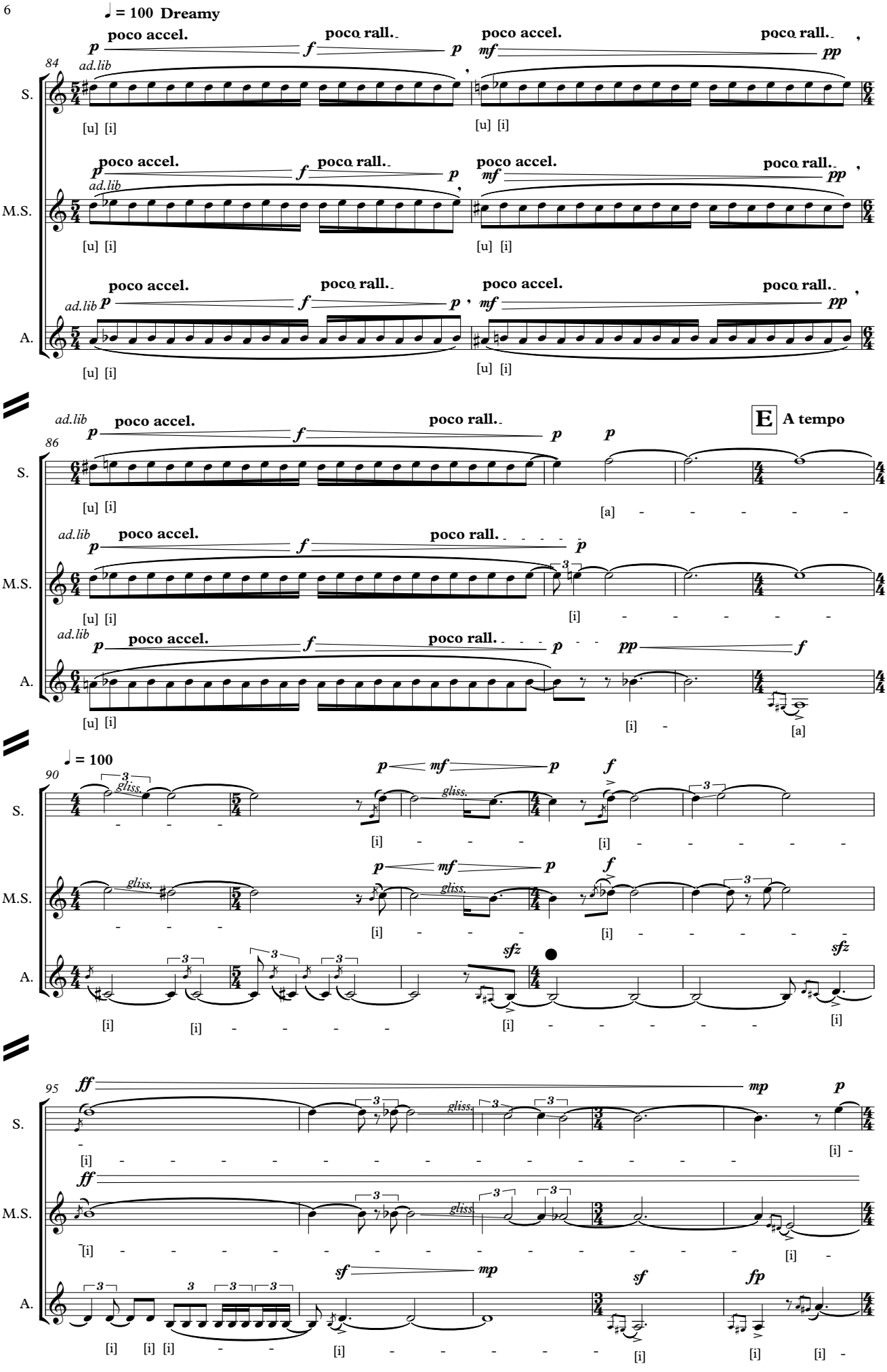

78
S.
M.S.
A.
f
ff
[i] [an] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [a]
[an] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [i] [a]

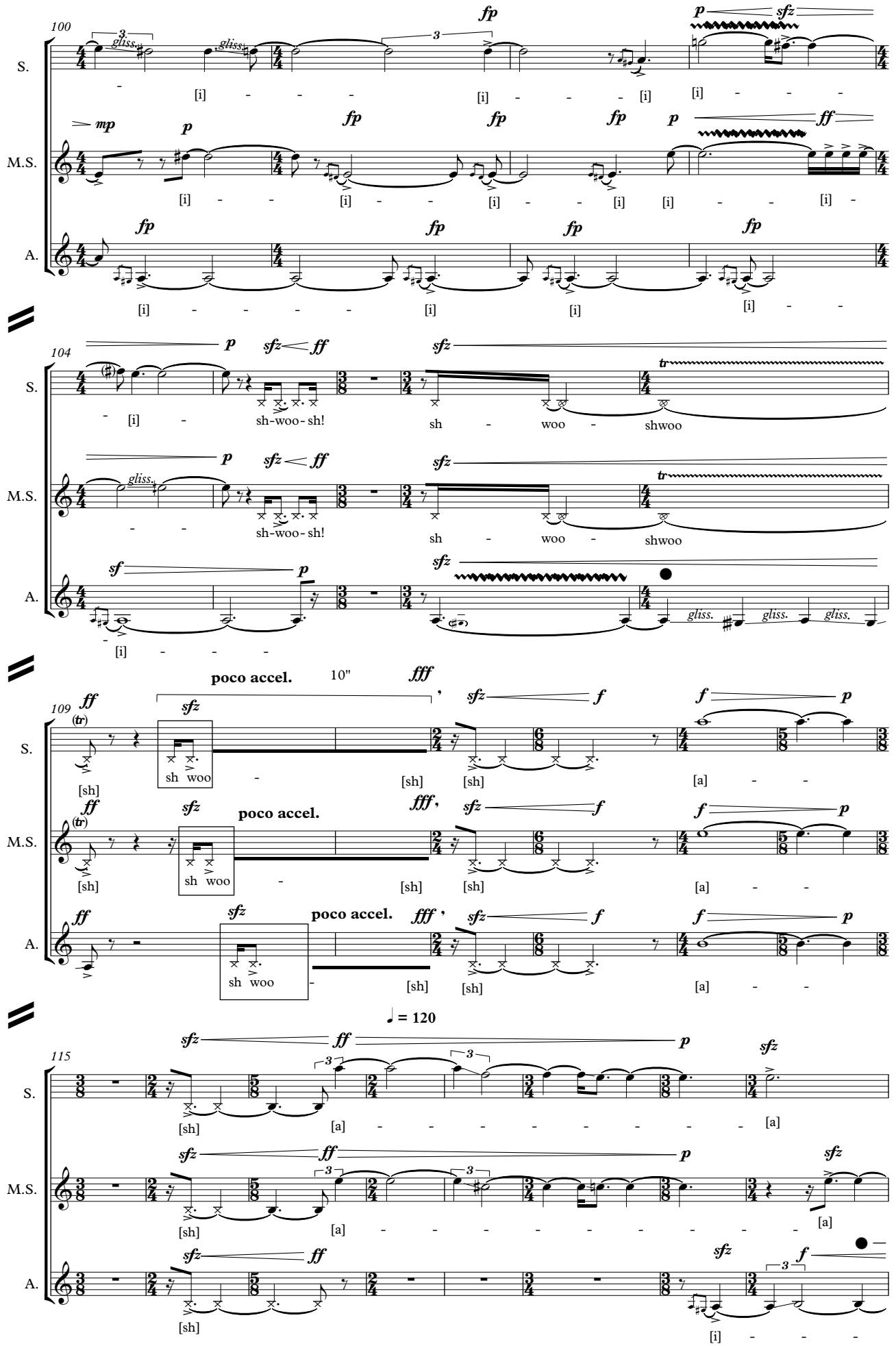
D

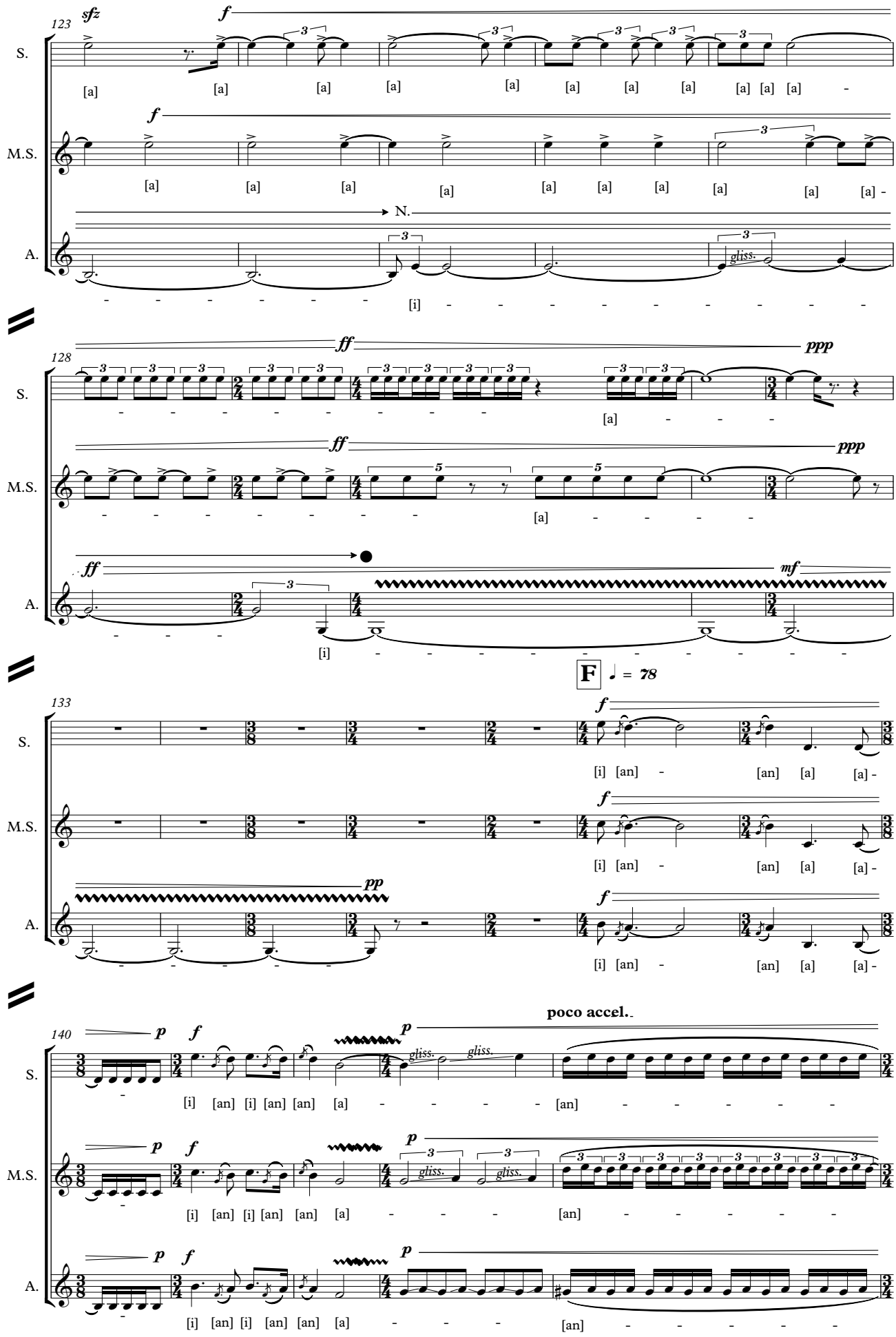

Soprano I:

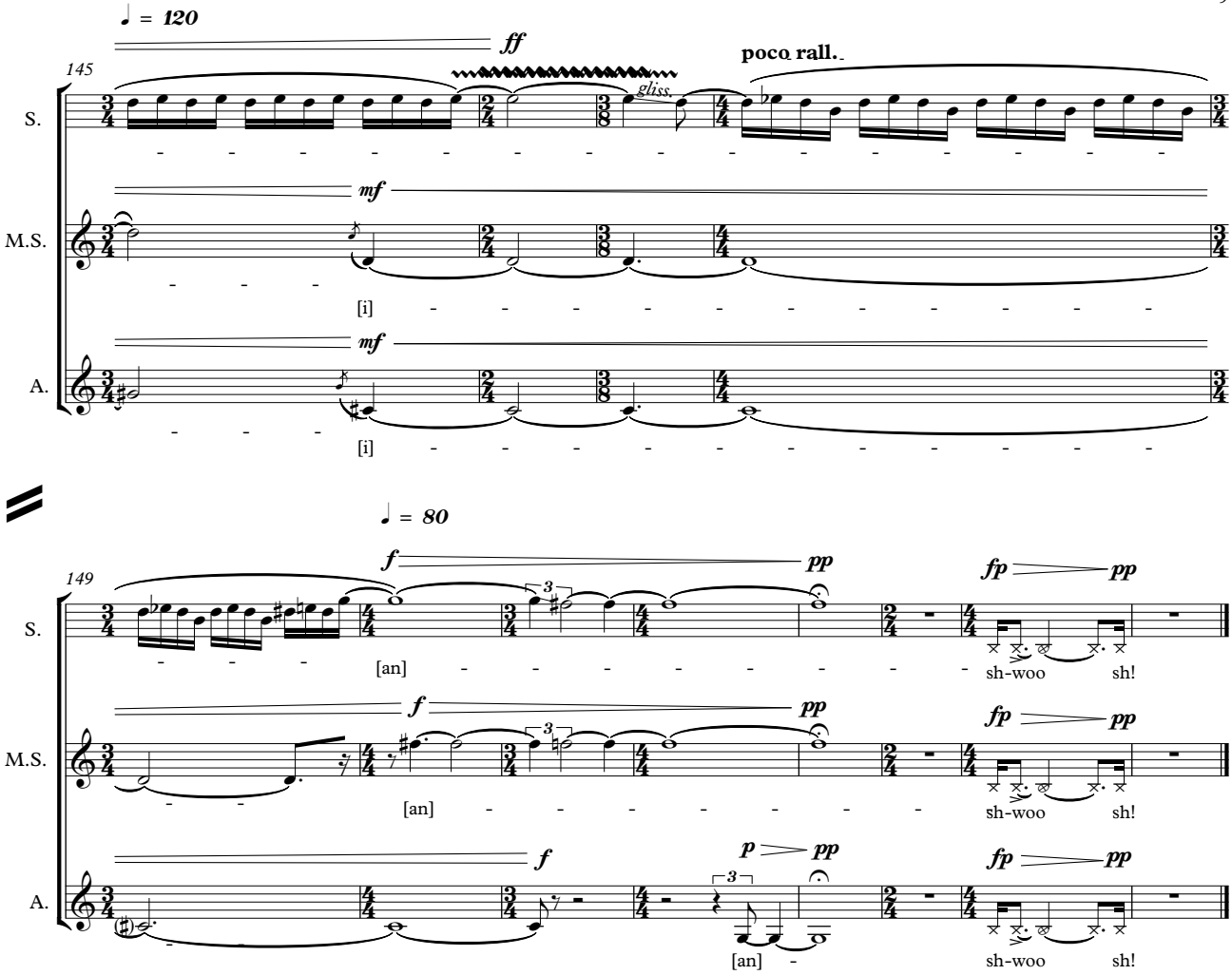

Soprano II:


Alto:


♩ = 100 Dreamy
84
ad.lib
poco accel.
poco rall.
S.
M.S.
A.
[u] [i]
86
E A tempo
[a]
[i]
90
♩ = 100
gliss.
95
ff
mp
sf
fp
[i]


100
S.
M.S.
A.
fp
mp
p
ff
sfz
gliss.
[i]
104
sh-woo-sh!
sh - woo - shwoo
tr
sf
gliss.
109
poco accel.
10"
fff
sh woo
[sh]
[a]
f
115
= 120


123
sfz
f
S.
M.S.
A.
N.
gliss.
[i]
128
ff
ppp
mf
133
F
♩ = 78
pp
140
p
poco accel.
[an]


♩ = 120
ff
poco rall.
145
S.
gliss.
mf
M.S.
[i]
mf
A.
[i]
♩ = 80
149
f
pp
fp
pp
S.
[an]
sh-woo
sh!
f
pp
fp
pp
M.S.
[an]
sh-woo
sh!
f
p
pp
fp
pp
A.
[an]
sh-woo
sh!